

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

M. M. Grand Lodge

OF

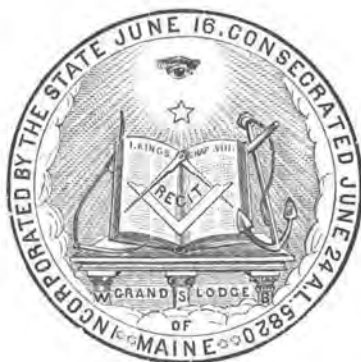
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

VOL. IX.

1876 - 1878.



PORTLAND:
STEPHEN BERRY, PRINTER.

1878.

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Grand Lodge of Maine.

1876.

FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
Tuesday, May 2, A. L. 5876. }

This being the day fixed by the Constitution for the Annual Communication, the Officers and Representatives assembled at nine o'clock A. M.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. ALBERT MOORE,	Grand Master;
R. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	Deputy Grand Master;
" CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	as Senior Grand Warden;
" JOHN W. BALLOU,	as Junior Grand Warden;
" MOSES DODGE	Grand Treasurer;
" IRA BERRY,	Recording Grand Secretary;
" JOSEPH M. HAYES,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. & Rev. C. C. MASON,	Grand Chaplain;
" CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "
" WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "
W. ALDEN M. WETHERBEE,	Grand Marshal;
" BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS,	Senior Grand Deacon;
" AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	Junior Grand Deacon;
" SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	Grand Steward;
" A. B. MARSTON,	" "
" WILLIAM H. SMITH,	" "
" HORACE H. BURBANK,	Grand Sword Bearer;
" WILLIAM TUCKER,	Grand Standard Bearer;
" JOHN H. WEBSTER,	Grand Pursuivant;
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	Grand Lecturer;
" C. O. FILES,	Grand Organist;
Bro. WARREN PHILLIPS,	Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

BRO. BENJ. F. ANDREWS, for the Committee on Credentials, reported as follows:

Your Committee on Credentials have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report that they find the lodges in this jurisdiction represented as follows:

- 1 *Portland*, by George L. Bailey, WM; John H. Hall, SW; William N. Prince, JW; Samuel R. Leavitt, Proxy.
- 2 *Warren*, by Austin F. Kingsley, WM.
- 3 *Lincoln*, by Edwin Farnham, WM; James M. Knight, Proxy.
- 4 *Hancock*, by George A. Wheeler, WM.
- 5 *Kennebec*, by John D. Hodgdon, WM.
- 6 *Amity*, by Nathan P. Beverage, SW; Thomas C. Atwick, JW.
- 7 *Eastern*, by Henry H. Wadsworth, JW.
- 8 *United*, by Daniel E. Fuller, WM.
- 9 *Saco*, by George F. Owen, WM; Winfield S. Hasty, JW; Winfield S. Dennett, Proxy.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, by Clarence L. Dakin, WM; William H. Thompson, SW.
- 11 *Pythagorean*, by Seth W. Fife, Proxy.
- 12 *Cumberland*, by Albert W. Larrabee, WM; Ozias M. Goff, SW; Moses Plummer, Proxy.
- 13 *Oriental*, by Millard M. Caswell, WM.
- 14 *Solar*, by Joseph M. Hayes, Proxy.
- 15 *Orient*, by William E. Crawford, WM; Horatio G. Copeland, JW.
- 16 *St. George*, by Hilliard W. Robinson, WM; Henry W. Smith, Proxy.
- 17 *Ancient Landmark*, by Warren O. Carney, WM; Henry F. Perry, SW; Samuel F. Bearce, JW; Stephen Berry, Proxy.
- 18 *Oxford*, by A. Oscar Noyes, WM.
- 19 *Felicity*, by James M. Nevens, Proxy.
- 20 *Maine*, by David H. Knowlton, Proxy.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, by Cornelius M. Holland, WM; Frank Garcelon, SW.
- 22 *York*, by Francis C. Simonds, WM; Edward W. Morton, Proxy.
- 23 *Freeport*, by John Burr, WM; Oliver H. Briggs, SW; Gustavus P. Soule, Proxy.
- 24 *Phoenix*, by Charles T. Richards, WM.
- 25 *Temple*, by Sumner H. Stanley, Proxy.
- 26 *Village*, by Hugh Curtis, Proxy.
- 27 *Adoniram*, not represented.
- 28 *Northern Star*, by Ben. Moore, WM; Benjamin Adams, SW.
- 29 *Tranquil*, by Geo. C. Wing, WM; Abram Atwood, Proxy.
- 30 *Blazing Star*, by Cyrus P. Eaton, Proxy.

- 31 *Union*, by William A. Albee, JW.
- 32 *Hermon*, by John F. Holmes, Proxy.
- 33 *Waterville*, by R. Wesley Dunn, WM; Richard T. Beazley, SW.
- 34 *Somerset*, by Marcus Wight, Jr., Proxy.
- 35 *Bethlehem*, by Milton M. Stone, WM; Geo. P. Haskell, Proxy.
- 36 *Casco*, not represented.
- 37 *Washington*, by Alfred Small, WM; Emilus W. Brown, SW.
- 38 *Harmony*, by Leonard C. Harmon, SW; William F. Clement, JW;
Henry R. Millett, Proxy.
- 39 *Penobscot*, by Joseph H. Fitzgerald, WM; Levi Bridgham, Proxy.
- 40 *Lygonia*, by John B. Redman, WM.
- 41 *Morning Star*, by E. T. Townsend, Proxy.
- 42 *Freedom*, not represented.
- 43 *Alna*, by Israel McFarland, Proxy.
- 44 *Piscataquis*, by William H. Owen, WM.
- 45 *Central*, by Allen P. Varney, WM; Henry C. Rice, Proxy.
- 46 *St. Croix*, by Edwin H. Vose, WM.
- 47 *Dunlap*, by Edwin A. Coffin, WM; George H. Monroe, Proxy.
- 48 *Lafayette*, by George A. Russell, SW; Nelson D. Gordon, Proxy.
- 49 *Meridian Splendor*, by Nelson C. Smith, WM.
- 50 *Aurora*, by Caleb G. Moffitt, WM; Leander Weeks, Proxy.
- 51 *St. John's*, by George H. Wakefield, WM; A. Grafton Nealley, JW;
George C. Yeaton, Proxy.
- 52 *Mosaic*, by James T. Roberts, WM; Elbridge A. Thompson, Proxy.
- 53 *Rural*, not represented.
- 54 *Vassalboro'*, by Warren A. Evans, WM.
- 55 *Fraternal*, by Asa L. Ricker, Proxy.
- 56 *Mount Moriah*, by Samuel G. Davis, Proxy.
- 57 *King Hiram*, by Frank Stanley, WM.
- 58 *Unity*, by Joseph C. Whitney, WM.
- 59 *Mount Hope*, not represented.
- 60 *Star in the East*, not represented.
- 61 *King Solomon's*, by Almore Kennedy, WM.
- 62 *King David's*, by John R. Hurd, WM.
- 63 *Richmond*, by George B. Randlette, WM.
- 64 *Pacific*, by Charles E. Merriam, WM.
- 65 *Mystic*, by George Joss, WM.
- 66 *Mechanics'*, not represented.
- 67 *Blue Mountain*, by Elias Field, Proxy.
- 68 *Mariners'*, by Daniel S. Simpson, WM.
- 69 *Howard*, by James Freeman, SW.
- 70 *Standish*, by Alanson M. Rich, WM.
- 71 *Rising Sun*, by Asa Conary, WM.
- 72 *Pioneer*, by Washington Hawes, SW.

- 73 *Tyrian*, by John Richardson, WM; Edward F. Stevens, SW; Diman B. Perry, Proxy.
- 74 *Bristol*, by James H. Varney, WM.
- 75 *Plymouth*, by Orrin E. Thorne, WM.
- 76 *Arundel*, by Orlando Drown, WM; Horace L. Goodwin, JW.
- 77 *Tremont*, by Levi Lurvey, Proxy.
- 78 *Crescent*, by John Winship, WM.
- 79 *Rockland*, by Edwin T. J. Rawson, WM; Henry E. Hutchinson, SW; Chas. P. Nash, Proxy.
- 80 *Keystone*, by Alonzo Moore, SW; Luther P. French, JW; Turner Buswell, Proxy.
- 81 *Atlantic*, by George R. Shaw, WM; Richard K. Gatley, SW; Algernon D. Pearson, JW; Frank H. Swett, Proxy.
- 82 *St. Paul's*, by William F. Hopkins, JW.
- 83 *St. Andrew's*, by Frank H. Drummmond, WM.
- 84 *Eureka*, by Patrick P. Robinson, SW.
- 85 *Star in the West*, by Augustus Fogg, WM.
- 86 *Temple*, not represented.
- 87 *Benevolent*, by Benjamin G. Murch, WM.
- 88 *Narraguagus*, by Melbourne H. Willey, Proxy.
- 89 *Island*, not represented.
- 90 *Hiram Abiff*, charter revoked.
- 91 *Harwood*, by Leander H. Crane, WM; Trescott Lawrence, SW.
- 92 *Siloam*, by Josiah F. Foye, WM; Thomas B. Brown, SW.
- 93 *Horeb*, by Thomas W. Porter, Proxy.
- 94 *Paris*, by George A. Wilson, WM; George W. Hammond, SW.
- 95 *Corinthian*, by George L. Nelson, WM; Thomas Walker, SW.
- 96 *Monument*, by Sabine F. Berry, WM.
- 97 *Bethel*, by Joshua G. Rich, Proxy.
- 98 *Katahdin*, by Charles C. Elwell, SW.
- 99 *Vernon Valley*, by Charles H. Severy, WM.
- 100 *Jefferson*, by Rufus K. Dunham, WM.
- 101 *Nezinscot*, by Sumner S. Merrill, WM; Francis T. Faulkner, Proxy.
- 102 *Marsh River*, by David Brackett, WM.
- 103 *Dresden*, not represented.
- 104 *Dirigo*, by David P. Bolster, WM.
- 105 *Ashlar*, by W. W. Sanborn, WM; Albert Ring, Proxy.
- 106 *Tuscan*, not represented.
- 107 *Day Spring*, not represented.
- 108 *Relief*, by Chas. A. Yeaton, WM.
- 109 *Mount Kineo*, by Charles N. Rand, WM.
- 110 *Monmouth*, by Benj. M. Prescott, Proxy.
- 111 *Liberty*, by James Leman, WM.
- 112 *Eastern Frontier*, by Samuel E. Jewett, WM.

- 113 *Messalonskee*, by George T. Benson, Proxy.
114 *Polar Star*, by John W. Ballou, Proxy.
115 *Buxton*, by Cyril P. Harmon, WM.
116 *Lebanon*, by John H. Webster, WM.
117 *Greenleaf*, by Cyrus G. Marr, WM; Preston Durgin, SW; Charles C. O'Brien, JW; Roscoe G. Smith, Proxy.
118 *Drummond*, by Ruthven J. Dearborn, SW.
119 *Pownal*, by Samuel H. West, WM; Joseph W. Thompson, Proxy.
120 *Meduncook*, not represented.
121 *Acacia*, by Elbridge O. Tyler, SW.
122 *Marine*, by Samuel Smith, WM.
123 *Franklin*, by John Fletcher, WM.
124 *Olive Branch*, by J. Hovey Leason, WM.
125 *Meridian*, by Pliny E. Dinsmore, WM.
126 *Timothy Chase*, by George A. Quimby, WM.
127 *Presumpscot*, by Charles Jones, Proxy.
128 *Eggemoggin*, by Freeman G. Higgins, SW.
129 *Quantabcook*, by Frederic S. Walls, WM.
130 *Trinity*, by George H. Freeman, Proxy.
131 *Lookout*, by Alexander D. Ross, WM.
132 *Mount Tire'm*, not represented.
133 *Asylum*, not represented.
134 *Trojan*, by Charles R. Merrick, WM.
135 *Riverside*, by Samuel J. Bond, WM; J. L. Burns, Proxy.
136 *Ionic*, by Philip H. Winslow, SW.
137 *Kenduskeag*, not represented.
138 *Lewy's Island*, by John H. Hoar, Proxy.
139 *Archon*, by George R. Thurlow, WM.
140 *Mount Desert*, by Thaddeus S. Somes, WM.
141 *Angusta*, by Edwin C. Dudley, JW; Elisha F. Blackman, Proxy.
142 *Ocean*, by Charles H. West, WM.
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144 *Seaside*, by Caleb Hodgdon, Proxy.
145 *Moses Webster*, by Levi W. Smith, WM; Charles J. Jay, Proxy.
146 *Sebastcook*, by John F. Lamb, Proxy.
147 *Evening Star*, by James H. Decoster, SW; Josiah W. Whitten, Proxy.
148 *Forest*, by Hiram Stevens, Proxy.
149 *Doric*, by Albert F. Jackson, WM.
150 *Rabboni*, by Albion K. P. Knowlton, Proxy.
151 *Excelsior*, by Joseph L. Witherly, Proxy.
152 *Crooked River*, by Oscar V. Edwards, SW.
153 *Delta*, by Augustus H. Walker, Proxy.
154 *Mystic Tie*, by Daniel M. Teague, WM; Samuel E. Perkins, SW; L. Frank Chandler, Proxy.

- 155 *Ancient York*, by George W. Coombs, WM; George B. Shorey, Proxy.
 156 *Wilton*, by John D. Hardy, WM.
 157 *Cambridge*, by George Mitchell, Proxy.
 158 *Anchor*, not represented.
 159 *Esoterie*, by Albert W. Cushman, Proxy.
 160 *Fisher*, by Charles A. Dorman, WM.
 161 *Carrabassett*, by Sewall Brown, WM; George W. Johnson, SW.
 162 *Arion*, not represented.
 163 *Pleasant River*, by Edward P. Fifield, WM.
 164 *Webster*, by Retiah D. Jones, JW.
 165 *Molunkus*, by Edward A. Cushman, WM.
 166 *Neguemkeag*, by Caleb F. Graves, WM.
 167 *Whitney*, by James Ripley, SW; Alpheus Packard, JW; John G. Pierce, Proxy.
 168 *Composite*, by Charles H. Prouty, Proxy.
 169 *Shepherd's River*, by Sylvanus B. Bean, Proxy.
 170 *Caribou*, by Alonzo W. Boynton, Proxy.
 171 *Naskeag*, by Warren Wells, WM.
 172 *Pine Tree*, by Abner B. Chase, Proxy.
 173 *Pleiades*, by Lincoln H. Leighton, WM.
 174 *Lynde*, by Jonathan Hunt, WM.
 175 *Baskahegan*, by Henry H. Putman, WM; John H. McGraw, SW.
 176 *Palestine*, by Charles P. Emery, WM; Esreff H. Banks, Proxy.
 [Total number of chartered lodges, 174; represented, 156.]

Your committee also report, that the following Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge are present, namely :

REUEL WASHBURN,	P. G. M.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	"
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	"
DAVID CARGILL,	"
F. LORING TALBOT,	P. S. G. W.
OLIVER GERRISH,	P. J. G. W.
FRANCIS J. DAY,	"
JOHN W. BALLOU,	"
HENRY H. DICKEY,	"

And Grand Officers as follows :

M. W. Albert Moore,	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W. Edward P. Burnham,	<i>Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" Charles I. Collamore,	<i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>
" Moses Dodge,	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
" Ira Berry,	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
" Joseph M. Hayes,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary.</i>

R. W. James T. Cushman,	<i>D. D. G. M. 4th District.</i>
" Daniel Dolloff, Jr.,	" 5th "
" John H. Gordon,	" 7th "
" William A. Pendleton,	" 8th "
" Rotheus E. Paine,	" 9th "
" Daniel A. Campbell,	" 10th "
" Peter Williams,	" 12th "
" W. R. G. Estes,	" 13th "
" Edgar H. Powers,	" 16th "
" George E. Taylor,	" 17th "
" Charles E. Weld,	" 19th "
W. & Rev. C. C. Mason,	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" Charles C. Vinal,	" "
" William E. Gibbs,	" "
W. A. M. Wetherbee,	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
" Benjamin F. Andrews,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
" Augustus Bailey,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
" Isaac G. Curtis,	<i>Grand Steward.</i>
" Sumner J. Chadbourne,	" "
" Arlington B. Marston,	" "
" William H. Smith,	" "
" H. H. Burbank,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
" William Tucker,	<i>G. Standard Bearer.</i>
" John H. Webster,	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" Timothy J. Murray,	<i>Grand Lecturer.</i>
" C. O. Files,	<i>Grand Organist.</i>
Bro. Warren Phillips,	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

The following Grand Lodges are represented, to wit :

ALABAMA,	KENTUCKY,	NEW HAMPSHIRE,
ARKANSAS,	LOUISIANA,	NEW JERSEY,
CALIFORNIA,	MARYLAND,	NEW YORK,
COLORADO,	MICHIGAN,	NORTH CAROLINA,
DELAWARE,	MISSISSIPPI,	NOVA SCOTIA,
DIST. OF COLUMBIA,	MISSOURI,	OREGON,
FLORIDA,	MONTANA,	TENNESSEE,
GEORGIA,	NEBRASKA,	TEXAS,
KANSAS,	NEVADA,	WISCONSIN.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. F. ANDREWS, }
STEPHEN BERRY, } *Committee.*
WILLIAM H. SMITH. }

Which report was accepted.

On motion of Bro. R. E. PAINE,

Voted, That the reading of the Records of the last Annual Communication be dispensed with.

Voted, That an Assistant Grand Secretary and an Assistant Grand Tyler be appointed.

The Grand Master appointed Bro. STEPHEN BERRY Assistant Grand Secretary, and Bro. WARREN O. CARNEY Assistant Grand Tyler.

On motion,

Voted, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors during this communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

On Doings of Grand Officers.

DAVID CARGILL, SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, GEORGE F. OWEN.

On the Pay Roll.

F. H. DRUMMOND, EDWIN W. COFFIN, E. T. G. RAWSON.

On Unfinished Business.

E. H. BANKS, AUGUSTUS BAILEY, DANIEL A. CAMPBELL.

On By-Laws.

HENRY H. DICKEY, FRANCIS J. DAY, AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY.

Which appointments were confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

BRETHREN:—We once more assemble in Annual Communication to exchange fraternal greetings and take counsel together for the best good of our noble institution. As we again gather

around our common altar, how fitting that we bow in humility and reverence before Him whose omnipotent hand has guided and protected us during the past year, and render thanks to Him for His kindness and mercy extended to us. Let us invoke His blessing on our present deliberations, that whatever we do may be in accord with His will, and to the approbation of the fraternity; that He will guide and protect us in the future as in the past; and that we may be enabled to discharge the duties of this session and of the ensuing Masonic year with an eye single to the welfare of our beloved order.

On the 13th day of April, Past Junior Grand Warden STEPHEN WEBBER was called to his final rest. On the 15th, he was honored with a Masonic funeral by Hermon Lodge, No. 32. Many of us remember his presence in the Grand Lodge twenty years ago. Increasing infirmity has prevented his attendance in later years. Venerable with age, he has been called from his labors below to the Celestial Lodge above.

Those of us long conversant with the Annual Sessions of the Grand Lodge of Maine, cannot fail to be impressed with the constant change going on in its membership. Of those revered and honored names that always greeted us at our annual meetings twenty years ago, only a few remain. These, too, will soon join the ever increasing numbers of the more perfect Lodge above; and ere long the same will be true of us all: the places that now know us will soon know us no more forever. "*Passing away*" is written upon every earthly thing. The present alone is vouchsafed to us, and it behooves us to more wisely improve every fleeting hour. Let the reflection that only the present is ours, incite us to a more active and faithful discharge of our obligations as Masons and of our duties as citizens.

It is our duty to take a retrospect of the work of the year, and, in the light of its teachings, devise and adopt such measures as will tend to advance the cause of Masonry, and serve to elevate human society and promote its best interests. The depression of the times has had its effect upon Masonic work as upon everything else. Fewer accessions to our numbers have been made than in preceding years. Besides, there has been a constant and

wholesome pruning of lodge membership, nearly, if not quite, equal to the increase, leaving the total membership about the same as that of last year. But character, more than numbers, is the best test of true Masonic growth, and we should be more solicitous for the purity and integrity of our membership than for its numerical force. There is reason to believe that improvement is being made in this respect, and that higher moral attainments are aimed at by the lodges, and by the fraternity generally, than ever before.

GRIEVANCES.

There is cause for gratulation that no cases have occurred requiring any interference with or discipline of the lodges, and that comparative peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction. As there are occasional ripples in the current of the most placid stream, so will there be minor differences among the fraternity so long as human imperfections exist; but a general disposition to adhere strictly to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge has been manifest. Cases have been few where my authority has been invoked to reconcile difficulties in, or between the lodges, or in any way to interfere with them. Whenever my authority has been exercised, it has been cheerfully and willingly obeyed.

The invasion of the territorial jurisdiction of one lodge by another, and the reception of rejected candidates, have been sources of complaints. In dealing with these cases, I have counseled mutual explanations and mutual concessions where no wrong intentions existed, or vital principle was involved, while I have pointed out to the aggrieved lodges the proper course to pursue to vindicate their rights.

Another prolific source of evil is the abuse of the secret ballot. A conscientious exercise of the right of the secret ballot is the unquestionable right of every member. For the exercise of this privilege the member is amenable to his own conscience alone, and can be called in question by no other authority. Proportioned to the effect of a conscientious or a malicious use of the ballot on the reputation of the applicant, is the responsibility of

every Mason for its rightful exercise. We can have no theoretic knowledge of the misuse of the secret ballot, and yet we all know that in some lodges a clear ballot is unknown for months, and even years. The work of the lodge is seriously obstructed by the vengeful black-ball cast by some disaffected member, who is not endowed with the gift to see himself as others see him, and hence, imagines that he is not properly appreciated and duly promoted. No Mason is worthy of the name, who, animated by such a spirit, seizes upon the ballot-box to avenge himself of some fancied neglect by the lodge, or of some private pique against the candidate or those presenting him. He violates his Masonic and moral obligations, and deserves the severest censure.

True, these are isolated cases, but they are exceedingly vexatious and troublesome, for the reason that there is virtually no remedy or redress. Shielded by the very bulwark whose sanctity they violate, they are beyond the reach of law or discipline; and, as if to aggravate the evil, it often happens that the mistaken zeal of the lodge leads to a premature and improper discussion (any discussion is improper) of the offense, and to the concoction of various schemes and questionable devices, to discover and identify the offender. A moment's reflection should convince us that such conduct strikes at the fundamental principles of the order, is fraught with danger to the efficacy and protection of the secret ballot, and will ultimately destroy it. When the ballot has been declared it should cease to be a subject of thought or discussion. There is no safety in any other course, and both lodge and members ought to strictly adhere to this practice.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

On June 8th, Palestine Lodge, Biddeford, was instituted by R.W. E. P. BURNHAM, Deputy Grand Master, assisted by P. G. Master T. J. MURRAY. We learn that this lodge has started under favorable auspices.

On June 29th, in response to an invitation extended by the Rockland lodges, I convened the Grand Lodge in special session at Rockland, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a new

church in that city. The Grand Lodge was opened in Masons' Hall, and, accompanied by Aurora, Rockland, Amity and Moses Webster Lodges, and Masons from other lodges, the procession, conducted by W. Grand Marshal A. M. WETHERBEE, and escorted by Claremont Commandery of Knights Templar, proceeded to the site of the church, where the Grand Lodge performed the ceremony of laying the corner stone according to ancient usage. The weather was fine and a large concourse of people was present. The occasion was one of interest, and will doubtless long be remembered by many. I shall ever bear in pleasing remembrance the kind and courteous attentions of the Rockland Masons on this, my initiatory public service.

On June 30th, assisted by R. W. WM. O. POOR, Senior Grand Warden, R.W. CHAS. L. COLLAMORE, Junior Grand Warden, R. W. WM. A. PENDLETON, D. D. G. Master, W. A. M. WETHERBEE, Grand Marshal, Bro. WARREN PHILLIPS, Grand Tyler, and several Belfast Masons, I instituted Pownal Lodge, at Stockton, and installed their officers in public. After the installation services, we all enjoyed a rich and bountiful repast prepared by the ladies in a neighboring hall. The occasion was much enjoyed by all present.

On July 8th, I instituted Baskahegan Lodge, and installed its officers in public, assisted by brethren from Mattawamkeag, Lincoln, Houlton, Bangor, and other places. Situated in a newly-opened and thrifty section of the State, and favored with an extensive jurisdiction and a growing population, this lodge bids fair to do a good work.

PREBLE LODGE.

At the last communication of the Grand Lodge, it was voted "that the charter of Preble Lodge, No. 143, be restored to those of the petitioners who were formerly members of Preble Lodge, in conjunction with those former members of Preble Lodge whom the Grand Master may deem worthy and proper to unite with them, and that said lodge be located at Sanford Corner; said charter not to be restored till such time as the Grand Master may deem proper." Soon after the Grand Lodge closed, I was

visited at my home by a messenger bearing a protest of some forty members residing at Springvale and in the vicinity, against the removal to Sanford Corner. After some correspondence with the parties, I held, on the evening of July 26th, a conference with both petitioners and remonstrants in the old lodge room at Springvale. I soon found that a bitter feud existed between the two localities that would require both time and grace to heal. Suffice it to say, that after hearing both parties in the presence of each other, I decided not to restore the charter, but refer the subject back to the Grand Lodge, in order that both sides might have an opportunity to be heard before its committee.

NEW LODGES.

I have granted dispensations for new lodges as follows: Hersey Lodge in Penobscot, June 17th, BENJ. H. CUSHMAN, Master; Ancient Brothers' Lodge, Auburn, June 21st, SAMUEL O. WOOD, Master; Negutiquit Lodge, North Berwick, September 18th, BENJ. P. PARKER, Master; Hiram Lodge, Cape Elizabeth, Nov. 1st, GORDON R. GARDEN, Master. These will probably ask for charters, which, if they show proper proficiency, it will doubtless be your good pleasure to grant.

I have also granted a dispensation to Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, at Livermore, in place of their old charter, burned with their hall and all their fixtures last fall. I recommend that a new charter be granted, remitting the usual fee.

I have declined to grant dispensations for new lodges in two cases. In March, I received a large petition for a new lodge at East Livermore, to be called the Reuel Washburn Lodge, approved by the two nearest lodges and the District Deputy Grand Master of the district. Being in doubt, and the meeting of the Grand Lodge being near at hand, I declined to grant a dispensation. The parties will appear before you for a hearing. You will investigate the subject fully, and do what seems best in the premises. The papers are herewith submitted.

I have also received a petition for a new lodge at Berwick, to be called Edwards Lodge; but not being approved by one of

the three nearest lodges nor by the District Deputy Grand Master of the district, I did not grant a dispensation, and accordingly the petition will be presented to you for final judgment.

In this connection I am constrained to suggest that in nearly all these cases the Grand Master knows nothing of the situation, and must rely upon the action of the nearest lodges and the District Deputy Grand Master, who may or may not be interested. It would seem, therefore, that if these petitions for new lodges were presented directly to the Grand Lodge, where the parties are all represented and can be fully heard, they would be more wisely determined. Once a year would seem to be often enough to make all the applications necessary for a healthy increase.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted dispensations to confer the degrees in less than the usual time in four instances, exacting in each case special vouchers for the good character of the candidate, from the principal officers of the lodge making the application. The fees for these dispensations have been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

I have granted permission in several cases to lodges in New Hampshire to receive petitions from applicants resident in the border towns of this State, the lodge in whose jurisdiction the candidate resides first waiving their right.

Several lodges in Massachusetts have entered complaints, through the Grand Master of that State, that lodges in this State have conferred, without their consent, the degrees on candidates rejected by them. In all such cases I have required the lodges to explain to the complaining lodges, and satisfy them of their good faith in the premises; and if they themselves had been imposed upon, to deal with the offending candidate: Lodges are justly sensitive in this matter of rejected candidates, and great care should be exercised in receiving petitions from applicants not well known. They should be required to state whether they had made application before, and if so, the consent of the rejecting lodge should be filed with the petition. When such fact is

wilfully withheld, the offender should be tried and expelled. Let us be just to others, for then we can demand justice for ourselves.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Upon the suggestion and recommendation of the Grand Masters of the several States, I have appointed Representatives of this Grand Lodge, as follows :

BRO. G. W. MAXSON, near the Grand Lodge of Georgia;
BRO. HUGH STERLING, near the Grand Lodge of West Virginia;
BRO. H. M. FAIRLEIGH, near the Grand Lodge of Kentucky;
BRO. XENOPHON RYLAND, near the Grand Lodge of Missouri;
BRO. JOHN H. BROWN, near the Grand Lodge of Kansas.

I have received a circular from M.W. J. P. C. COTTRILL, Grand Master of Wisconsin, relating to the erection of a suitable mausoleum to the memory of our brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON, in the grounds of Mount Vernon. I have taken no action in the premises, deeming it a subject of proper consideration for the Grand Lodge. You will, therefore, give it such consideration as you think it demands.

The circular is herewith submitted.

DECISIONS.

My correspondence during the year has been very extensive, involving a great many questions of Masonic jurisprudence. A great many decisions have been called for. Many of these would have been answered by simply referring to the constitution and printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge. I have answered all, however, to the best of my ability. Further experience and reflection has led me to doubt the correctness of some of the decisions I have made; but it will be your province, as well as your duty, to withhold your approval in such cases. The following are submitted :

1. A waiver of jurisdiction requires a clear ballot on petition presented at a preceding stated meeting.
2. Color is no bar to receiving the degrees in Masonry; to be free-born is requisite.

3. The Master should refuse to admit a visitor, on the objection of a member made before or after examination.

4. If, before a ballot, it is discovered that the lodge has no jurisdiction, the fact should be entered of record and the petition returned.

5. It is not proper to confer the degrees on a candidate with no right hand.

6. A ballot must be taken notwithstanding objection be made, and even if the ballot is clear, the candidate should be declared rejected on objection made.

7. A member, suspended for three months and an appeal taken, can be admitted into the lodge at the expiration of the three months, his *status* being the same as when charges are filed, and awaiting trial.

8. A second ballot cannot be ordered to correct a mistake at a preceding meeting—discovered after the lodge was closed.

9. A lodge should not receive a petition from a man who cannot write his name, but makes his mark. An inability to write involves an inability to read writing, hence he could not know what he signed, and therefore could not petition intelligently.

10. To be made a Mason, a man must be *free-born*, as well as of good report and well recommended.

11. Charges against a member should be tried or dismissed, but no one is authorized to erase them from the record.

12. A candidate, filing his petition for the degrees, though technically informal, and being rejected, must abide the result.

13. An objection to a candidate has the same effect as the black ball, and can no more be withdrawn after the rejection has been declared.

14. A candidate having voluntarily applied to the lodge for the degrees, and having been rejected, must abide the result, although the rejecting lodge had no jurisdiction.

15. A vote may be legally rescinded or repealed at a subsequent meeting, where no steps have been taken, or liabilities incurred to carry the same into effect; but no vote can be reconsidered at such subsequent meeting.

16. Legal proceedings are not to affect the course of the lodge in cases of conviction for crime. Charges must be filed and trial held as if no proceedings had been had elsewhere.

17. Suspension for non-payment of dues involves the loss of membership only, but leaves the brother in the enjoyment of the rights and benefits of Masonry. On being re-instated, he should pay his dues assessed during suspension. Suspension for unmasonic conduct involves the loss of all the rights and benefits of Masonry—so that, on being restored, he should not be subjected to dues during suspension.

18. An applicant for membership should file his dimit with his petition, and must always present it before he can be accepted.

19. A vote recommending a rejected candidate, or waiving jurisdiction over him, should specify the lodge to which he must apply.

20. The proceedings of trials for non-payment of dues need not be sent up to the Grand Lodge for review, nor in cases of suspension from membership for non-payment of dues, is a vote of the Grand Lodge required to restore to membership.

21. *Ques.* Our lodge wish to have a public holiday—will you grant the privilege? Also, can we appropriate the funds of the lodge for the same?

Ans. Can conceive of no case in which a dispensation would be granted except for purely Masonic purposes; and in no case can the lodge fund be devoted to such use.

22. *Ques.* A gentleman wants to make application to our lodge for the degrees. He is not a resident here, nor is he anywhere. He is a Captain of a ship, and his wife sails with him. Has no place on land he calls his home. I am directed to ask you, if you think best, for a dispensation to receive and act upon his application in less than the required time.

Ans. Have no authority to assume jurisdiction. The rule is imperative that candidates must have a residence in the State one year to be eligible, and within the jurisdiction of the lodge six months next preceding their application.

23. *Ques.* We have a candidate ready for the third degree who is

very hard of hearing, so that a loud tone of voice is necessary. What shall the Master do?

Ans. Whether the Master can lawfully confer the degree, depends on the extent of the disability, of which the Master alone must be the judge.

24. In two cases I have ruled, that a rejected candidate removing to another jurisdiction and there taking the degrees without the consent of the rejecting lodge, is entitled to no Masonic recognition on returning to this jurisdiction, except such as may be voluntarily accorded; nor is he entitled to Masonic burial.

TRIALS.

I have received certified copies of several trials, all of which, with one exception (lately received), have been forwarded to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals for their early consideration. Doubtless they will report the same to you for final action.

DIGEST.

Twenty years ago the Grand Master, in his address, uttered the following:—"Many questions have been submitted to me during the year in regard to Masonic jurisprudence, all of which I have answered to the best of my ability, and I have felt the need of some standard and improved work on the subject, and I would respectfully recommend that the Grand Lodge take measures to have a work compiled and approved by the Grand Lodge." I dare say every Grand Master from that day to this has keenly felt the same necessity. Last year steps were taken to supply this great want by publishing a digest of decisions, but circumstances have intervened to prevent its completion. I trust its issue will not be longer delayed. Without this work the officers of lodges are driven to the alternative of wading through the musty volumes of former proceedings, or, what to them is a shorter cut, and the one most usually adopted, vex the Grand Master with a multiplicity of questions already settled. It is hoped the committee having this matter in charge will heed the pressing demand, and govern themselves accordingly.

CONCLUSION.

Before closing this report, allow me, in this presence, to invoke a revival of the old-time spirit of Masonry, which taught that universal man is our brother, and as such is entitled to our highest regard—that spirit that works by kindness and brotherly love, and which alone has power to elevate and reform. Passing events attest the reforming power of this great principle of love, in the temperance reform now sweeping through the land. Kindness and brotherly love are the passwords of this great movement. It is of divine origin, adopted by Masonry in its incipency, and is the underlying cause of its perpetuity. Brethren, let us catch the inspiration of the hour, and renew the spirit of brotherly love among us. It will do us good. As an organized body of Masons, it is not our province to enter the field as reformers, but as individual Masons we may strike hands with any and all classes in the great work of reform, and in the elevation of human society.

The exhibit of the Grand Treasurer will show the financial condition of the Grand Lodge. The laborious duties of the Grand Secretary have been performed with his usual care and skill. The able report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is ready for distribution, and gives a faithful review of our sister Grand Lodges. The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters bear evidence of good work, and show a steady and healthy growth of the lodges. The Grand Tyler has promptly responded to every call to duty, and has rendered me valuable assistance.

My brief official report is now before you. I have endeavored to serve you to the best of my ability, but none know better than I how imperfect my work is. What is in agreement with the constitution and laws of Masonry you will approve, and disapprove all else. Thanking you for the honor of an election as Grand Master last year, I desire to express the same willingness to surrender the emblems of authority now that I did in assuming them then. May harmony and brotherly love characterize the deliberations of this session, and may our legislation be such as to promote the best interests of Masonry and the happiness and welfare of its votaries.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Master's Address be referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.

The Grand Treasurer submitted his Annual Report, as follows :

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 2, 1876.

TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF MAINE :

The Treasurer's receipts for the current masonic year last
past, are.....\$5,092.00

The amount of disbursements, including five hundred dol-
lars added to the Charity Fund, is..... 5,171.00

All of which, with items in detail, is shown by account
current herewith submitted.

The Balance in the Treasury, May 1, 1876, was..... 808.70

The wants and requirements of my office, with few exceptions, have been supplied or complied with. No Abstract of Returns of Lodges in the Sixteenth District, has been received.

I have not received or paid any bills for services rendered or expenses incurred by the District Deputy Grand Masters of the Third and Sixteenth Masonic Districts.

Some of our Brethren still continue to forget or utterly ignore the regulation of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, requiring Almoners to return to the Treasurer receipts showing payment to beneficiaries.

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

ACCOUNT CURRENT.

Dr. The M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MAINE,
in account with MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

1875.

May 5,	For paid Henry F. Collins, D. D. G. M. 1st District.....	\$	38.75
"	Wm. H. Hunter, " 2d "		10.50
"	Sam'l N. Campbell, " 3d "		
"	James M. Nevens, " 4th "		53.50
"	Daniel Dolloff, Jr., " 5th "		38.50
"	Jesse Prentiss, " 6th "		37.40
"	John H. Gordon, " 7th "		
"	George E. Wight, " 8th "		19.50
"	Rotheus E. Paine, " 9th "		42.50
"	George B. Sawyer, " 10th "		20.70
"	Austin D. Knight, " 11th "		13.30

May 5,	For paid Peter Williams, D. D. G. M. 12th District.....	38.50
"	W. R. G. Estes, " 13th "	25.25
"	Frank E. Sleeper, " 14th "	32.85
"	Francis T. Faulkner, " 15th "	39.40
"	P. Cleaveland Wiley, " 16th "	
"	George E. Taylor, " 17th "	10.00
"	Isaiah S. Webb, " 18th "	14.75
"	Charles E. Weld, " 19th "	34.40
"	R. E. Paine, Com. on Masonic History,.....	1.30
"	B. F. Andrews, expense,.....	4.50
"	David Cargill, Grand Master, expenses,.....	112.45
10,	M. S. Mayhew, D. D. G. M., bill of 1874,.....	32.29
"	J. B. Trafton, " "	12.00
"	Wm. B. Lapham, " "	10.00
21,	Portland Safety Dep. Vaults, rent of box,.....	15.00
"	Stephen Berry, Asst. Gr. Sec. (per vote),.....	20.00
"	Warren Phillips, Gr. Tyler "	30.00
"	W. O. Carney, Asst. " "	15.00
"	Moses Dodge, Gr. Treasurer "	40.00
"	J. H. Drummond, Com. on For. Cor. (per vote),....	80.00
"	C. O. Files, organist "	10.00
"	T. J. Murray, Grand Lecturer "	25.00
June 10,	Warren Phillips, Grand Tyler, expenses,.....	39.65
29,	Masonic Trustees, use of hall, gas, &c.....	200.00
July 1,	Portland Savings Bank, rent,.....	56.25
13,	Am. Bank Note Co., printing portraits of T. Chase,	22.95
26,	Stephen Berry, printing Proceedings, &c.,.....	616.00
Oct. 1,	Portland Savings Bank, rent,.....	56.25
Nov. 26,	American Bank Note Co., diplomas,.....	100.00
1876,		
Jan. 1,	Portland Savings Bank, rent,.....	56.25
19,	Insurance,.....	12.50
Feb. 5,	American Bank Note Co., diplomas,.....	140.00
April 1,	Portland Savings Bank, rent,.....	56.25
29,	Charity Fund Investment,.....	500.00
"	Ira Berry, Grand Secretary, salary,.....	500.00
"	" " " " bill of postage, &c.,	91.57
May 1,	Stephen Berry, printing Report For. Cor., &c.,...	252.17
"	Grand Treasurer's incidental expenses,.....	14.75
"	Pay Roll of 1875,.....	1,568.90
"	Balance in Treasury,.....	808.70
		<hr/> \$5,979.79

1875. Cr.			
By Balance in Treasury May 3, 1875,.....			\$887.79
May 4,	Cash of Henry F. Collins, D. D. G. M. 1st Dist.		105.35
	" William H. Hunter, " 2d Dist.		120.40
	" Samuel N. Campbell, " 3d Dist.		168.90
	" James M. Nevens, " 4th Dist.		319.00
5,	" Daniel Dolloff, Jr., " 5th Dist.		236.45
4,	" Jesse Prentiss, " 6th Dist.		386.00
	" John H. Gordon, " 7th Dist.		172.30
	" George E. Wight, " 8th Dist.		194.50
	" Rotheus E. Paine, " 9th Dist.		425.30
5,	" George B. Sawyer, " 10th Dist.		214.05
	" Austin D. Knight, " 11th Dist.		248.75
	" Peter Williams, " 12th Dist.		184.70
	" W. R. G. Estes, " 13th Dist.		247.70
	" Frank E. Sleeper, " 14th Dist.		217.00
	" Francis T. Faulkner, " 15th Dist.		271.45
	" P. Cleaveland Wiley, " 16th Dist.		247.60
4,	" George E. Taylor, " 17th Dist.		392.10
	" Isaiah S. Webb, " 18th Dist.		210.05
	" Charles E. Weld, " 19th Dist.		306.00
May 6,	" Ira Berry, dues of Baskahegan Lodge,		8.00
	" Ira Berry, charter fee " "		30.00
	" J. B. Trafton, bal. of dues for 1874,....		8.75
3,	" Ira Berry, dues of Eastern Lodge,.....		58.60
June 3,	" E. H. Banks, char. fee Palestine Lodge,		55.00
July 27,	" R. H. Hinkley, Gr. Chapter, rent, &c.,..		72.90
Aug. 10,	" Albert Moore, disp. for conf. degrees,..		3.00
Sep. 23,	" Benj. P. Parker, Negutiquit Lodge,....		25.00
Dec. 1,	" Albert Moore, disp. for conf. degrees,..		3.00
1876.			
Jan. 19,	" " " " " "		3.00
Apr. 7,	" " " " " "		3.00
29,	" Ira Berry, diplomas sold, &c.,.....		43.15
	" " " charter fee Pownal Lodge,..		30.00
	" " " disp. fee Hersey Lodge,.....		25.00
	" " " disp. fee Ancient Bro. Lo.,..		25.00
	" " " disp. fee Hiram Lodge,.....		25.00
	" " " dues of mem. of Preble Lo.,..		4.50
			<hr/> \$5,979.79

THE CHARITY FUND consists of—

25 shares Canal National Bank Stock,.....	\$2,500.00
37 shares Casco National Bank Stock,.....	3,700.00
5 shares Freeman's National Bank Stock,.....	500.00
5 shares First National Bank Stock,.....	500.00
\$6,800.00 U. S. 5-20 Bonds,.....	6,800.00
700.00 Bonds of Masonic Trustees,.....	700.00
1,400.00 Deposit in Portland Savings Bank,.....	1,400.00
1,900.00 " Maine " "	1,900.00
	<hr/>
	\$18,000.00

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Grand Secretary submitted his Annual Report, to wit:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 2, 1876.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The customary duties devolving on the Grand Secretary have been attended to. The Records of the Grand Lodge, and of the Charity Fund are ready for inspection.

The plan of registering rejections instead of notifying lodges monthly, so far as I can judge, is working well.

Sixteen Brethren, thus far, have applied for Registration. Two of these have since affiliated.

The privilege accorded to lodges, of purchasing at cost the first volume of our early Proceedings,—re-printed—has been taken advantage of by a comparatively small number of our lodges as yet.

But few lodges have sent their charters to be recorded. The resolution requiring it has probably passed out of mind on the part of the officers. I propose to have their attention called to it the present year. No action of Grand Lodge will be necessary, the resolution not having been rescinded.

It is now twenty years since the Records of the Grand Lodge were placed in my keeping. During that time the number of lodges has more than doubled, and we have six times as many members now as then. A remarkably rapid increase in numbers certainly. This brings yearly more work into the Secretary's department; but familiarity with the routine, and better arrangement of the archives, does much to facilitate the labor.

Respectfully submitted,

IRA BERRY, *Grand Secretary.*

Referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.

The Grand Secretary presented the dispensation, records and other papers of Ancient Brothers' Lodge, at Auburn, with a petition for a charter, which were referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

R. W. GEORGE E. TAYLOR presented dispensations and other papers of Hiram Lodge, at Cape Elizabeth, and Hersey Lodge, at Penobscot, with petitions for charters,—which were referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The following Resolution, offered by Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Digest of Decisions be discharged, and that the publication of a "Maine Masonic Text Book," the monitorial portion to be approved by the Grand Lecturer, and the portion relating to jurisprudence and proceedings in lodges by the Grand Master, be approved.

On motion of M. W. TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,

Voted, That a special committee be appointed to inquire into the *status* of Bro. HOWARD FROST, claiming to have been a member of Preble Lodge.

Bros. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, HENRY H. DICKEY and WILLIAM R. G. ESTES, were appointed said committee.

The following papers were laid before the Grand Lodge by the Grand Secretary, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to wit :

Complaint of Delta Lodge against Pythagorean Lodge ;

Report of trial and suspension of B. C. LYFORD, by Mosaic Lodge ;

Complaint of Bro. ANDREW LACY against Lincoln Lodge.

BRO. BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS presented sundry papers in relation to Preble Lodge; which were referred to the committee having that subject under consideration.

BRO. JOSEPH A. LOCKE submitted the Report of the Committee on Returns, which was accepted, viz:

Your Committee on Returns respectfully submit the following report:

Number of chartered lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, is one hundred and seventy-four; and returns have been received from all except Temple Lodge, at Saccarappa—giving the following exhibit:

As heretofore, for convenience of comparison, we give the footings of last year's returns:

	1876.*	1875.
Initiated,.....	805	972
Admitted,.....	1037	1201
Re-instated,.....	32	50
Dimitted,.....	319	367
Died,.....	218	196
Suspended,.....	3	4
Expelled,.....	9	2
Deprived of Membership,.....	201	254
Number of Members,.....	18,837	18,725
Non-affiliates,.....	216	209
Rejected,.....	352	496

There are four lodges under dispensation; returns have been received from all of them, giving the following exhibit:

	Initiated.	Raised.	Rejected.	Petitioners.	M. Masons.
Hersey,	4	4	0	21	25
Ancient Brother's,	14	14	3	40	54
Negutiquit,	7	7	1	20	27
Hiram,	28	23	2	39	62

Several of the Secretaries have examined their records and corrected errors in their lists of members, from which we find that the number of members of chartered lodges last year, instead of being 18,673, should be 18,725.

IRA BERRY,	} Committee.
JOS. A. LOCKE,	
WARREN PHILLIPS,	

*See note at end of Abstract.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.

Nos.	Lodges.	Initiated.	Admitted.	Re-initiated.	Dimitted.	Died.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Deprived of Membership.	Members.	Non-affil'd.	Rejected.
1	Portland,.....	3	8	..	11	11	..	..	..	356	..	3
2	Warren,.....	4	4	..	1	2	..	..	1	110	..	3
3	Lincoln,.....	..	..	..	2	3	1	..	7	97	3	1
4	Hancock,.....	2	3	..	3	3	..	..	..	109	9	..
5	Kennebec,.....	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	161	3	5
6	Amity,.....	3	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	132	..	..
7	Eastern,.....	6	7	..	8	2	..	1	..	200	..	1
8	United,.....	12	13	..	2	1	..	..	..	140	5	1
9	Saco,.....	5	5	1	2	1	..	..	23	158	0	3
10	Rising Virtue,.....	3	3	..	3	2	..	..	2	215	..	4
11	Pythagorean,.....	3	4	..	3	..	..	..	..	68	..	..
12	Cumberland,.....	2	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	80	..	..
13	Oriental,.....	7	4	..	1	2	..	..	..	181	..	2
14	Solar,.....	8	14	..	3	2	..	..	..	225	7	6
15	Orient,.....	6	6	..	3	2	..	..	..	158	..	..
16	St. George,.....	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	84	..	..
17	Ancient Landmark, ..	7	17	..	9	3	..	..	..	372	..	2
18	Oxford,.....	7	12	..	3	..	..	..	..	128	3	7
19	Felicity,.....	3	4	..	3	..	..	..	15	157	..	1
20	Maine,.....	7	9	..	2	..	..	1	..	98	..	1
21	Oriental Star,.....	3	8	..	5	3	..	..	..	130	1	2
22	York,.....	8	7	..	1	..	..	..	1	83	5	..
23	Freeport,.....	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	73	..	..
24	Phoenix,.....	4	7	2	1	4	..	..	..	206	..	5
25	Temple,.....	3	3	..	4	1	..	..	..	87	..	..
26	Village,.....	4	5	..	2	3	..	..	..	110	3	2
27	Adoniram,.....	6	8	3	1	1	..	..	..	64	..	1
28	Northern Star,.....	5	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	124	..	3
29	Tranquil,.....	12	10	..	1	3	..	..	..	204	3	5
30	Blazing Star,.....	8	6	..	2	3	..	..	..	91	..	2
31	Union,.....	4	5	0	1	3	..	..	..	104	3	..
32	Hermon,.....	6	9	..	..	8	..	..	..	172	..	3
33	Waterville,.....	3	7	..	1	..	..	..	..	165	..	5
34	Somerset,.....	8	11	..	1	4	..	1	..	213	5	9
35	Bethlehem,.....	3	7	..	4	..	..	..	..	209	..	7
36	Casco,.....	2	2	1	2	3	..	..	..	159	6	..
37	Washington, ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	8	88	..	..
38	Harmony,.....	6	6	..	5	..	..	..	11	149	..	1
39	Penobscot,.....	5	8	..	2	..	..	..	..	138	3	5
40	Lygonia,.....	7	7	..	2	1	..	..	..	252	..	1
41	Morning Star,.....	3	3	..	2	2	..	..	..	63	..	..
42	Freedom,.....	3	3	..	1	2	..	..	33	71	..	..
43	Alna, ..	5	8	..	1	..	..	1	0	154	..	9
44	Piscataquis,.....	3	10	..	..	2	..	..	..	92	2	3
45	Central,.....	5	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	146	..	1
46	St. Croix, ..	9	8	..	4	4	..	..	..	196	15	4
47	Dunlap,.....	6	9	..	27	..	..	..	..	180	..	4
48	Lafayette,.....	5	6	..	4	1	..	..	..	94	3	1
49	Meridian Splendor, ..	5	7	..	7	2	..	..	15	84	20	1
50	Aurora,.....	19	26	..	2	4	..	..	..	445	15	5
51	St. John's,.....	8	11	5	5	1	..	..	8	185	..	5

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
52	Mosaic,.....	6	10	2	2	5	..	..	3	167	1	..
53	Rural,.....	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	61	..	1
54	Vassalboro,.....	6	4	..	1	5	..	..	..	80	..	3
55	Fraternal,.....	10	8	..	4	..	..	..	..	75	..	..
56	Mount Moriah,.....	..	1	0	..	2	..	..	..	57	..	..
57	King Hiram,.....	11	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	..	6
58	Unity,.....	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	56	..	..
59	Mount Hope,.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	..	..
60	Star in the East,...	8	8	1	2	..	..	..	4	157	..	4
61	King Solomon's,...	3	5	..	..	4	..	..	..	119	..	1
62	King David's,.....	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	102	..	..
63	Richmond,.....	3	1	..	1	3	..	..	..	114	5	4
64	Pacific,.....	9	9	..	..	1	..	..	..	89	..	3
65	Mystic,.....	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	..	1
66	Mechanics',.....	2	3	2	4	1	..	..	9	103	2	..
67	Blue Mountain,....	2	3	0	2	..	..	..	..	50	6	0
68	Mariners',.....	6	8	..	20	4	..	..	0	171	..	1
69	Howard,.....	6	7	..	1	5	..	..	..	108	1	..
70	Standish,.....	1	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	62	..	1
71	Rising Sun,.....	1	2	..	4	2	..	..	4	108	..	..
72	Pioneer,.....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	50	..	..
73	Tyrian,.....	4	10	1	1	3	..	..	..	167	2	1
74	Bristol,.....	8	8	..	..	3	..	..	..	129	..	1
75	Plymouth,.....	2	2	3	2	1	..	..	4	54	..	..
76	Arundel,.....	3	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	73	7	1
77	Tremont,.....	4	2	..	2	4	..	..	..	126	..	1
78	Crescent,.....	5	8	3	5	3	..	1	8	156	..	1
79	Rockland,.....	12	14	0	..	6	..	1	..	372	..	3
80	Keystone,.....	5	5	..	..	2	..	..	..	92	..	8
81	Atlantic,.....	9	17	..	13	4	..	..	11	260	16	2
82	St. Paul's,.....	4	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	121	12	3
83	St. Andrew's,.....	10	17	..	3	1	..	..	3	303	..	6
84	Eureka,.....	7	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	128	1	7
85	Star in the West,...	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	106	4	2
86	Temple,.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
87	Benevolent,.....	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	54	3	2
88	Narragausus,.....	4	5	..	3	1	..	..	..	143	..	..
89	Island,.....	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	72	..	..
90	Hiram Abiff, <i>ch. rev.</i>,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
91	Harwood,.....	11	11	..	2	..	..	..	..	159	4	3
92	Siloam,.....	9	10	..	1	3	..	..	..	116	..	4
93	Horeb,.....	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	101	..	1
94	Paris,.....	3	3	..	2	1	..	..	..	105	..	1
95	Corinthian,.....	5	5	..	2	1	..	..	..	77	..	5
96	Monument,.....	5	6	..	9	..	..	1	..	121	3	4
97	Bethel,.....	5	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	126	..	7
98	Katahdin,.....	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	68	1	2
99	Vernon Valley,....	1	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	111	1	..
100	Jefferson,.....	5	6	..	1	1	1	..	..	75	..	3
101	Nezinscot,.....	1	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	84	..	1
102	Marsh River,.....	5	6	..	2	1	..	..	..	88	1	1
103	Dresden,.....	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	40	..	..
104	Dirigo,.....	8	6	..	1	2	..	..	..	96	..	4
105	Ashlar,.....	7	7	..	3	..	..	..	..	172	..	5
106	Tuscan,.....	2	2	1	1	1	..	..	5	154	..	..
107	Day Spring,.....	3	6	..	1	1	..	..	..	72	..	..
108	Relief,.....	2	1	0	1	..	..	..	..	72	3	..

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
109	Mount Kineo,.....	6	7	..	1	1	..	..	..	106	..	..
110	Monmouth,.....	4	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	79	..	..
111	Liberty,.....	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	130	2	..
112	Eastern Frontier,..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	71	..	..
113	Messalonskee,.....	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	88	..	2
114	Polar Star,.....	12	11	..	1	2	..	..	..	166	..	4
115	Buxton,	4	6	..	1	2	..	..	..	101	1	3
116	Lebanon,.....	1	3	..	1	4	..	..	..	80	..	3
117	Greenleaf,.....	7	7	..	3	..	..	..	..	116	..	2
118	Drummond,.....	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	64	3	3
119	Pownal,.....	4	43	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	..	..
120	Meduncook,.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	..	..
121	Acacia,.....	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	75	..	..
122	Marine,.....	3	5	..	1	..	..	..	14	168	..	..
123	Franklin,.....	2	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	76	..	..
124	Olive Branch,.....	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	93	..	..
125	Meridian,.....	2	3	1	1	..	..	..	3	100	..	5
126	Timothy Chase,..	9	6	..	1	3	..	..	..	128	..	2
127	Presumpscot,.....	7	7	1	1	1	..	..	..	94	..	3
128	Eggemoggin,.....	7	10	..	1	1	..	..	..	111	..	4
129	Quantabcook,.....	3	5	0	1	1	..	..	..	72	4	..
130	Trinity,.....	3	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	69	..	..
131	Lookout,.....	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	44	..	..
132	Mount Tire'm,.....	6	6	..	2	1	..	..	..	83	..	1
133	Asylum,.....	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	0	54	..	..
134	Trojan,.....	3	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	64	..	1
135	Riverside,.....	5	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	105	4	..
136	Ionic,.....	3	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	86	..	1
137	Kenduskeag,.....	4	2	..	3	3	..	..	1	92	..	..
138	Lewy's Island,.....	5	4	..	..	1	1	..	..	82	3	2
139	Archon,.....	2	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	93	..	2
140	Mount Desert,.....	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	89	..	..
141	Augusta,.....	6	7	..	..	1	..	..	..	114	..	2
142	Ocean,.....	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	70	..	1
143	Preble, <i>char. arrest.</i>,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
144	Seaside,.....	6	10	1	2	2	..	..	..	101	..	7
145	Moses Webster,....	11	12	..	1	1	..	..	..	147	..	13
146	Sebasticook,.....	6	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	70	..	3
147	Evening Star,.....	6	6	..	2	1	..	..	1	60	..	2
148	Forest,.....	6	4	..	4	1	..	..	..	78	2	3
149	Doric,.....	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	1
150	Rabboni,.....	7	14	..	1	..	..	..	..	111	..	3
151	Excelsior,.....	2	2	4	..	1	..	..	5	36	..	..
152	Crooked River,....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	3	2
153	Delta,.....	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	58	..	..
154	Mystic Tie,.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	37	..	1
155	Ancient York,.....	6	7	..	2	..	..	..	..	71	..	2
156	Wilton,.....	4	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	75	..	1
157	Cambridge,.....	8	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	..	5
158	Anchor,.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	..	..
159	Esoteric,.....	5	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	73	..	2
160	Fisher,.....	8	9	..	1	1	..	..	..	53	3	5
161	Carrabassett,.....	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	..	4
162	Arion,.....	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	..	..
163	Pleasant River,....	6	5	..	1	..	..	..	0	42	..	1
164	Webster,.....	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	..	3
165	Molunkus,.....	1	0	..	1	..	..	..	..	28	..	1

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
166	Neguemkeag,	2	3	..	2	1	..	..	..	58	2	1
167	Whitney,.....	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	44	..	5
168	Composite,.....	5	4	..	1	..	..	1	..	24	..	..
169	Shepherd's River,..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	28	..	2
170	Caribou,.....	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	41	..	2
171	Naskeag,.....	4	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	52	..	..
172	Pine Tree,.....	9	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	..	4
173	Pleiades,.....	6	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	2	2
174	Lynde,.....	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	31	..	3
175	Baskahegan,.....	11	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	..	5
176	Palestine,.....	25	55	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	..	..
See Note.		805	1037	32	319	218	3	9	201	18,837	216	352

[NOTE. Temple Lodge, No. 86, made no return until after the report of the committee was made. The return has been received, and reports 12 initiated, 12 admitted, 3 re-instated, 1 died, 10 suspended for non-payment of dues, 194 members, 7 rejected. Adding these and the lodges *U. D.*, the footings will be, Initiations 870, Admissions 1,049, Re-instated 35, Dimitted 319, Died 219, Suspended 3, Expelled 9, Deprived of Membership 211, Members 19,139, Rejected 365, Non-affiliates 215.]

The Grand Secretary presented a petition for the restoration of the charter and property of Preble Lodge, which was referred to the committee on that subject.

The Grand Secretary presented a petition of Oriental Star Lodge for a charter to replace theirs, which was destroyed by fire: and it was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

BRO. WM. J. BURNHAM presented a memorial from Ashlar Lodge, asking for restoration of SILAS W. COOKE to the rights and benefits of Freemasonry, which was referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The By-Laws of Union Lodge, No. 31, were presented, and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

BRO. WILLIAM R. G. ESTES presented credentials as Representative of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, near the Grand Lodge of Maine, and was duly received and welcomed by the Grand Master.

BRO. DRUMMOND presented a memorial respecting the debt of Preble Lodge, which was referred to the special committee on that subject.

BRO. WILLIAM H. SMITH submitted the following Resolution :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the subject of establishing a Home for Aged and Indigent Masons in this State. Said committee to report at the next session of the Grand Lodge.

Which was read, and referred to a special committee, consisting of BROS. EDWARD P. BURNHAM, F. LORING TALBOT and OLIVER GERRISH.

Wednesday, at ten o'clock A. M., was assigned as the time for exemplification of work on the third degree.

BRO. DAVID CARGILL, for the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, submitted the following report :

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers have attended to their duty, and submit the following report :

We commend the zeal and faithfulness of the Grand Master evinced in the performance of his arduous duties.

We recommend that so much of the report as relates to the death of Past Junior Grand Warden STEPHEN WEBBER, be referred to a committee of three.

That so much as relates to Preble Lodge be referred to the special committee having the matter in charge.

That so much as relates to the petition for a new lodge at East Livermore, be referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

That so much as relates to the erection of a mausoleum, to the memory of GEORGE WASHINGTON, be referred to the Committee on Finance.

We also recommend that the several decisions of the Grand Master be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

We recommend that the Grand Secretary's report be accepted and approved.

DAVID CARGILL,	} Committee.
S. J. CHADBOURNE,	
GEORGE F. OWEN,	

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations of the committee were approved.

Bros. DAVID CARGILL, AUGUSTUS BAILEY and JOHN W. TOWARD were appointed a committee on the portion of the Grand Master's Address, relating to the death of R. W. STEPHEN WEBBER.

M. W. TIMOTHY J. MURRAY requested the ruling of the Grand Lodge, as to the provision of Sec. 88 of the Constitution, that but one stated meeting shall be held in each month, to receive petitions and ballot for candidates—the point being whether it should be taken to mean a lunar or calendar month.

On motion, the subject was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until this afternoon at two o'clock.

MASONIC HALL, Tuesday, May 2, 1876.

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

The Grand Secretary presented the dispensation, records and other papers of Negutiquit Lodge, at North Berwick, with a petition for a charter, which were referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

By-Laws of Horeb and Aurora Lodges, with amend-

ments, were presented, and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

R. W. DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR., presented the petition of Fisher Lodge, at Corinna, for change of name, which was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND submitted reports as follows:

The committee, to which was referred the complaint from New Brunswick against St. Croix Lodge, ask leave to report that the missing papers have not been found, but from the best information the committee can obtain the complaint was founded upon a misapprehension, and requires no further action at this Grand Lodge.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, } Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,

Which report was accepted.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which was referred the question as to the construction of section 88 of the Constitution, have had the same under consideration and report.

That as since the adoption of the provision in question, this Grand Lodge has approved quite a number of by-laws, which provide for a meeting *every lunar month*, it has already practically decided the question, that the term "month" in the section referred to, means a *lunar* month. This construction does not conflict with the by-laws of those lodges which provide for a meeting once in a calendar month.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, } Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,

Report accepted.

The special committee, to which was referred so much of the address of Grand Master CARGILL last year, as relates to an alleged attempt to influence members of a jury, in the trial of a cause, by a party by allusions to masonry, have examined the matter and ask leave to report:

They find that the case has been published and widely circulated in this State.

It was an action in the Supreme Court of the State for an alleged libel, of the grossest character, if the publication was false.

The plaintiff, being a lawyer, opened his own case to the jury, in which he stated that the man sued (who was the publisher of the newspaper) was merely a nominal defendant, but that another party, whom he named, was the writer of the libel, and the real defendant. After stating this and some other matters, in giving an account of an interview that he had with this party, the report of the case is as follows :

"I appealed to him as a man and a brother mason to go home and _____" (counsel for defense interrupting). "This is intolerable." *Court*. "I think so too."

"After a colloquy between court and counsel," he proceeded.

The counsel for the defendant in his opening said :

"I ask of you to lay aside, for the time being, any possible prejudices or convictions, or sympathies which you may have obtained, from the spread-eagle speech which has nothing to do with the case, three-quarters of it, and was only dragged in, as I must suppose, either in the excitement of the moment, which I should scarcely interpret to be the case with a man who had practiced so long at the bar, or for the purpose, the *illegitimate* purpose of prejudicing your minds. For instance, I would like to know by what authority any counsel, any party in this court, either as counsel or otherwise, stands up before a jury of twelve men, who are sworn to try the case according to the law and the evidence, and appeals to *masonry*."

In his closing argument the counsel for the defendant said :

"And I must call your attention once more to the allusion, which he dared to make in this Court House, to *Masonry*. Now I have no unkind word to say of that institution, but I *do* say, when that institution creeps into the court house, and is appealed to by parties, it is *doomed*; for if there is any spot on the face of the earth that should be free from every bias, and every outside influence, it is a court of justice and a jury of our country. I know not but some of you may be masons. I care not, but as men and as sworn jurors, I appeal to you, not only to disregard any such appeal to your affinities, but to rebuke it."

The plaintiff, who opened the case, was then a mason; neither the defendant or his counsel was a mason; and there is no doubt that there were several masons on the jury; and they rendered a verdict for the plaintiff of \$5,508.

The committee have looked no further than the printed report for what took place upon the trial.

Whether the allusion to masonry was made with any design to influence the jury or not, the committee express no opinion upon the evidence herein presented.

If such was the design, it deserves the severest punishment, as it was a perversion of masonry of the grossest character, and the most dangerous in its tendency.

If it was not so designed, the injury to masonry is scarcely less, as those who looked on may well have supposed that it was designed. The allusion was utterly wrong and cannot be justified, whatever may have been the cause of it.

If masons are allowed to carry the institution into courts of justice to influence proceedings there, it at once becomes dangerous in the highest degree,

and as the counsel said, it is *doomed*, and, moreover, every true mason will add, it *ought* to be doomed.

There are difficulties in having this matter investigated in the lodge, as will readily be seen; it is scarcely too much to say that the matter cannot be fairly examined there; and, without the least reflection whatever upon the lodge or its members, as this Grand Lodge has the power, under its Constitution, to take original jurisdiction in such cases, we recommend that the party in question be summoned before the Grand Lodge, at its next Annual Communication, to answer in the premises, and that a committee be appointed to prepare charges, and, under the direction of the Grand Master, put the case in a condition to be heard.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
T. J. MURRAY,	
EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	

Which report was accepted, and the recommendation of the committee adopted.

The hour for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, the Grand Master appointed Bros. W. R. G. ESTES, BENJ. F. ANDREWS and J. D. HODGDON a committee to receive, sort and count votes; and Bros. ALDEN M. WETHERBEE, A. W. CUSHMAN and CLARENCE L. DAKIN a second committee for the same purpose.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to ballot, and the following Brethren were reported to be duly and legally elected, viz:

M. W. ALBERT MOORE,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	North Anson;
R. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Saco;
" CHAS. I. COLLAMORE,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Bangor;
" ALDEN M. WETHERBEE,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Warren;
" MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland;
" IRA BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	"

Which report was accepted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to ballot for a Committee of Finance, and elected Brothers

OLIVER GERRISH,	Portland;
HENRY H. DICKEY,	Lewiston; and
BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS,	Portland.

Bros. W. R. G. ESTES, of Skowhegan, and WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD, of Thomaston, were elected Trustees of the Charity Fund for three years.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow at nine o'clock A. M.

MASONIC HALL, Wednesday, May 3, 1876.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at nine o'clock A. M.

BRO. WILLIAM H. SMITH offered a resolution for the restoration of the Brother summarily expelled by the Grand Lodge at the last annual convocation; which, on motion, was laid upon the table, and made the special order for Thursday morning.

BRO. R. E. PAINE, for the Committee on History, reported as follows:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The Committee on the History of Masonry in Maine respectfully submit the following report:

We have received during the past year only two histories, viz: Harwood, No. 91, completed up to 1871; and Tuscan, No. 106, completed up to 1871; both in ms.

The history of Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, has been completed, and is now in press, and will be issued in a few days.

We have to report as still delinquent, Ashlar, No. 105; Archon, No. 139; Mechanics, No. 66; Marine, No. 122; Narraguagus, No. 88; Polar Star, No. 114; Presumpscot, No. 127; Rural, No. 53; Relief, No. 108; Rabboni, No. 150;

Solar, No. 14; Star in the East, No. 60; Tranquil, No. 29; United, No. 8; Ionic, No. 136; Freedom, No. 42; Mount Moriah, No. 56.

From several of the delinquent lodges we have assurances that their histories are in the hands of committees, and in progress.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. E. PAINE,	} Committee.
W. R. G. ESTES,	
F. LORING TALBOT,	

Which report was accepted.

The Committee on By-Laws submitted the following report, which was accepted, viz:

The Committee on By-Laws beg leave to report:

That, by Section 86 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, it is required "That every lodge, after adopting or revising by-laws, shall send a transcript of such by-laws for revision immediately to the Grand Secretary for examination, and await the approval of the Grand Master before recording or printing."

We therefore recommend that the requirements of the Constitution be complied with.

H. H. DICKEY,	} Committee.
FRANCIS J. DAY,	
AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	

BROS. EDWIN H. VOSE, GEORGE E. TAYLOR and MILTON M. STONE were appointed a Committee on leave of absence.

Bro. F. H. DRUMMOND presented the report of the Committee on the Pay Roll, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Portland Lodge of Instruction exemplified the work of the third degree, and the opening, before the Grand Lodge,—Bro. CLAYTON J. FARRINGTON acting as Master.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until two o'clock in the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY, May 3, 1876.

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

Portland Lodge of Instruction exemplified work and opening of the first and second degrees before the Grand Lodge,—Bro. JOHN H. HALL acting as Master in the first degree, and Bro. HENRY P. COX in the second.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

MASONIC HALL, Thursday, May 4, 1876.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at nine o'clock A. M.

The resolution offered yesterday by Bro. WILLIAM H. SMITH, for the restoration to all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry, of the Brother expelled by the Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication, was taken from the table, considered and adopted.

Bro. JOSEPH M. HAYES for the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, made the following Report:

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully present the following as their report, viz :

In the case of Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, of Ellsworth, vs. GEORGE A. DYER, for forgery, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the doings of Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, in expelling GEORGE A. DYER, of Ellsworth, for forgery, from all the rights and benefits of masonry be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Monument Lodge, No. 96, of Houlton, vs. JEREMIAH TRUEWORTHY, your committee recommend the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Monument Lodge, No. 96, in expelling from all the rights and benefits of masonry, JEREMIAH TRUEWORTHY, of Houlton, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Rockland Lodge, No. 79, of Rockland, vs. SILAS W. McLOON, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Rockland Lodge, No. 79, in expelling SILAS W. McLOON from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Crescent Lodge, No. 78, of Pembroke, vs. WILLIAM N. LYCETT, of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Crescent Lodge, No. 78, in expelling WILLIAM N. LYCETT, of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Lebanon Lodge, No. 116, Norridgewock, vs. CALVIN G. HALE, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge hereby publicly reprimand Bro. CALVIN G. HALE, of Norridgewock, for using unbecoming language to superior officers.

In the case of Rural Lodge, No. 53, Sidney, vs. GRANVILLE R. SIBLEY, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the acquital of GRANVILLE R. SIBLEY in the case of Rural Lodge, No. 53, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Dirigo Lodge, No. 104, South China, vs. EDWARD W. NELSON, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the sentence of suspension for three months of EDWARD W. NELSON, by Dirigo Lodge, No. 104, be set aside as inadequate, and that he be expelled from all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the case of Caribou Lodge, No. 170, of Lyndon, vs. LEWIS A. GUILD, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the case of Caribou Lodge, No. 170, vs. LEWIS A. GUILD, be dismissed for want of jurisdiction.

In the case of Alna Lodge, No. 43, Damariscotta, vs. JEFFERSON A. HALL, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the sentence of expulsion from all the rights and benefits of masonry of JEFFERSON A. HALL, by Alna Lodge, No. 43, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, Bryant's Pond, vs. JOSEPH A. FAIRBANKS, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the sentence of suspension for two years of JOSEPH A. FAIRBANKS, by Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, for embezzlement, &c., be set aside, and that he be expelled from all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the case of Waterville Lodge, No. 33, Waterville, vs. CHARLES A. CHALMERS, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the finding of CHARLES A. CHALMERS guilty of unmasonic conduct by Waterville Lodge, No. 33, be approved and confirmed, and that CHARLES A. CHALMERS be expelled from all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the Case of Molunkus Lodge, No. 165, Sherman Mills, vs. PATRICK CAMPBELL, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the acquittal of PATRICK CAMPBELL by Molunkus Lodge, No. 165, be set aside, and that he be expelled from all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the case of Mosaic Lodge, No. 52, Foxcroft, vs. BENJAMIN C. LYFORD, for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the sentence of indefinite suspension of BENJAMIN C. LYFORD by Mosaic Lodge, No. 52, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Lewy's Island Lodge, No. 138, vs. WILLIAM H. VARNUM for unmasonic conduct, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the sentence of indefinite suspension of WILLIAM H. VARNUM, by Lewy's Island Lodge, No. 138, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Delta Lodge, No 153, vs. Pythagorean Lodge, No. 11, for infringement of jurisdiction, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That there being no time fixed by either the Constitution of this Grand Lodge or any general regulation of the same, and as some definite time should be fixed when the application of a candidate which has been received by a lodge and referred to a committee of inquiry and no further action had thereon, should cease to hold the applicant's jurisdiction, the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence is respectfully asked to fix by limitation such time, by a general regulation or otherwise, and report to this Grand Lodge as soon as practicable.

In the case of Ashlar Lodge, No. 105, Lewiston, petitioners for the restoration of SILAS W. COOK, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That SILAS W. COOK be restored to all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the case of Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, Wiscasset, vs. ANDREW LACY, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the sentence of indefinite suspension of ANDREW LACY by Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of ANDREW LACY, Complainant, against the action of Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, your committee recommend the following:

Resolved, That Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, deserves and hereby receives the censure of this Grand Lodge, for excusing all but two of its members from balloting on the application of a candidate, thereby impairing the effect of the secret ballot.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

JOS. M. HAYES,	} Committee.
A. B. MARSTON,	
F. LORING TALBOT,	

The report was accepted, and the resolutions were severally adopted.

The report of the Committee on the Pay-roll was taken up, accepted, and the Grand Treasurer authorized to make payments in accordance therewith.

BRO. HORACE H. BURBANK, for Committee on Dispen-sations and Charters, presented the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The Committee on Dispen-sations and Charters, to whom were referred the several matters hereinafter named, having considered the same, submit the following report:

In the matter of the petition of Ancient Brothers' Lodge, v. d., at Auburn, for a charter, we recommend that the same be granted, and that their dispensation be continued until they shall be duly constituted.

In the matter of the petition of Hiram Lodge, v. d., at Cape Elizabeth, for a charter, we recommend that the same be granted, and that their dispensation be continued until they shall be duly constituted.

In the matter of Negutiquit Lodge, v. d., at North Berwick, for a charter and a change of name, we recommend that the same be granted, and that they be allowed to take the name of Yorkshire Lodge, and that their dispensation be continued until they shall be duly constituted.

In the matter of the petition of Fisher Lodge, Corinna, for a change of

name, we recommend that the lodge be allowed to take the name of Parian Lodge, as prayed for.

In the matter of the petition of LEVI H. DAGGETT and others, for a dispensation for a lodge at Livermore Falls in East Livermore, to be called Reuel Washburn Lodge, we recommend that their prayer be granted.

In the matter of the petition of Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, at Livermore, for a new charter to replace one lost by fire, we recommend that their prayer be granted.

In the matter of the petition of Hersey Lodge, U. D., at Penobscot, for a charter, and for a change of name, we recommend that a charter be granted, and that the lodge be allowed to take the name of Rising Star Lodge, and that their dispensation be continued until they shall be duly constituted.

In the matter of the petition of GEORGE W. LORR and others, for a dispensation for a lodge at Berwick, to be known as Edwards Lodge, your committee report that the consent of one of the three nearest lodges was granted, one was withheld, not unreasonably, as the committee think, and that of another granted was only a lodge U. D., and, as we think, had no power of action in the premises; that the endorsement of the District Deputy Grand Master was withheld, not unreasonably. Your committee entertain some doubts whether there was a sufficient compliance with the constitutional requirements in regard to the endorsements; but we finally gave both parties a full hearing on the merits of the petition and accompanying papers, and would report that the petition ought not to be granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

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

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations were severally adopted.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Jurisprudence, submitted the following report:

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence have examined the decisions of the Grand Master announced last year, and they recommend that all the decisions except the eighth be approved.

The first, of course, must be understood as not requiring the member asking the dimit to be present at the lodge. He may apply for a dimit, and indeed the proper way for him to apply, is in writing, the application to be presented to the lodge.

The eighth decision we find to be in conflict with a decision approved by the Grand Lodge in 1863, as follows:

"Charges may be filed with the Secretary, out of the lodge, and the Master may fix a time for trial, and order notice, without waiting for a meeting of the lodge."

The first rule for trials found in section 115 of the Constitution, provides that the accusation shall be "given in charge to the Secretary of the lodge, who, under the direction of the Master, shall, or cause the accused to be served with an attested copy of the charges," &c.

This language would not properly be used, if it was intended that the charges must be presented in open lodge; and your committee are of the opinion that it was used for the express purpose of avoiding the delay in waiting for a stated meeting, and of requiring the Master to take the necessary steps at once on the filing of the charges.

The requirement in the second rule, to convene the lodge for the special purpose of the trial, and allowing it to be done at a special meeting, confirms this view.

We, therefore, recommend that the *eighth* decision of 1875 (Proc. 528) be not approved.

The committee further recommend that the decisions of this year be referred to the committee for report at the next Annual Communication.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
WM. P. PEEBLE,	

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations of the committee were adopted.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on the Library, submitted the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Library ask leave to report:

That during the year we have received reprints, as follows:

Grand Chapter of Connecticut,	organization to 1853, in pamphlet,
" " " Massachusetts,	" " 1860, "
" " " Wisconsin,	" " 1863, bound,
Grand Commandery of Massachusetts,	" " 1863, in pamphlet,
" " " Wisconsin,	" " 1868, bound,
Supreme Council, 33°, Northern Jurisdiction,	organization to 1862, in pamphlets, and

Constitution of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, bound.

They recommend that the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered for these volumes, some of them being of great value as history.

They have procured quite a number of old Proceedings, and have been enabled to complete several volumes.

They have subscribed for the Reprint of the early Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, edited by Bro. JOHN G. BARKER, Past Grand Librarian, published in parts by D. SICKELS & Co., No. 2 Bleecker St., New York, as a private enterprise. It is intended to publish the Proceedings from the organization to 1816, when the publication of the Proceedings commenced; and, if sufficient encouragement is given, to continue it down to 1852: your committee hope this will be done, as it is very certain that while we have many of the Proceedings between 1816 and 1853, the file can never be filled save by the reprint, as those for some years cannot be obtained; indeed, those for some years have never been printed.

There are now in the hands of the binder some eighty volumes of Proceedings and Bulletins.

The committee have limited themselves in procuring books for the library, to Proceedings; but they recommend that a few works on masonic law and jurisprudence be procured for the use of the Grand Lodge while in session.

Fraternally submitted,

ALBERT MOORE,	} Committee.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	
IRA BERRY,	

Bro. DRUMMOND submitted the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Indian Territory, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, be recognized, and the fraternal greetings of this Grand Lodge extended to each of them.

Bro. BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS, for the Committee on Finance, presented the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your Committee on Finance submit the following report:

We recommend that the Grand Treasurer pay for services rendered the Grand Lodge, as follows:

The Assistant Grand Secretary,.....	\$20.00
" Grand Tyler,	30.00
" Assistant Grand Tyler,.....	15.00
" Grand Treasurer,.....	40.00
" Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence,.....	80.00
" Grand Lecturer,.....	25.00
" Grand Organist,.....	10.00

That the circular from the Grand Master of Wisconsin, regarding the

Washington Monument, be referred to the subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction, by circular from our Grand Master.

We have examined the Grand Treasurer's account, and find it correct.

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVER GERRISH,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations were adopted.

BRO. R. WESLEY DUNN offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz :

Resolved, That no Brother charged with unmasonic conduct, and on trial before any lodge, or this Grand Lodge, should be refused a right to testify in his own behalf.

BRO. AUGUSTUS BAILEY for the committee to which was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the death of R. W. STEPHEN WEBBER, reported, recommending "That a page in our Proceedings, suitably inscribed, under the direction of the Grand Secretary, be devoted to his memory." Which report was accepted, and the recommendation adopted.

BRO. EDWARD P. BURNHAM submitted a proposition to amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, by adding to the Provision in Section 58—Part II, Article I—the words, "at a meeting of the Board, and not otherwise," making it read:

"*Provided*, That it may be lawful for said Trustees to exchange said fund from one investment to another at a meeting of the Board, and not otherwise."

The proposition was entertained, and referred to the Committee on Amendments.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which in accordance with a general regulation had been made to the Grand Master in advance of the annual communication, printed, and submitted with the Grand Master's annual address, was presented and distributed to the members.

Report on Foreign Correspondence.

TO M^r. W^r. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of Masons in Maine:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submit their Annual Report.

As last year, we commence printing with Arkansas and go through the list alphabetically. The Report is printed in forms of sixteen pages each, and as we had not received, before the Grand Lodge met, sufficient Proceedings to complete the seventh form, we could lay before it, on the first day of the session, only six forms.

We have tried an experiment in this Report. We have endeavored to epitomize, or give a condensed abstract of the Proceedings without making many quotations. It has added greatly to the labor of preparing the report, but we believe we are able to give much more information in the same space. It seemed absolutely necessary to invent some plan to prevent the increase of the length of these reports as the number of Grand Lodges increase. This course was taken by Bro. PARVIN, and we have followed his example.

There are fifty-three American Grand Lodges. We confidently expected to be able to present a notice of all of them. But we are disappointed: we have not received Idaho, Nebraska or Nevada, no one of which ever failed us before, we think. As it is, we have reviewed the proceedings of *fifty-seven* Annual Communications, as follows: *one* for 1873, British Columbia; *six* for 1874, Delaware, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Tennessee and West Virginia; *forty-five* for 1875, being all except Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada and Pennsylvania not received, and Connecticut, Louisiana and New Jersey reviewed last year; and five for 1876, being the three last named and Minnesota and Mississippi.

The following table shows the Proceedings received, the date of the Annual Communication, and the page of these Proceedings on which the review of each commences. Those for Connecticut, Louisiana and Mississippi were not received in season to be put in their regular places:

Grand Lodges.	Date of Annual Communications.	Page of Review.
Alabama,	December 6 to 9, 1875.	47
Arkansas,	October 11 to 13, 1875.	40
British Columbia,	December 6, 1873.	50

British Columbia,	February 20 to 25, 1875.	50
California,	October 12 to 16, 1875.	50
Canada,	July 14 and 15, 1875.	54
Colorado,	September 21 and 22, 1875.	55
Connecticut,	January 19 and 20, 1876.	101
Dakota,	July 21, 1875.	56
Delaware,	October 7 and 8, 1874.	57
Delaware,	October 6 and 7, 1875.	67
District of Columbia,	November 11, 1874.	59
District of Columbia,	November 10, 1875.	63
Florida,	January 12 to 14, 1875.	68
Georgia,	October 26 to 28, 1875.	68
Illinois,	October 5 to 7, 1875.	70
Indiana,	May 25 and 26, 1875.	76
Indian Territory,	September 7 and 8, 1875.	78
Iowa,	June 1 to 3, 1875.	80
Kansas,	October 20 to 22, 1875.	83
Kentucky,	October 19 to 22, 1875.	80
Louisiana,	February 14 to 19, 1876.	163
Manitoba,	May 12, 1875.	92
Maryland,	November 15 and 16, 1875.	92
Massachusetts,	December 8, 1875.	94
Michigan,	January 26 and 27, 1875.	97
Minnesota,	January 12 to 14, 1875.	100
Minnesota,	January 11 to 13, 1876.	101
Mississippi,	February 8 to 10, 1875.	108
Mississippi,	February 2 to 4, 1876.	171
Missouri,	October 12 to 14, 1875.	114
Montana,	October 5 to 7, 1875.	104
New Brunswick,	September 22 to 24, 1875.	122
New Hampshire,	May 19, 1875.	123
New Jersey,	January 19 and 20, 1876.	124
New York,	June 1 to 4, 1875.	126
North Carolina,	December 6 to 9, 1875.	128
Nova Scotia,	June 2 and 3, 1875.	129
Ohio,	October 19 to 21, 1875.	130
Oregon,	June 14 to 17, 1875.	134
Pennsylvania,	December 2, 1874.	136
Prince Edward Island,	August 12, 1875.	138
Quebec,	September 23 and 24, 1874.	139
Quebec,	September 22 and 23, 1875.	140
Rhode Island,	May 17, 1875.	141
South Carolina,	December 14 and 15, 1875.	143

Tennessee,	November 9 to 12, 1874.	145
Tennessee,	November 8 to 10, 1875.	146
Texas,	June 2, 1875.	146
Utah,	November 9 and 10, 1875.	149
Vermont,	June 9 and 10, 1875.	151
Virginia,	December 13 to 15, 1875.	153
Washington,	September 22 to 24, 1875.	160
West Virginia,	November 10 and 11, 1874.	156
West Virginia,	November 9 and 10, 1875.	157
Wisconsin,	June 8 to 10, 1875.	158
Wyoming,	October 12, 1875.	161
Table of Statistics,		177

ALABAMA, 1875.

One hundred and seventy-seven lodges represented: two hundred and thirty-nine made returns: Committee on Work reported upon the first and second degrees, and their report was concurred in: the Grand Lodge of Utah formally recognized; six charters restored and ten granted.

The Grand Master (ISAIAH A. WILSON) congratulates the craft upon the prevalence of peace, harmony and prosperity; but his congratulations are tinged with sadness, as he announced the death of Past Grand Master ROBERT H. ERVIN. He devotes his address to local matters, giving quite a list of decisions, many of them depending on local law.

Among them are the following:

1. A lodge needs no dispensation to fill a vacancy in any office (except the first three), but may fill it in the manner prescribed in the by-laws.

2. A woman divorced from her husband is not a competent witness against him as to matters happening during their coverture, but is as to those occurring after the divorce.

3. He gives a decision as to the admissibility of the judgment of a court, which was probably correct in the case in which it was given, but is not correct as a general rule. (See p. 131).

4. A member, nearly related, by blood or marriage, to the accused, should not vote on this trial. We presume that the *degree* of relationship which should exclude him is that fixed by the civil law in the particular jurisdiction.

The Grand Lodge recalled its recognition of the Grand Orient of Hungary, accorded last year, and postponed the recognition of the new American Grand Lodge for want of *official* information.

The Report on Correspondence (134 pp.) was presented by Bro. OLIVER S. BEENS, who presents an excellent report, avoiding, "as far as possible, all participation in controversial discussion." He makes few comments, but those he gives make us wish for more. He does not believe in styling the Fraternity "an Order"; confesses to a *penchant* for the study of the antiquity

of our rites and symbolism; believes in masons having the control at funerals, but allowing all to participate as is the custom in his State; sustains Bro. PARVIN's views in relation to the Past Master's degree, as shown in our review of Iowa; does not concur in Grand Master GIRARD's views as to the Senior Warden's not succeeding to the East on the death of the Master; in his review of Maine speaks especially of the Reports of our District Deputies as an interesting and leading feature of the proceedings, and says the system is of undoubted value, when these officers all work and report as they do in Maine; repays the writer hereof largely for much hard work; and in conclusion gives a word of caution as to the future of masonry, remarking that "when imperial Rome proclaims with her myriad voices her hostility to this grand old bulwark of freedom—this defender of the rights of conscience and of mind,—it is no unmeaning anathema. It is war—bitter, relentless war."

But the most interesting part of his report is his discussion of the action of Ohio, in reference to "colored masonry." He holds that no one has raised the question as to the right of negroes to be made masons in regular lodges, and that no question of *race* or *color* is involved in the petition presented to the Grand Lodge of Ohio. The question was the recognition of certain so-called lodges. If they are regularly constituted lodges, composed of regular masons, they should at once be adopted and admitted under the government of that Grand Lodge; but if they are *clandestine* lodges, composed of *clandestinely* made masons, that Grand Lodge ought to have proclaimed the fact and refused the petition. But the contemplated action he holds to be neither the one nor the other; but a *quasi* denial of the petition, evincing an unwillingness to meet the colored Brethren on terms of intimacy or union. He beseeches our Ohio Brethren not to adopt so indirect and inconclusive a policy as the one recommended by the committee, and calls upon the Grand Lodge to decide the question of *legitimacy*; and, if the colored lodges of Ohio are "true and perfect," to take charge of them and introduce as her legitimate children. He insists that there can be no compromise or evasion in the matter. He adds:

"We have no antipathy against negroes on account of race or color: have no aversion to recognizing any *free born* negro as a mason, if assured that he is truly and legitimately entitled to such recognition, and conducts himself as a mason."

We are gratified to have this calm discussion of this question from Bro. BEERS. We have feared most an excited discussion, prompted by passion, prejudice or enthusiasm; and it is gratifying to read one based upon the principles involved. The position of Bro. BEERS seems to us absolutely impregnable.

In this connection we call attention to one fact, which will more or less influence this discussion. At the North the prejudice against the colored man is almost wholly *personal*, and founded *primarily* on color; while at the South there is little of this *personal* antipathy, but whatever there is, is founded upon the *former condition* of the race, of which *color* is the mere badge.

ARKANSAS, 1875.

Seventy-five lodges represented: fourteen charters granted, six dispensations continued and one withdrawn: \$200 appropriated to aid in the support of a Past Senior Grand Warden who had become insane; the Grand Lodge of Dakota recognized: no report on correspondence.

The Grand Master (M. L. BELL) congratulates the craft upon the termination of the political excitement of the previous year, and upon the abundant crops with which the people had been blessed, and reminds them that, with returning prosperity, it was their duty to renew their efforts in doing good; and he especially commends St. John's College to their fostering care. He reports that while but comparatively few additions have been made during the year, masonry is in a flourishing condition.

He made quite a number of decisions, but none of general interest.

The committee, appointed to report a plan of insurance of masonic lodges against fire, made a report, but it was laid upon the table indefinitely, without being printed.

An arrangement between the Trustees of the College and the President was confirmed, whereby the latter takes charge of the college and assumes all expenses, the Grand Lodge paying him \$2,500 a year, with the privilege of sending fifty students, free of tuition; and the President does not hold the Grand Lodge to that limit, but will take more, whether masons' sons or not, if sent by the Grand Lodge. It is stated that this arrangement will soon free the institution from debt, and place it upon a basis of permanent prosperity.

A resident of Arkansas applied to a lodge and was rejected; afterwards he moved to Missouri, and after living there a year, was received and initiated by a Missouri lodge; the Grand Lodge decided that it was contrary to "a well settled principle of masonic law and usage," for one lodge to accept a candidate rejected by another lodge, without its consent.

BRO. E. H. ENGLISH presented his credentials as the representative of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, which were referred to the Committee on Correspondence; but no action was taken thereon, or upon the recognition of that Grand Lodge.

The Grand Orator, BRO. GEORGE THORNBURG, delivered a fine address upon the duties of masons.

The work was "illustrated" by the Grand Lecturer, and the Grand Lodge declared that the work exemplified before the Grand Lodge in 1850, by SAMUEL REED, is the approved work of the jurisdiction.

In the appendix are given sketches of the life of Past G. M. GEORGE A. DANNELLY and Grand Master M. L. BELL, in continuation of the masonic history.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1873.

These Proceedings are published as an Appendix to those of 1875: nine lodges were represented: several amendments to the Constitution adopted, and two lodges authorized to be consolidated.

The Grand Master delivered an address, which was not published. The Grand Secretary acknowledges the receipt of our Reprint, the Masonic Token and the "United States Masonic Register."

Nearly \$1,000 has been paid during the year to the Benevolent, and Widows' and Orphans' funds, and nearly \$250 more was due.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1875.

On account of the change in the time of holding the Annual Communication, from December to February, there was no session in 1874, save a special one for consecrating a Masonic Hall. The eight lodges represented: about \$950 was paid to the funds during the year, which now amount to over \$1,700, raised in two years by a membership of less than 300: some \$200 was paid out for relief: the Grand Lodge of Hungary recognized: the recognition of the Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodge of England, officially announced.

The address of the Grand Master (I. W. POWELL) is confined to matters of local interest. The question of a uniform ritual was treated by him, but as some of the lodges are English and some Scotch, the question is a difficult one, and action thereon was postponed.

CALIFORNIA.

One hundred and eighty-one lodges represented: the work exemplified: three charters granted, one surrendered, and one dispensation continued: an immense amount of routine business transacted.

Among other things, the Grand Master (GEORGE C. PERKINS) urges that care be taken to extend courtesies to visitors, so that, though strangers, they may feel that they are among friends and at home, while he holds that it is perfectly proper for the Master to request all but members to retire when the lodge desires to confer about matters relating to their own masonic family: he commends in strong terms certain lodges which had abolished the affiliation fee or made it merely nominal, saying that money should not commend a brother to membership, but that he should be tested by the same standard as if he was applying to be made a mason, and if the lodge can receive no credit by his association, let him understand that, before he can become a member, he must give further proof of his fidelity to the Craft: he had approved with pleasure a by-law requiring dues of one dollar to be paid by each member, on the death of another, provided that those members, who should attend the funeral or give a satisfactory excuse for not attending, should be exempt: he

had refused permission to lodges to attend a ball in masonic clothing, as being against the teachings of the very symbols that would be worn.

We concur so fully and heartily in the following, that we give it place in his own words :

"This Grand Lodge has heretofore fully indicated its disapproval of advertising, masonically, one's business; and I think that the time has arrived when some decided action should be taken to prevent masons from using any masonic signs, names or emblems in their private business enterprises, either as individuals or as an association, which may induce the public to believe that such enterprises were conducted, maintained or sanctioned by the fraternity. The only conceivable object masons can have in thus parading their connection with the Order, is to obtain a credit or patronage which otherwise they would not receive. Such conduct is clearly unmasonic, and destroys the beauty and objects of the Order. It is well known that there is in this city a private corporation called the 'Masonic Savings and Loan Bank.' From its name, the location of its office, and the fact that all its officers are masons, it is popularly believed, and not without reason, that the institution is not only a part of the Order, but that it is maintained for the benefit thereof and is guaranteed thereby. It must be evident to all, that if misfortune, however honestly they may be managed, should overtake these private enterprises, not only would odium be cast upon the fraternity, but it would injure it to an inconceivable extent. To prevent this possible calamity, a law should be enacted forbidding every mason from using masonic names, signs or emblems in his private business, or by any corporation or association in which he is interested, and a severe penalty should be fixed for its violation."

As usual, the report of Grand Secretary ANELL is full, giving a statement of the unfinished business, of the appealed cases, of all communications from abroad, and in fine, of all matters requiring the action of the Grand Lodge. As usual, every lodge had made its returns and paid its dues. The Grand Secretary says that that fact has become chronic in that State "in consequence, perhaps, of the persistent obstinacy of the Grand Secretary, who rather prefers to have the laws complied with." "Persistent obstinacy" is good, but does not meet the case: "obstinate persistence" comes nearer the mark. To be sure we have never fully credited the rumor that Bro. A., when the returns do not come in time, goes for them in person, and sits down on the Secretary's door step and refuses to go in or away until the returns are forthcoming; but we have supposed that the rumor arose from the general belief in that State that he would do all that if the returns did not come; and so the 'coon comes down without waiting to be shot!

A system, substantially the same as our District Deputy System, has been adopted in California with eminent success. The officers are called Inspectors: they cannot be commissioned until they have received from the Gr. Lecturer a certificate of qualification: and no Master can be installed until he produces from the Inspector of his district a certificate that he is qualified to discharge the duties of the office. In these two respects, their system is in advance of ours.

One matter of much interest came before the Grand Lodge. A member of a lodge asked for a dimit: the lodge granted a certificate of withdrawal without the usual recommendatory clause. The brother refused to accept this; but

the lodge said he asked for a "dimit," and according to MACKAY a dimit is a mere certificate of withdrawal, and refused to give him a recommendation or recognize him as a member. The Grand Master decided that inasmuch as a "recommendatory certificate" was necessary to enable him to affiliate with another lodge, and as that had been refused by the lodge, he was still a member. A majority of the Committee on Jurisprudence sustained the actual decision on the ground that the proceedings were informal and not in accordance with the Constitution; but held that under their Constitution, a member may pay his dues and of his own motion terminate his membership (if in good standing) by giving notice of his intention at a stated meeting, and is entitled to a "certificate of withdrawal"; but the lodge may also vote him a "recommendatory certificate"; that a "dimit" may be either of these, and either is sufficient to enable him to affiliate with another lodge. The Grand Lodge concurred in this report.

This matter of dimitts has been the source of much perplexity in this State. Our Constitution prescribes neither the form or substance of a dimit. The form in general use contains the recommendatory certificate. No dimit can be granted, save by a vote of the lodge. We know at least one case in which a lodge refused a dimit because its members would not vote a recommendatory certificate, but would have voted a certificate of withdrawal without any recommendation. But, says one, if you cannot recommend him you should file charges against him and try him. But often a lodge would refuse to admit a member when it would be impossible to convict him on any specific charges. Grand Master PERKINS clearly recognizes this and commends it. But can one rightfully vote to recommend to membership in another lodge one whom he would refuse to admit to membership in his own lodge? As our law stands, we see no impropriety in changing our form of dimit to a simple certificate of termination of membership, and then if the lodge chooses to vote a recommendation in addition, it can do so and have a suitable form for that purpose. We object to retaining a member against his will; but we object more to giving a recommendation to another lodge to a member of whom we are happy to get rid, and who could not again obtain membership in our own lodge.

One appeal was dismissed in consequence of the death of the accused: as he was acquitted by the lodge, the dismissal worked no harm: but had the decision of the lodge been the other way, the appeal should have been decided on its merits.

The Grand Lodges of Wyoming, Dakota and the Indian Territory, and the Grand Orients of Hungary, Peru and the Argentine Republic were recognized. The recognition of the Grand Lodges of Manitoba and Prince Edward's Island was deferred to await the action of the mother Grand Lodges, on the ground that the "American law of exclusive jurisdiction" is confined to the United States. We had supposed that as the same doctrine had been applied by the

Grand Lodges of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia at their formation, and maintained by them, and sustained by the other American Grand Lodges, it was applicable to Canada, as well as to the United States. The Grand Lodge declined to join in the "final appeal" of Virginia to Hamburg, to respect the law of jurisdiction, as it believed that every argument and appeal had been exhausted before it adopted its edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Hamburg.

The Grand Orient of Egypt was also recognized. We fear that trouble will arise from the recognition of a masonic authority which is subordinate to another, claiming to be of a higher grade. But how could the committee recommend the recognition of the Grand Orient of Egypt, *without the assent of the mother Grand Lodges* and before "they have been recognized by the Grand Lodges from which the constituent lodges hold their charters," when they had refused to do the same in the case of Manitoba? Does the "United States law" prevail in Egypt?

The Grand Lodge reversed acquittals in two cases, and expelled one accused and suspended the other.

In order to reduce the expenses, it was suggested that no representative should be paid more mileage than the dues paid by his lodge to the representative fund. But the Grand Lodge wisely rejected the suggestion. The very object of mileage is to secure a full representation in Grand Lodge by partially equalizing the burden between distant lodges and those at or nearer the place of meeting.

A very readable address was delivered, almost *impromptu*, by Bro. HENRY H. HARTLEY.

The Report on Correspondence (50 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM A. JANUARY.

He holds that if a man is able and unwilling to pay dues he should be "excluded from the fraternity as unfit to associate with the worthy and faithful of the craft;" believes that masons would accomplish more for humanity by giving their influence for the support of public schools, than to give a few a collegiate education at the expense of the craft, as such institutions are generally failures, and fail to give satisfaction to those who pay the money; holds that Grand Masters derive their powers from the Constitution of their Grand Lodge [but suppose that Constitution provides that he shall exercise the powers and prerogatives incident to the station, according to ancient usages?]; approves the action of the Grand Master of Texas in suspending a Master for denying the divine authority of the Bible; and gives a fine summary of the Proceedings reviewed.

CANADA, 1875.

A Special Communication was held on the twenty-first of August, to attend the funeral of the Grand Secretary, THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, and another on the twentieth day of January, 1875, to attend the funeral of the Grand Master, WILLIAM MERCER WILSON. In the death of these two distinguished Brethren, the Grand Lodge of Canada has sustained a severe loss. Both took a very active part in the formation of the Grand Lodge. Bro. WILSON was the first Grand Master, and Bro. HARRIS the first, and till his death (with a slight interruption), their only Grand Secretary. Both were good men and true masons, loving masonry and working for her interests with a devotion rarely equaled. For twenty years they labored side by side, and in death they were scarcely separated. We tender the sympathies of the Craft in Maine to our afflicted Brethren of Canada.

At the Annual Communication two hundred and fifty-four lodges were represented: a code of rules and regulations for the government of masonic trials adopted: fourteen charters granted, three refused, and one dispensation continued: a motion to return the subscriptions to the Masonic Asylum Trust Fund and discharge the committee, defeated: an annuity of \$300 granted Mrs. Wilson, the same to her daughter and the same to the family of Bro. HARRIS: the Grand Lodge of Manitoba recognized.

The acting Grand Master (J. K. KERR) pays an eloquent tribute to the memory of Bros. WILSON and HARRIS, and gives a clear and succinct statement of the business of the year.

The reports of the District Deputies, without presenting any particulars of interest to us, show that masonry is in a very harmonious and flourishing condition in that jurisdiction. Undoubtedly the acceptance of the Grand Mastership of the Grand Lodge of England by the Prince of Wales, has given an impetus to masonry throughout the Empire.

The Grand Lodge decided that a lodge cannot refuse admission to the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the District Deputy Grand Master, or an officer of the Grand Lodge sent by the Grand Master on an official visit; but that otherwise a Grand Lodge officer has no other or greater right than any other Master Mason in good standing. This is correct, and if either the Grand Master or District Deputy is present in a lodge, unofficially, he may, if he sees cause, assert the prerogatives of his station and act officially at once.

The matter of the Asylum Fund (which now amounts to \$6,800) was postponed till the next year for further consideration. A circular had been sent to the lodges, asking "what annual aid your lodge will give towards the support of a Masonic Asylum;" only thirty-five out of about two hundred and eighty lodges responded. Of these, seven report that they will give no support; nine, that they are unable at present; two, that they deem it inexpedient; four, that they await the action of the Grand Lodge; three, a want of information; two, that they will give \$20 annually; one, that it will give \$10

annually; one, that it will give twenty cents per member annually; one, that it has already pledged support; two, that they have already contributed and will do so again on the action of the Grand Lodge, and two, that they had not taken action. This is rather discouraging for the success of the plan.

A proposition was made, and under the rules laid over till the next year, changing the name of the Grand Lodge from "Canada" to "Ontario." We see no necessity for this change and shall be sorry to see it adopted. We do not believe that the Brethren in the other Provinces will feel aggrieved if the Grand Lodge of Canada retains her old name.

BRO. HENRY ROBERTSON presented the Report on Correspondence (79 pages), mostly devoted to excellent extracts. He believes in the "*freedom of masonry*," and therefore objects to a proposal to prohibit the granting of dimitts except for change of membership; holds to the right of visitation modified by the right and duty of the Master to exclude a visitor for the preservation of the harmony of the lodge; thinks the Indiana plan of Grand Lodge representation by Districts (instead of lodges) would "make it an oligarchy which is entirely contrary to the spirit of our institution"; protests against the introduction into masonry of any "American Monroe-doctrine," as tending to destroy the universality of our fraternity and derogatory to the dignity of Grand Lodges.

In his review of Quebec, he dissents from a decision of the Grand Lodge that a candidate receiving sixteen votes against fifteen and one blank was legally elected. As this same question has been decided the same way with us, we notice his objections. His proposition that a candidate receiving sixteen votes out of thirty-two does not have a majority" is self evident. *But a blank is not a vote*, and even if it could be considered as "a vote thrown against the successful candidate," it is an *illegal* vote. It says virtually, *I object to electing any body*; but the by-laws say there *shall be* an election; hence if construed as a vote it is an illegal one. Suppose one not a member should be unanimously elected Master, must not the presiding officer declare the election void? Votes for persons ineligible must be thrown out as void, and so must blanks. The opposite doctrine would lead to confusion.

COLORADO, 1875.

A special communication was held to lay the corner stone of the Territorial University. A splendid oration (not of a masonic character) was delivered.

At the Annual Communication twelve lodges were represented: a lodge of Master Masons was opened by the Deputy Grand Master, and thereupon the Grand Master, upon the assurance of the Grand Secretary that a constitutional number of lodges were represented, opened the Grand Lodge in ample form.

Laying aside the agony of opening a Grand Lodge in this style, we object to it on principle. At the appointed time, the Grand Master should open the

Grand Lodge, provided there are enough members present to make a Master's lodge. Then he should see who are entitled to seats and if there is a quorum to do business. If there is not, he must call off from time to time till he gets a quorum. Of course if he cannot get enough members (*three*) to open the Grand Lodge at the appointed time, the session must lapse; but if he opens it, and there is no quorum present to do business he can prolong the session till he gets one. Any one who will read the history of our Grand Lodges from 1825 to 1850 will appreciate the correctness of these views. It may be said that this new method is harmless; but that is not certain, as in a short time usages grow into laws: on this account we should be extremely cautious in introducing new ones.

The address of the Grand Master (WEBSTER D. ANTHONY) is brief and devoted to business. He recommends that the Report on Correspondence be printed in advance of the session. The wisdom of this had a practical illustration, for the record says the report was presented and ordered to be printed in the appendix: but none appears for the reason, as the Grand Secretary says, that none was furnished.

The Committee on Masonic Temple reported recommending the raising of a fund by assessing the lodges \$3.00 for each initiate, \$2.00 for each F. C. and \$3.00 for each M. M. degree conferred, and twenty-five cents annually for each year: they calculated that the amount thus raised annually, kept at interest at ten per cent., would in twenty years amount to about \$140,000. The Grand Lodge accepted the report and discharged the committee without further action; we commend it for its wise prudence.

One charter was surrendered and three granted; a revised Constitution was adopted and published with the Proceedings: the Grand Lodge of Wyoming was recognized.

DAKOTA, 1875.

We have wrestled with this name, spelling it Dacotah, Dacota, or Dakota, according as we found it spelled in the Proceedings we were reviewing, but with Bro. PARVIN and the law of Congress for authority, we have settled down upon "Dakota."

On June 24, 1875, the representatives of five lodges in Dakota, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, met in convention for the purpose of forming the Grand Lodge of DAKOTA, took the preliminary steps therefor, and adjourned to meet on July 21, 1875. They met according to adjournment (when all six of the lodges in the Territory were represented), and organized the Grand Lodge, under the direction of Bro. PARVIN, who installed the Grand Officers. If we had not received the Proceedings, the participation of Bro. PARVIN in the organization would preclude any question as to the regularity of the action, and the right of this new Grand Lodge to recognition; but the Proceedings show that the action was in all respects regular: we

therefore recommend that the Grand Lodge of Dakota be recognized with fraternal greetings.

DELAWARE, 1874.

Twenty lodges represented: the Grand Lodges of Utah and Quebec recognized: intercourse suspended with the Grand Orient of France: a Grand Charity Fund established: a Committee on Work appointed and ordered to restrict the work to be established, *to essentials only*.

The Grand Master (J. P. ALLMOND) represents masonry to be in a harmonious and prosperous condition.

The Report on Correspondence (115 pages), was presented by Bro. GEORGE W. CHAYTOR.

He commends Colorado for passing a resolution requiring one objecting to the advancement of a Brother, to file charges showing cause for his objections—on the ground that an E. A. is a mason, and has a right to know any charges made against him and to be heard thereon; but he holds also that an objection after ballot and before initiation is equivalent to a rejection.

He says that it is the custom in Delaware now and *formerly was law*, that a Warden can only *congregate* the lodge in the absence of the Master, after which he must call a Past Master to the Chair: while we do not find anything upon this subject in the old Constitutions, we do find evidence of such a usage in the early Constitutions of our Grand Lodges.

He thinks a Maine decision, *unless governed by local regulation*, wrong; but it was so governed. He excepts to the decision that one who has lost most of his right hand is not eligible as Master, because that officer can command the assistance of any member of the lodge, in any work he was unable to do. His suggestion has much force.

He holds that it is a landmark, that one must serve as Warden before he can be Master of a Lodge. Our Grand Lodge (and some others) have decided that it is not a landmark but a regulation which any Grand Lodge may modify or repeal.

He believes that the Past Master's degree, given in a Chapter, cannot be recognized in a lodge; that the privilege of a Master to install his successor, is subordinate to the right of the Grand Master to perform the ceremony; and that masonic charity gives no claim for reimbursement.

DELAWARE, 1875.

Eighteen lodges represented: the work exemplified: one charter granted.

The address of the Grand Master (J. P. ALLMOND) is chiefly confined to matters of business; but he calls the attention of the craft to the fearful strides intemperance is making among the members, and the necessity of providing a remedy. He advises the selection of the best men for officers

and especially for Junior Warden, who should be a man with courage to perform the duties of his office. "Let him first 'admonish a fallen brother' and try to reclaim him, but failing in this, prefer charges and prosecute them to the end that the lodge be purged." He also gives wise advice to Committees of Inquiry, who should remember that they represent the lodge and are responsible for the character of initiates.

An invasion of jurisdiction by a lodge in Indiana (since extinct) was settled in a pleasant manner, the Grand Master of Indiana making the *amende honorable*.

In relation to masonic funerals, it was decided that it becomes an *obligation* only when properly requested: that a lodge performing the ceremonies is engaged in masonic labor, and must have *absolute* and *complete* control, and none but masons in good standing be allowed to take part therein; and if in any case, a non-masonic association declares its intention to participate in the ceremonies by having a portion of the pall bearers placing emblems on the coffin, or performing its burial service, the Master is required to retire peaceably to his hall and close his lodge, thus avoiding all strife and discord and unpleasant discussion.

BRO. GEORGE W. CHAYTOR presented the Report on Correspondence (55 pages): he gives us fewer comments than in his former report. But he puts the matter of the election of candidates, and the proper manner of objecting to advancement, in such clear terms, that we copy his words:

"At one time lodges worked only the first degree, when no misunderstanding of this kind could come up, and the vote was, and properly, taken by *ballot*. After a time lodges obtained the right to work three degrees. At the time they obtained this right they did all their business and work in the E. A. lodge. When the privilege of conferring the F. C. and M. M. degrees were accorded to them, they still continued to do business in the E. A. Lodge, the other lodges only being open for work. This usage made it necessary to ballot for each degree, immediately preceding the giving of it, and as a sequence, the same law operating in the E. A. Lodge operated in the others, to wit: petition and ballot, and the law and custom governing the ballot. Therefore, when an applicant for either of these degrees was black-balled, no inquiry was made, nor should be made, of the party or parties so voting, they being the custodians of their conscience and actions. Now, after a time, things changed again, and all business and all balloting and voting was taken from the E. A. Lodge and carried into the M. M. Lodge. This change being radical, necessarily produced radical effects upon business matters, and also upon balloting for degrees. Before, each lodge balloted upon its own work, now, however, the M. M. Lodge being declared the *supreme* lodge, it consequently carried with it supreme powers, and among those the right to ballot for all the degrees at one and the same time, and such a custom prevailed until the more recent (quite recent) style came in vogue, of voting for the three degrees at separate periods, but always in the M. M. Lodge. The candidate petitions to be made a mason, and admitted a member of the society. The form of petitions have changed but little since the time when to be made a mason and a member was to receive the E. A. degree. Membership is only reached now when the M. M. degree is obtained.

"Now, if the above statement is fair and correct, the deductions to be drawn are, that when a petition is put to ballot, the ballot covers the degrees, *i. e.*, the E. A., F. C., and M. M. Any other vote for advancement must rest

solely on the knowledge the candidate has acquired of the preceding degree, —proficiency—an examination in open lodge being the required test.

"A vote upon the proficiency of the applicant for advancement should never be taken by ballot, and therefore an objection can be followed by charges, without the violation of any principle, and full justice be rendered to a brother (for an E. A. or F. C. is a brother), whether innocent or guilty."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1874.

We shall not follow our usual plan in reviewing these Proceedings, as they are old, and as matters of special interest contained in them will take up all the space we can give to them.

One case came before the Grand Lodge in which the Committee of Jurisprudence were divided, and the Grand Lodge was divided, and finally overruled the opinion of the Grand Master (CHAS. F. STANSBURY).

A candidate was elected to receive the degrees in a lodge, but before any degree was conferred a member objected, the proceeding were stayed and his deposit returned to him. Neither the name of the objector or the cause were recorded or known. Some years afterwards the same candidate petitioned another lodge and the first lodge protested: considerable correspondence ensued, but none to affect the question above stated. The Grand Master decided that the second lodge had a right to confer the degree. He held that while the objection remained the candidate stood as rejected; but inasmuch as no record was made of the name of the objector, and it could not be ascertained that the objector is a member in good standing, he held that the objection had fallen and any lodge might receive his petition.

The majority of the Committee on Jurisprudence (Bros. MACKAY and DONALDSON) held that the objection was not a rejection, but that it prevented the candidate's receiving the degree while the objector remained a member of the lodge; and that when the objector ceased to be a member, the degree could be conferred, *but only by that lodge*; so that the decision of the Grand Master was not correct.

The minority of the committee (Bro. DANIELS) sustained the views of the Grand Master; but he devotes much of his report to the outrageous injustice of allowing an objection once made to prevent forever the admission of the candidate.

The Grand Lodge adopted the majority report. With due deference to the distinguished Brethren who composed the committee, it seems to us that they all lost sight of the true solution, and failed to apply certain simple fundamental principles of masonic law; although the majority of the committee reached the correct conclusion.

Our fundamental law is, that no one shall be made a mason in a lodge without the unanimous consent of the members who choose to act in the matter. If any one dissents, he has the right to express his dissent without its being known who dissents. A convenient mode of doing this in this way,

is by the secret ballot, though formerly it was done by a show of hands. But this *mode* of expressing the sentiments of the members has no exclusive power in it, and does not foreclose any one who may not be present. Such election confers no vested rights. It is the mere assent of those present when the vote is taken, in effect declaring that *they* are willing the candidate should be made a mason. But one not present does not consent, or one present changes his mind, and goes to the Master and objects. He has that right, and moreover is entitled to be protected in it and have the veil of secrecy thrown over his objection precisely as if he had done it by ballot. He expresses *orally*, what he might have expressed *by ballot*. Hence it follows that the force of the oral objection is the same as of an objection by ballot, and is neither more nor less than a rejection. The lodge seems to have taken this common sense view of the matter, as they returned his deposit. In 1861, our Grand Lodge decided that an objection after ballot and before the degree was conferred, without reasons and without giving the name of the objector, is a rejection. This decision was generally approved by the other Grand Lodges, and, with few exceptions, they now hold such to be the law. In the case in question the candidate was merely the rejected candidate of the first lodge.

An effort was made to adopt the New York law in relation to granting dimitts; but the Committee on Jurisprudence unanimously reported that "the right of dismission is an inherent right, incidental to the voluntary character of the masonic institution." While it is a duty to belong to a lodge, it is contrary to the free character of masonry to compel a man to remain in it. He may go out, but if he does he loses certain rights which he would have retained if he had remained affiliated.

Another important question, or rather, two of a similar nature, arose: Can a mason, once tried and finally acquitted, be tried a second time for the same offense? Or can the lodge grant a new trial to one who has been convicted, on the ground of newly discovered evidence? Bro. MACKAY apparently answered both questions in the affirmative; but the other two members of the committee answer the questions in the negative, in a very able report; the Grand Lodge postponed its decision.

The majority of the committee base their report in reference to the second question upon the same reasoning as the first, remarking that in case of newly discovered evidence, the Grand Lodge is the tribunal to afford the proper remedy. We concur throughout with Bros. DONALDSON and DANIELS; but while referring to their report, we desire to give our reasons, as the question is one of great moment and practical importance.

It is true that there is no masonic law expressly touching the question, to be found in the Regulations or Ancient Constitutions. But the same may be said of *very many* principles that are adopted into masonic law. *All* rules of right and justice, growing out of the relation of man to his brother man, though not found in the old Constitutions, are universally accepted as binding

upon masons. The very design of these rules is to defend *right* against *might*—to protect the *right* of the individual against the *might* of the many. And masonry, more than the civil law, more than *any* law save that of the New Testament, teaches that the rights of the individual must be sustained.

As under the civil law a prosecution for an offense is a contest between the government, representing the whole people and an individual,—so under the masonic law, a prosecution is a contest between the fraternity and the accused.

One of the early concessions, and, as it has ever been considered, one of the most important concessions won by the people from arbitrary power, was that no one should be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense. So jealous were our fathers in respect to this, that no Constitution has ever been framed, in which this principle was not expressly embodied. It is the result of the wisdom of past ages, and is sustained by the support of nearly all the civilized world. If, as is universally admitted, it is a wise and just principle in the administration of *civil* law, it follows that it is a wise and just principle of *masonic* law; for a man is no wiser as a mason than as a citizen, and he should be at least as just as a mason, as he is as a citizen.

But it is said that under this principle the guilty may escape just punishment; this is true, since men are not perfect, and no more so as masons than as citizens; but the same *would* be true under any mere human system. The evils that would result from the opposite rule would be much greater than the occasional failure of justice. It would open the door to the accuser, to renew the charges and compel a trial thereon as often as he pleased. The result would be an interminable wrangle in every lodge in the land. Innocent parties would be subjected to repeated accusations and trials, and harmony would never again be known among us. This would not necessarily be the result of malice; for it is almost the universal rule that the defeated party in such a trial firmly believes that the decision is wrong and unjust, and if he could have a new trial he could show it; this is human nature.

Let us not reject rules, which the wisdom of ages and all nations have established for the protection of the one against the many—for the defence of right against might.

BRO. WILLIAM R. SINGLETON again presented the Report on Correspondence (210 pages). It is impossible for us to notice more than a few of the very many matters of interest in this report.

He holds that as an expulsion does not take effect until confirmed by the Grand Lodge, restoration can only be made by the Grand Lodge.

He re-states and enforces his argument, that Grand Masters have no powers by virtue of ancient usages, but derive them all from the Constitution of their Grand Lodge. We are not prepared to assent to his views. We think that there are several characteristics of the Grand Mastership derived from the landmarks. The Grand Orient of France has abolished the office, and the almost universal opinion is that it thereby ceased to be a *masonic* body. Our Grand Lodge Constitution recognizes (as it always has done) that the Grand

Master has certain powers by the immemorial usages of the fraternity. This was taken from the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in which we believe it has always been. The fact that the framers of our earliest Grand Lodge Constitutions expressly recognized this principle, proves its correctness.

We know of no instance in which an act done by the Grand Master has been reversed in the particular case. It is often decided that he ruled erroneously, but we never knew such ruling reversed so as to affect the case in which he made it.

He thinks the Grand Lodge, acting as a Court, can only confirm or reverse, on appeal, the decision of the lodge. He says, "In our judiciary system of the courts, it is a well settled principle that nothing comes before the appeal court but what was presented to the court below." This is an error. In all cases of appeal, pure and simple, and not limited by express statute law, the whole case is tried in the appellate court, as if no trial had ever before been had. In many cases, the appeal is expressly limited by statute, to certain questions specifically stated. But in the absence of these limiting provisions the whole case is re-tried, and final judgment pronounced in the appellate court. So upon his own reasoning, Grand Lodges, in the absence of limitations upon their power, may re-try the case and pronounce the proper judgment. His arguments, founded upon the *danger* of the exercise of this power, would equally prove that there should be no appeal.

The laying of the corner stone of a church on Sunday is defended by him, on the ground that it is an act of worship. We have masonic funerals on Sunday: so it is clear we can do some kinds of masonic work on that day: and we agree with him, that the propriety of doing any particular masonic work on Sunday must be determined by the *character* of the work.

He calls attention to the fact, that the old custom was, if a lodge should not finish its work in one day, it would "call off" to another to *finish the work*. But the modern rule, founded on neither law nor common sense, requires the lodge to be *closed* the day it is opened. This renders it impossible to try a case legally which cannot be finished in one day. When the lodge is closed, the communication is ended: to have another it must be called, and notice given according to the By-Laws. To be sure, the rule is generally disregarded in such circumstances: and this shows the folly of having such a rule.

He sustains the law of jurisdiction, but still insists that it is a conventional agreement. We insist that it is a natural law (as in case of nations), growing out of the existence of a plurality of Grand Lodges. It is true that it was not at first observed; so it was with nations; it takes time to ascertain and declare the laws in such cases. The moment there were two Grand Lodges, they were under certain obligations to each other. What these were, was not at once known. But as in case of nations, when ascertained they depend on *natural right*, and not on agreement.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1875.

We are indebted to the kindness of the Grand Secretary (Bro. W. R. SINGLETON) for advance sheets of the Proceedings.

As usual, several special communications were held. At the Annual Communication seventeen lodges were represented: the report of the majority of the committee in relation to the question of lodge jurisdiction, to which we have referred, was adopted; the address of the Grand Master (ISAAC L. JOHNSON) confined to local matters and decisions depending on the local law; he had visited all the lodges and had an address or an appropriate reading at each visit: a new Constitution reported, and ordered to be printed for consideration at a future meeting.

BRO. W. R. SINGLETON presented the Report on Correspondence (262 pp.), in which he has devoted twenty pages to Maine. Having been engaged in the preparation of masonic history, he has not given as much space to discussion as heretofore, but has extracted the matters of interest from the other Proceedings, so that his report contains substantially all that is very valuable in them.

He clearly shows that lodges *v. d.* cannot legally be represented in Grand Lodge, for their dispensation expires, and is returned at the meeting of the Grand Lodge. The word "dispensation," in its original meaning, is clearly not technically correct in this connection; for it is issued, not to *dispense* with the law, but by the express authority of the Constitution. There may be exceptions to this, but all the Grand Lodge Constitutions we have examined contained this authority.

He strongly dissents from adopting the rule that no mason dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues, can be buried with masonic honors. Our rule, leaving that to the discretion of the lodges, works well, and we believe in it. We must either *expel from all masonic rights* every non-affiliate, or else leave to lodges and individuals the right (which we believe they have, by virtue of *being* masons), to grant to him such masonic privileges as they may deem proper in each case.

In relation to lodge prayers, he agrees with us, that the true toleration is to allow every one to pray after their own faith, quoting Hood's Ode:

"Intolerance to none,
Whatever form the pious rite may bear,
Not even the poor pagan's homage to the sun
Would I scorn, lest even there
I spurned some element of Christian prayer."

He seems to justify the carrying of arms, and is well satisfied of the necessity of it at the present time, and now even "in quiet New England" on account of tramps. This will cause a smile in New England; but we notice it to express our utter dissent, as experience shows that the evils and crimes, growing out of the habitual carrying of arms, exceed ten thousand fold all the evil and crime prevented by it.

He founds a strong argument for a separate ballot on each degree, upon the fact that formerly business was nearly all done in the E. A. lodge and Apprentices voted upon new applications as well as any other member. But if this avails anything now, it overturns his doctrine, that if objections are made to advancement, the candidate, being a mason, has a right to know whence the charges come and their nature, so that he may answer them. In old Portland Lodge (organized in 1769), for thirty years and more, the Master's Lodge was kept as separate from the other as if they were two different organizations: a ballot was had for each degree and a rejection in either case had the same effect: in the Master's Lodge, an E. A. had no more rights or immunities than a profane in an E. A. Lodge. But we have ever held that the same reasons which carried all the business into the Master's Lodge, availed to make one ballot for the degrees and to give E. A.'s a different relation to the lodge than a profane, and take away the power of one Brother to stop his advancement, at will. After the change was made in 1842, it was the custom at first to ballot three times (once for each degree) for each candidate, in immediate succession: but soon one ballot for all the degrees became the practice, thus saving the time of taking two ballots.

He holds that expulsion should never be inflicted save upon confirmation of the Grand Lodge. That is the rule in this jurisdiction, but not in all, and we think not in the majority. Bro. S. treats "suspension" as if it was only suspension *from membership*. His discussion would mislead in this section of the country. We have the following grades of punishment: 1. Expulsion; 2. Indefinite suspension from all masonic rights; 3. Suspension from the same, for a given term; 4. Reprimand; 5. Deprivation of membership; 6. Suspension from membership. At one time, suspension for a definite time was not allowed, and perhaps in the revision of our Constitution it was overlooked that provision was made for it, for while formerly only the first two classes required confirmation by the Grand Lodge, now all sentences of expulsion or suspension must be confirmed by it. A sentence of expulsion or suspension, until acted upon by the Grand Lodge (whether an appeal is taken or not), operates as a suspension; but in other cases, an appeal vacates the sentence of the lodge until confirmed by the Grand Lodge. In practice, however, suspension for a definite time is rarely inflicted. In all cases of expulsion and suspension, restoration can be had only by a unanimous vote of the lodge, confirmed by the Grand Lodge; except that, of course, in cases of suspension for a fixed time, the party is restored by the expiration of the time. In all cases coming before the Grand Lodge for confirmation, as well as on appeal, the Grand Lodge may confirm, modify or reverse the sentence.

The fifth and sixth can be inflicted only for non-payment of dues, and are the only punishments that can be inflicted for that offence. When the fifth is inflicted the party becomes an unaffiliate merely, but without the right of applying for membership anywhere, or registration in the Grand Lodge, until

he shall pay his arrears of dues; whereas, when the sixth is inflicted, he can regain his rights by the payment of his dues.

He disposes of the question of dancing in masonic halls, which has so greatly exercised our Iowa Brethren by a single question. Calling attention to the fact that halls are solemnly dedicated to masonic work, he asks if dancing is *masonic work*? Masons, while the lodge is at refreshment, may dance; but the very ceremonies of dedication forever determined that it should not be done in the lodge room.

He holds that masonry requires a belief in the *inspiration* of the Scriptures. We say that the Bible "is the *INESTIMABLE* gift from God to man;" and by this, he says, we mean that it is inspired; and he concurs with Bro. WELLFORD in saying that all along in masonry, every allusion to the Great Light, and the extracts from it, are predicated upon its divine inspiration.

We agree with him that when the Bible is used, it *is* used as an *inspired* book: in other countries the book which gives the knowledge of Deity is, with those who use it, an *inspired* book. Masonry requires a belief in Deity, and that the Great Light is *his word*; with us, that Great Light is the Bible; in other countries, it may be the Koran; but the suggestion that one book may be substituted for another, because it is in some part of the world held to be the Great Light, is utterly unmasonic. We have received masonry, as founded upon the Bible; as we received it, we must impart it; yet we cannot deny recognition to a brother believing in God, but another book as the Great Light, who received masonry as founded upon that book. This is the utmost limit of *masonic* toleration; we may, as individuals "tolerate" an atheist, but as masons, *never*.

In reply to those who claim that dues are a modern invention, he quotes a by-law of the Lodge of Antiquity, that every member should pay dues; that no member (with some exceptions) in arrears should vote; and that in case of non-payment (after notice by the Secretary) his name should be erased from the list and he not permitted to visit the lodge. When Portland Lodge was organized (in 1769) the payment of quarterages was assumed to be a thing of course, as much so as the making of masons.

He repeats and enforces his position of last year, that masonic work of a proper character may be done on Sunday.

He defends "Masonic Baptism" in a long and very learned discussion. We would be glad to transfer it to our report, but for want of space must be content with stating the result, and referring those who are interested in the matter to his report (Proc. of 1875, Appendix, pp. 167 to 172). He shows that the rite of Baptism is older than Christianity, coming down from the remote ages of the world, and in use among all the old nations: that in the English rite the ceremony is still preserved: that the rite of consecration belongs to masonry, and that by some form or other it must take place. We agree to this; but as one particular form of purification is now generally practiced

as a *religious* rite of a most sacred character, we are of opinion that that particular form and name should not be used in our masonic ceremonies.

He discusses the powers of Grand Lodges in several places, particularly as to their powers in cases of appeal. He maintains, that as the Grand Lodge is the Supreme Legislative body, it should not be a court of original jurisdiction, &c. *This is a non sequitur.* We may as well say, that as it is the supreme judicial tribunal of the fraternity, it should not *make* laws. But the fact is, that the principle introduced into our civil constitutions, of having a separate department for each of the legislative, judicial and executive powers, has not been adopted in masonry. They are all three combined in one. The Grand Lodge is the supreme legislative, judicial, and executive authority; and it is as much one as the other. It may be that it would be wiser to separate these powers; but that is not the question; they are not separated, and no argument as to the powers of the Grand Lodge, as they actually exist, can be founded on a system not recognized by our polity.

He says he would have appeals to the Grand Lodge follow the system of appeals in our courts. That is precisely our doctrine; but Bro. S. is in error as to the system in our courts. When the law gives an appeal, without limitation or restriction, from one court to another, the whole case is re-tried in the appellate court, as if originally entered there. We do not speak at random, for we have examined the statutes of very many of the States, and find no exception to this rule. In Maine, from early times down to a time within our memory, we had two courts: cases tried in the inferior court, in which was involved a given amount, could be appealed to the Superior Court, and was there tried anew, as if originally entered there; and now all appeals from city courts and magistrates are re-tried in the Supreme Court anew, without reference to the trial below. To go to the illustration of the highest authority: in certain cases, under the United States laws, a simple appeal lies from the District to the Circuit Court; the case is re-tried there, *and final judgment rendered there*; even the testimony must be re-taken, unless it is taken in a particular way and certified up, and even then new testimony is admissible; and then, if the amount involved is large enough, the case may be appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States, re-tried there, and, in at least one class of cases, new testimony may be introduced, and *final judgment rendered there*. It is true that in most cases, the statute law limits the appeal, especially in cases tried by a jury, and, in case of reversal, sends it back for a new trial. But *the case does not go to the old jury*: the second trial of the facts is by men, who have formed no opinion. Under the civil law, no member of the lodge who participated in the first trial could participate in the second; and it is because the second trial in a lodge *must* be by men who have already formed an opinion, and is, therefore, no trial at all, and moreover almost invariably essentially disturbs the harmony of the lodge, that we say that the Grand Lodge (save in exceptional cases), when it

does not confirm the sentence of the lodge, ought to enter the final judgment. If the Grand Lodge has wisdom enough to be allowed to say that upon certain testimony the decision of the lodge was wrong, it certainly is wise enough to say what the correct decision is. If testimony is erroneously excluded by the lodge, the case should be sent back (unless the excluded testimony, and whatever exists to rebut it, are produced in Grand Lodge); in that case, all the facts are not before the Grand Lodge.

He also seems to deny the doctrine of Bro. MACKEY and others, who have written works on jurisprudence, that a lodge can inflict discipline upon a member of another lodge. We believe it to be well settled, that a lodge has jurisdiction over its members wherever they may be, and *also over all masons in its territorial jurisdiction*, whether members of other lodges or not. This has been once or twice practically denied, but the almost universal opinion was the other way. However, Bro. S., while apparently denying this, did not particularly consider it, and when he does, we believe he will agree with us.

We are also compelled to differ from him upon another question and a very important one. It is in relation to the powers of Grand Lodges. He makes distinction between the powers of Grand Lodges and the powers of "General Assembly" before 1717. It is true that the latter was a meeting of the Fraternity *en masse*, and that the latter are representative Bodies. But this fact does not change their powers. In both cases, they are the Sovereign Power of the Fraternity—differing only in form. In our New England towns, the inhabitants assemble *en masse* to transact the municipal business; but when the towns become so large, that such meetings are unwieldy, they are made cities and the municipal business transacted by representatives of the inhabitants; the *form* is changed, but to all intents and purposes the powers of the assembled representatives are the same as of the assembled people.

But further: as Grand Lodges were originally constituted, they are the source of all light and power; which proceed from them to the subordinates, and not from the subordinates to them. The peculiar feature of the Federal Constitution had not been invented in 1717, and has not been introduced into masonry, save by a few Grand Lodges, which can adopt no amendment to their Constitution without a vote of their subordinates. The masonic government was originally, and is in its nature monarchical; or as the Virginia "Ahiman Rezon" of 1791 had it, "the members of every Grand Lodge are the representatives of all the fraternity in communication, and are an *absolute* and independent body," &c. The rule of some States, requiring amendments to the Constitution to be voted upon by the lodges, does not exist out of the United States, we believe, and did not exist here until after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, and was evidently copied from that. Indeed, upon a pretty careful examination of all the Grand Lodge Constitutions, down to 1830, we find that this provision was first introduced by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in 1797, copied by her daughter Grand Lodge, Tennessee, in

1813, and again copied by *her* daughter Grand Lodge, Missouri, in 1821. We believe that these three Grand Lodges are the only ones that adopted this feature, until since the anti-masonic excitement. The original Constitutions of the Grand Lodges of New York and Pennsylvania contained the same declaration which we have quoted from that of Virginia; that of Massachusetts declared the Grand Lodge to be "the supreme masonic authority," &c.; while a later one of Pennsylvania declared that "the Grand Lodge is the only true and legitimate source of masonic authority." We might add others, but these are sufficient.

There are other matters in this report worthy of notice and discussion, but we must pass on.

FLORIDA, 1875.

Thirty-one lodges represented: three charters granted: the work exemplified: the Grand Lodges of Quebec and Wyoming recognized: Committee on History reported progress.

The Grand Master (ALBERT J. RUSSELL) expresses his pleasure to know that, during the past ten years of political strife, asperity and hatred, masonry has been a common platform on which all have stood in fraternal accord; and that when strangers have come among them seeking to regain their health, but have sickened and died away from their homes, the Brethren have ministered to their wants, without asking whence they came, only recognizing the fraternal tie. His address and the Reports of the District Deputies and other officers show that the craft in Florida are rapidly recovering from their depressed condition and entering anew upon a career of prosperity.

A resolution was adopted, requiring all applying to visit lodges to present some documentary evidence that they were made in a regular lodge before being admitted to examination.

Bro. D. C. DAWKINS submitted an "apologetic substitute" for a Report on Correspondence, which we greatly regret he was unable to prepare on account of long and severe illness from which he has just recovered.

GEORGIA, 1875.

Two hundred and forty lodges represented: the address of Grand Master (DAVID E. BUTLER) very brief, being confined to a concise statement of matters of business: the Grand Orient of Egypt and the Grand Lodge of Wyoming recognized, but action postponed in regard to the Grand Lodges of Manitoba and the Indian Territory: the work exemplified by the Committee on Work: seven charters granted, two refused and one declared forfeited; and a large amount of routine business transacted.

The Report of the Committee on the Southern Masonic College, shows that it is still cramped for want of funds. The committee proposed that

other Grand Lodges be invited to assist in endowing the college and have a voice in its control. The committee to which this report was referred, made an able report, eloquently setting forth the advantages and claims of the college, recommending that the plan proposed be adopted, but that the Grand Lodge issue at once \$10,000 of its bonds, secured by a mortgage of the college property, bearing ten per cent. interest, to provide means: we are unable to determine whether the latter recommendation was adopted or not. This Institution is doing a grand work, and we bid it God speed: but we do not modify our views as expressed elsewhere as to the impolicy of starting new enterprises of this kind under masonic auspices.

The report of Committee on Finance shows the receipts from dues to be nearly \$15,500, with nearly \$2,000 of arrears, \$300 of which had been paid at the time the Proceedings were published. The debt on the Hall had been reduced to \$28,700, and the Grand Lodge bonds are above par. It was hoped that judicious management would extinguish the debt at its maturity in 1883. In order to reduce the expenses to the lowest limit, the Committee on Correspondence was abolished and the Grand Secretary directed to omit the publication of the names of members of subordinate lodges, except of "members gained and members lost."

On the last day of the session a resolution was adopted directing the Grand Master and Grand Secretary to hold no fraternal communication with the Grand Orient of Egypt until they should be fully satisfied of its legal existence. In the Appendix, these officers state that after due investigation, they could see no reason for withholding recognition, quoting the action of California; and the Grand Orient stands, therefore, as duly recognized.

BRO. SAMUEL D. IRVIN presents a brief Report on Correspondence (10 pp). He devotes four pages to ascertaining what his duties are under the laws of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, coming to the conclusion that there should be no criticism on the proceedings of other Grand Lodges, and that the discussion of questions of masonic law should be left to Grand Masters and Committees on Jurisprudence. He says: "Comment and criticism of such questions, by a simple reviewer in another jurisdiction, would never correct a fundamental error or a masonic heresy." As we know they *have* corrected such errors, we cannot assent to his proposition.

The Constitution is published with these Proceedings, and contains many features worthy of study by committees who have the revision of Constitutions in charge. We are delighted to find in it the declaration that the Past Master's degree is a "portion of the installation ceremony of a Master elect." To save the usual comment, "How does the Grand Lodge know this?" we add that the Grand Lodge of Georgia is composed *only of Masters and Past Masters*.

ILLINOIS, 1875.

Five hundred and ninety-nine lodges represented: the address of the Grand Master (Geo. E. LOUNSBURY), a condensed statement of his official action, and of matters for the action of the Grand Lodge: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming, Dakota, Manitoba, and Prince Edward's Island recognized; the consideration of the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory postponed to the next year, but the Grand Secretary directed to extend to it in the mean time the usual courtesies: Past Grand Master STANSBURY, of District of Columbia, MORRIS, of Kentucky, and PULFORD, of Wisconsin, and Grand Master McDONALD, of Indiana, introduced and received with the Grand Honors: revised "ceremonials" (and exceedingly good ones) presented and published with the Proceedings: nine charters granted: the Constitution amended so as to *require but one ballot for all the degrees*, proficiency to be determined by the Master or a majority vote of the lodge: twelve lodges failed to make returns, and are not included in the statistics: an Assistant District Deputy appointed expressly for lodges working in the German language.

BRO. ROBBINS presented a report in reference to a circular received from the "District Grand Lodge of New South Wales," warning the craft against Brethren hailing from the "Lodge of Memphis," the "Grand Lodge of New South Wales," and the "Grand Lodge of Australia." The report takes the well established position (though one or two denied it from the necessity of their argument in the Quebec discussion) that while the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland have, as among themselves, *concurrent* jurisdiction in the British Dependencies, they have, as against all others, *exclusive* jurisdiction therein until an independent Grand Lodge is formed; and as no evidence of the formation of a Grand Lodge in New South Wales has been received, the District Grand Lodges can alone be recognized.

The report of Committee on Appeals shows quite a habit of making mere business matters a ground of discipline in the lodge; but the committee and the Grand Lodge gave no countenance to such action.

It was decided, and as we think correctly, that, under the comity due to a sister Grand Lodge, becoming a charter member of a new lodge in one jurisdiction, dimits one from his membership in another jurisdiction, when by the laws of both, a mason can be a member of only one lodge.

Past Grand Master STANSBURY made an appeal in behalf of the Washington Monument, and in response \$1,000 was appropriated therefor, to include the cost of a memorial stone to be selected by the Grand Lodge, and the lodges were advised to contribute to the same purpose as liberally as their means would permit.

The Committee on "Widows' and Orphans' Home" presented a Report in favor of establishing such an Institution: their Report was laid over till next year and ordered to be published with the Proceedings for the consideration

of the lodges, that they might properly instruct their delegates. We do not generally favor such undertakings; the history of those in the past, with few exceptions, shows that a Grand Lodge is not successful in operating them: we dislike too the transferring of the *individual* obligation to relieve to the Grand Lodge: in their report, the committee expressly say that one object is to systematize the charity of individuals and lodges, but our notion of masonic charity is, that it is *personal*: we have schools and homes of a public, or partially public character, where we can send and support our beneficiaries at much less expense; and we do not believe in multiplying these Institutions beyond the needs of the people, but we *do* believe in sustaining and supporting those we have, although they may not be controlled by us: the Grand Lodge of Illinois, with her 725 lodges and over 40,000 members, can, of course, make the Institution a success, and we are not sufficiently acquainted with the State to know whether there is need of another such Institution; but if one is needed, we would prefer that it should not be limited in its character, but be public, and that masons should assist in supporting it.

On account of the great size of the Grand Lodge, and the large expense of mileage to its members, a proposition was submitted to establish District Grand Lodges, which should choose representatives to the Grand Lodge, but the matter was laid over.

The Report on Correspondence (227 pp.) was again presented by Bro. JOSEPH ROBBINS. We see that, while he was re-appointed, he does not serve, but our friend, T. T. GURNEY, of Chicago, takes his place. Bro. R.'s reports are very valuable, and have given him a national reputation as a fine writer, a sound masonic jurist and a strong supporter of masonic principles.

Of course we can notice but very little of what is of interest in his report.

He argues that a member is entitled to a dimit, unless charges are pending against him. As we have elsewhere explained the meaning of "dimit," we agree with him. We do not agree with him that a vote granting a dimit may not be re-considered before it is carried into effect. The law is that any vote may be re-considered at the same meeting; if the vote was worded as a discharge from membership, it would not take full effect until the close of the meeting, and might be re-considered at any time before; still more, if the vote is to *grant a dimit*, the vote is not carried into effect before the dimit is delivered; it is a rule of parliamentary law, however, that a vote, contemplating some act, cannot be re-considered after it has been executed.

In relation to the P. M. degree, and commenting upon some strictures in relation to legislation thereon by the Grand Lodge, he well says, that if a Grand Lodge has a right to require that a degree or ceremonial, which pertains only to Masters of lodges, shall be possessed by Masters elect previous to their installation, it has a right to require that only those who have been or are Masters of lodges shall be present when a Master elect is invested with it. The forms of installation have come down to us from the past; in them

it is stated that a portion of the ceremony can be performed in the presence of Masters alone: *we* think a Grand Lodge may by law require that ceremony to be performed as a part of the installation, and performed only in the presence of those entitled to be present: calling this ceremony (improperly) the Past Master's Degree has enveloped it in such a cloud of mist and fog, that very many fail to recognize it, and jump to the conclusion that it is absurd for a Grand Lodge to recognize it.

In commenting upon a decision that commissioners who have tried a case once, are thereby disqualified from trying it a second time, he pertinently asks if the same rule should not apply to a lodge? And, therefore, if a Grand Lodge should not ordinarily complete the trial rather than send it back again to the lodge?

He holds that the dispensing power is an inherent prerogative of the Grand Master; that it is not *given* by the Constitution, nor by the Regulations of 1721, but is recognized by them as an existing fact: there is much force in this view, and yet in this jurisdiction it is never exercised, except in the cases expressly provided in the Constitution; and we were not aware that his doctrine is recognized in any States save Rhode Island and Maryland.

We judge that he agrees with us in relation to the founding of schools, &c., by the Grand Lodge, for he says:

"We do not share the feeling apparently entertained by the Grand Master, that it is a reproach, that no monumental pile, educational or otherwise, tells out to the world the labors of the craft in that jurisdiction. The true mission of masonry is a silent one" * * * "and to touch the springs of benevolence in the individual heart is of more importance than the foundation of costly public charities."

He devotes thirteen pages to Maine (1875), quoting several of the decisions (including No. 14) with approval, except that he criticises No. 10. But his criticism is not well founded: if a Brother commits an offense, and applies for a dimit at once, before there is time to file charges, must it be given in spite of his known character? It is splitting it rather too thin to say that a Brother is in good standing and entitled to a dimit, unless charges *have actually been* filed. The actual case in which No. 10 was given, is the very case we have above supposed.

He commends our new Constitution as a whole, but objects to three provisions: 1. Permitting a motion to lay on the table, as interfering with the authority of the Grand Master; 2. Allowing lodges to confer the degrees on clergymen, without fee, and 3. Giving Grand Lodge the power to try and punish any mason residing within its jurisdiction, as trenching upon the landmark. These provisions are all old; the first, in practice, does not interfere with the authority of the Grand Master when he sees fit to exercise it; but we should explain here, that "laying on the table" with us has no more effect than a temporary disposition of the matter: in the National House of Representatives, by their rules, a motion laid on the table is preceded by all other business, so that the practical effect of it is to kill the motion; but that effect

does not legitimately follow in other Bodies, though it is now often, but erroneously held, that a motion laid on the table in any Body is killed for that session: we, in Maine, follow the old and correct rule, and not the modern and erroneous practice. So a motion to lay a matter on the table temporarily is allowed, as any member may afterwards move to take it up, and such motion is invariably entertained.

He calls attention to the fact that in his last report he referred to some evils which receive (our printer made him say) "*merited approbation*," whereas he wrote "*reprobation*:" and as we copied it *approvingly*, he inquires which we approve, the *original* or *amended* reading? This must have happened by accident; for our printer makes it an inflexible rule not to allow *us* to print any nonsense, but he insists that it is asking too much of him to extend the same rule to *our quotations*!

He regards the right of burial as an *absolute* right, and quotes our Constitution to show that our Grand Lodge so regards it; but that is not so: in the same connection our Constitution names the "*right* of visitation; but the Grand Lodge decided twenty years ago that the "*right of visitation*" is not an *absolute* but a *qualified* right, and we hold the same as to the "*right of burial*." Bro. R. is inclined to modify his former views as to the former, and holds that while a lodge may exclude visitors while engaged upon their private business, it has no right to do so when engaged in the *business of masonry*, in which all the craft are interested.

Referring to the case of Oriental Star Lodge again, we understand him to admit that, *under our regulations*, the action of our Grand Lodge was correct. This is all we claim.

In relation to "*charitable responsibilities*," we last year failed to express our meaning. We fully admit the personal obligation of each individual brother to every other, to the extent of the necessities of the one and the ability of the other: and we recognize no greater *personal* obligation to a member of the same lodge than to any other; but we do hold that upon lodge funds a member has the prior claim.

In regard to our claim that a Grand Lodge may properly refuse to recognize as a mason, one of the residents of its jurisdiction who goes abroad and gets the degrees, on the ground that it refuses to recognize that he has been made a mason, he says that it is an outrage to deny a brother his rights because it is punishing him without trial. Not so: a man claims to be a mason: our Grand Lodge replies to him, you could not be legally made a mason anywhere, save in Maine; the record of our lodges shows, and you admit, that you were not made in Maine; therefore you were *not* made; and we will not inquire or hear you further.

He quotes our remarks in relation to the privileges conferred by lodge membership; and we are disposed to modify our views to accord with his, that these privileges are those conferred by the change of the character of the lodge from an *occasional* to a *permanent* organization.

He asks, if Grand Lodges are restricted by the landmarks: of course they are.

But how much does this aid us practically? No two persons agree as to what the landmarks are, but the Grand Lodge in any jurisdiction is the final tribunal as to whether a given proposition is a landmark or not. Many Grand Lodges have decided, for example, that it is a landmark that a mason must be a Warden before he can be a Master; but the Grand Lodge of Maine solemnly decided it is *not* a landmark. If a Grand Lodge adopts a law, has a lodge a right to disobey it, because it is of the opinion that the law violates a landmark? Is not the decision on that point binding? Or at any rate, has the lodge any practical redress beyond abandoning its charter? We apprehend, however, that we do not differ much upon this point.

In review of Massachusetts, he maintains that the appointment of Trial Commissioners by the Grand Lodge for the trial of all charges is a violation of the landmarks. The Massachusetts Committee claim that the judicial powers of a lodge are a grant from the Grand Lodge; this Bro. R. denies. But let him speak for himself:

"Coming now to the second proposition, we know that the Grand Constitutions of Massachusetts claim for the Grand Lodge the inherent right to try all masonic offenses committed within its jurisdiction. It is not true, however, as stated by the committee, that 'by the common law of masonry in this country, no less than by the constitutions of the different jurisdictions, the severance of the connection of the criminal from the entire body is to be adjudged or determined by that body organically through the decree and direction of its Grand Lodge.' It is far from being true of the constitutions of the different jurisdictions even, many of which respect the landmark which is the common law of masonry everywhere, and under which original jurisdiction is vested in the constituent lodge. The judicial powers of a lodge are not in any sense a grant of the Grand Lodge. They are among the powers inherent in the lodge by virtue of its being a regularly constituted body; not derived from the body which constitutes it, but evoked from the general law of masonry by the act of constitution, for the benefit of the lodge so constituted. They could not have been derived from the Grand Lodge, for they were exercised by lodges before the Grand Lodge existed. Nor can it be claimed that they were surrendered to the Grand Lodge on its formation. On the contrary they were recognized as belonging to the lodge in the 'Charges of a Freemason,' which the Grand Lodge at that time solemnly agreed to as the fundamental and unchangeable law. That law says (we quote from the VIth Charge):

"If any complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the lodge, *who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies* (unless you carry it by appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be referred, unless a Lord's work be hindered the meanwhile, in which case a particular reference may be made."

"Yet in the face of this, the committee assume that to deprive a lodge of its judicial functions does not operate to change any principle or landmark in masonry!"

Whatever may have been the case before our present Grand Lodge system was adopted, it is very certain that when it was adopted, the Grand Lodge was made the supreme authority and source of all power, save only as limited by the landmarks, and even with respect to them, no superior tribunal was established, which had any power to supervise its action and determine whether it acts within the landmarks. When a Body exists, which has no

superior in any respect, and can act at its pleasure, save so far as it finds limits in a code, itself being judge of those limits, it is very difficult to say in what respects it is not absolute and supreme. We say this, although inclined to hold with Bro. ROBBINS, that the proposition of the Grand Lodge is in contravention of the Ancient Charges.

He concludes that the first lodges in Pennsylvania and the Grand Lodge of which BENJAMIN FRANKLIN was Grand Master, were voluntary Bodies, without charters or any written authorization. He thus denies the claim lately put forth, that they were organized under the deputation to Cox. We agree with Bro. R., founding our opinion upon the letter of FRANKLIN (the original of which we once read), and the fact that Grand Lodges founded under a deputation did not elect their Grand Master or Wardens. We shall probably refer to this matter again.

We have space only for a condensed statement of other matters.

He strenuously insists that Entered Apprentices are masons, and should not be deprived of advancement except for just cause regularly established; approves the District of Columbia action in relation to funerals; concurs with us in protesting against allowing lodges or Grand Lodges to become insurance societies; does not think that the numbers ascribed to ritualistic lodges have, or were designed to have, any reference to the number required for business or work; [in absence of any regulation of lodge or Grand Lodge, how many must be present to do business or work? Whence originated the limit of seven, now usually found in our Constitutions?]; believes that taking advantage of the absence of a Brother to elect a candidate objected to by him (even though from wrong motives) is always fruitful of mischief; holds correctly that a Brother suspended is still under his obligations to masonry, and bound to answer a summons; doubts whether an appeal lies from the lodge to the Grand Master, but still seems to think that he can intervene, if under the guise of a trial the laws are flagrantly violated; knows of nothing which "tends so surely to sap the foundations of the temple, as the disposition to take short cuts in masonry and disregard the forms of law which the experience of mankind has demonstrated to be indispensable to the security of individual rights"; commends the action of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory in endorsing the charters of the lodges by which it was organized, instead of issuing new ones upon surrender of the old ones, and says that Body seems to be entitled to recognition; takes issue with the Grand Master of Texas, and Bro. WELLFORD, of Virginia, in respect to the views promulgated by them, that candidates for masonry* must believe in the Divine inspiration of the Bible; commends our Grand Lodge for changing its law so that when a sentence of a lodge is reversed by the Grand Lodge, the accused at once is restored to all his rights, including membership, and endorses as wise our proposition to have a Grand Objector.

INDIANA, 1875.

A Special Communication was held May 24, 1875, to lay the corner stone of a Masonic Temple. Bro. JOHN CAVEN delivered the address.

At the Annual Communication, 475 of the 486 chartered lodges and 23 of the 28 lodges U. D. were represented: the address of the Grand Master (LUCIEN A. FOOTE) is an exceedingly concise statement of his official action: two charters arrested, one surrendered, one restored, *twenty-four* granted and one refused: four dispensations were continued; and nine petitions for charters were referred to the Grand Master; the Grand Lodge of Wyoming recognized.

The Committee on Appeals give some excellent suggestions in relation to trials, and especially as to the manner of making up the record.

Among the decisions of the Grand Lodge are these:

1. A lodge may grant a new trial. This is founded upon an express provision of the Constitution, and is not law in Maine.
2. An appellant may withdraw his appeal at any time before final action by the Grand Lodge.

A resolution in relation to the Past Master's degree was offered, but rejected on the ground that a lodge of Master Masons *do not*, and *cannot* know anything about this degree. We do not so believe. Every Master Mason knows that a Past Master is one who has been the Master of a lodge: that in the installation of a Master, there are certain ceremonies which can be conferred only in the presence of Past Masters; and that these ceremonies are the only ones which can be the "Past Master's degree." We therefore see no impossibility or impropriety in the passage of a regulation by a Grand Lodge, made up of Wardens, as well as Masters, that no one but an *actual* Past Master shall be present and participate in those ceremonies: in other words, Wardens know that if *they* cannot be present and participate, none but those who are, or have been Masters of lodges, as shown by record, can legally be present; they know that no other Body on earth *but the lodge* can qualify a man to be present, because they know that Past Masters have no legal right to recognize any authority which does not emanate from the lodge or the Grand Lodge.

This Grand Lodge has a "Grand Masonic Hall" in Indianapolis, and its revenue is sufficient to justify remodeling the building. The Trustees were obliged to pay \$2,000 to get one lease, which had only two years to run, cancelled,—an indication of the value of the property. There is also quite an amount of vacant land owned by the Grand Lodge, and the Trustees say it has increased in value five fold within seven years: indeed, the Trustees express the confident opinion that the revenue of the new Temple and of the other property will in a few years be sufficient to defray all expenses of the Grand Lodge, and thus relieve the subordinates from the payment of dues.

The contract price for re-building the Hall is about \$67,000, and the Committee were able to raise a loan of \$75,000 on twelve years, at nine per cent. interest. But the Committee, looking alone at the financial interests of the

Grand Lodge, made no provision in the Temple for a Grand Lodge Hall; and thereupon the Grand Lodge ordered that such provision should be made, by an addition to the building if necessary, and the Committee were authorized to contract such further loan as should be necessary therefor. The Grand Lodge was fortunate in securing a good lot in the business portion of a rapidly growing city.

The proposition to which we referred last year, to reduce the membership of the Grand Lodge, was not acted upon, otherwise than by being "laid on the table."

The Report on Correspondence (91 pp.) was presented by Bro. DANIEL McDONALD, who was called to lay aside the pen and assume the gavel of supreme command.

He holds that any mason leaving a lodge when open, without permission, should be disciplined; that Grand Lodges should keep clear of all schemes looking to the formation of *fire* insurance companies within the organization [and why not also of *life* insurance companies as well, on the same principle?]; that all "home," "college," "asylum" and "seminary" schemes are outside of the original plan of masonry; that we spend too much money in banquets, festivals, presents to retiring officers, and in "divers and sundry other ways," and too little in charity; concurs in our remarks about the "Royal Solomon Mother Lodge at Jerusalem;" wisely suggests that when a regulation or article of the Constitution is amended, the *form* of the amendment should be, that the regulation "shall be amended so as to read as follows," giving the regulation as it would be when amended: if this course had been always followed, it would have saved much confusion and even *nonsense*; believes that it should be a universal rule, that a mason, free from the books and not under charges, may dimitt from his lodge for reasons satisfactory to himself, and that balls given in aid of masonry are in very bad taste.

We give the following extracts, as expressing our own views:

"We do not believe with Dogberry, that 'edification cums by natur,' and we are in favor of all practical methods that tend to enlighten the benighted misunderstanding of the rising generation; but we are candidly of the opinion that all educational schemes tacked on to the masonic organization are out of place, and cost more to keep them going than the benefits flowing from them are worth. Colleges, female seminaries, widows' and orphans' homes, are merely the out-croppings of Catholic exclusiveness, and our Institution would be better off to-day without a single one of them. We are in duty bound to assist all poor and distressed Master Masons, their widows and orphans, when they apply to us as such, if we deem them worthy. To relieve the distressed is a duty incumbent on all men, but particularly on masons. 'To soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and to restore peace to their troubled minds, is the grand aim we have in view.' And this grand principle is not confined alone to the 'household of the faithful.' It extends to all classes of people who are worthy, without regard to the particular tenets of their profession, if they are in needy circumstances. We hope to see the time when the Masonic Institution will abandon all schemes outside of the organization, and leave them where they legitimately belong, 'subject to the government of the country in which we live.'"

* * * * *

"The Grand Lodge appointed a committee to report at the next annual meeting in regard to the establishment of a Masonic Agricultural and Mechanical School for the education of Master Masons' orphans, wherein the males shall be taught either agricultural or mechanical professions, and the females made proficient in all culinary and domestic avocations.

"We have heretofore expressed our dissent from attaching a weight of this kind on the masonic body, and think all such schemes should be left to the fostering care of the Grangers."

* * * * *

"We mean to be understood that 'extracts' from the 'proceedings of other Grand Lodges' are not *always* readable. It depends altogether on the verbosity of the extract. Often the gist of a whole page of printed matter can be condensed and brought out in half a dozen lines. 'Individual comments,' of course, are secondary and optional, but nevertheless, coming as they do from a disinterested standpoint, are often more valuable than the extract itself. Our vanity leads us in a different direction: We have supposed that the Brethren for whom these reports are written would rather have *our* version than the original language. But we may be mistaken. Once, a long time ago, our school master 'set us a copy,' in which it was stated that there were 'many men of many minds, many birds of different kinds.' Since that time, in our intercourse with mankind, in the various walks of life, we have found that the ancient quill driver who penned the couplet knew exactly how it was himself. Committees on Correspondence are no exception to the rule. No question can arise upon which men can be found who exactly agree. Two men looking at a dog fight will, nine times out of ten, differ in opinion as to which commenced the fight, and which was the 'under dog.' No two men look alike, no two men act alike, no two men are alike, and it must not be expected that they can see alike. It is the most natural thing in the world to believe that the old way is the best way—that *our* way is the only correct way. There isn't one of us who is not of firm belief that his mother could bake the best bread and make the best butter of any woman living; and when we get married we are sure to hint to our 'better half' that mother used to make this so and so; that mother used to make that so and so, and the nearer she can come to the standard fixed by our mother, the better we like her and the bread and butter too. Each reporter has a way of his own, and each one of them is doubtless of the opinion that it is the best. We have marked out a line which we intend to pursue, and if no one else sees fit to follow us we can't help it. But for fear our good Brother will twit us of writing a page that might have been condensed into five or six lines, we drop the subject."

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1875.

The formation of this Grand Lodge gives rise to a new question. Its jurisdiction is not a State or organized Territory; but is the territory set apart for the Indians: there are the "Creek Nation," the "Choctaw Nation," "the Chickasaw Nation," and we believe several others. "*The Grand Lodge was organized by the "Aborigines of North America."* At first the jurisdiction did not embrace the whole of what is called on the map the Indian Territory; but at the session in 1875, the boundaries were changed so that the territorial jurisdiction is now bounded "on the north by Kansas, on the east by Missouri and Arkansas, on the south by Texas, and on the west by Texas and New Mexico."

Of course, the fact that it was organized by Indians does not affect its

legality; while some may doubt, those who are acquainted with their advanced civilization will be confident of their success. As the Grand Master says: "The Grand Lodges of the United States, and of the whole world, will take a deeper interest in us than has ever been manifested for any Grand Body within the limits of the Great Republic, from the fact that we are the first Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons ever organized by the Aborigines of North America."

The lodges were regularly chartered by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas: and as they are situated outside of her territorial jurisdiction, she cannot object to their forming a Grand Lodge.

Does the fact that the jurisdiction is not an organized Territory, but consists of several "Reservations" and "The Leased District," prevent the formation of a Grand Lodge? Last year, on account of doubts upon this question, we recommended no action upon the question of recognition; but further consideration has removed those doubts. While it is an admitted rule that the masons in every State and organized Territory are entitled to have an independent Grand Lodge, there is no law, or reason for any law, that the masons of two States may not unite under one Grand Lodge. The Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island has jurisdiction over those States: and the General Grand Chapter has decided that *in consequence of the express provisions of its Constitution*, the Chapters of two Territories cannot unite in forming a Grand Chapter. It was certainly "open territory" where any Grand Lodge might have established Lodges, as well as the Grand Lodge of Arkansas: and we see no reason why the lodges should be obliged to exist for an indefinite time without the power of having a Grand Lodge of their own. They agree to do so, and fix the limits of their jurisdiction, not encroaching on that of any other Grand Lodge; and we see no ground of objection whatever.

Some Grand Lodges have delayed action out of courtesy to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas: but we suspect that, on account of the peculiar question involved, she deems it courteous to await the action of the other Grand Lodges.

When the Grand Lodge was formed there were six lodges in the Territory, and only *three* participated in the organization: here would have been a fatal defect, but that a fourth lodge at once ratified the proceedings and was represented at the next Annual Communication. It has been stated that all the lodges which organized the Grand Lodge, were located in the Choctaw Nation; but this was an error; one of them (No. 1) is located in the Creek Nation.

In 1875, three lodges were represented: two charters granted, one in the Cherokee Nation, and one in the Chickasaw Nation; and the representatives being present were admitted to seats in the Grand Lodge: the Grand Lodges of MANITOBA and WYOMING recognized: the work exemplified.

The address of the Grand Master (G. W. McPHERSON) refers mainly to

local matters; but it manifests a thorough acquaintance with masonic principles.

The Committee on Correspondence excuse themselves for not making a report, on the ground that they are missionaries with extensive and destitute fields of labor, and therefore could not prepare a report creditable to themselves or their Grand Lodge, without materially neglecting their high duties.

Non-affiliates, not paying dues to their nearest lodge, are prohibited from visiting more than three times.

At the installation of the Grand Officers an excellent address was delivered by the Grand Orator, and a lecture, upon the Divine Inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, by the Grand Chaplain. The Address is published with the Proceedings, and the Grand Lodge was so well pleased with the lecture that they requested the Grand Chaplain to deliver a similar one next year.

Measures were taken to insure the adhesion of the two other lodges, located in the Cherokee Nation; one of them had already, through a letter from its Master, signified its intention to join the new Grand Lodge.

We believe this Grand Lodge has a mission of immense usefulness, and a career before it of great prosperity: and we recommend its recognition with assurances of deep interest in its welfare.

IOWA, 1875.

The Proceedings, gotten up in Bro. PARVIN's almost inimitable style, contain the portrait of the new Grand Master, a Past Grand Master and Past Grand Warden, with brief sketches of their history.

Two hundred and twenty lodges represented: the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory and Wyoming recognized: report on credentials made out in advance in the Grand Secretary's office: a committee appointed to prepare a digest of masonic law in force in that jurisdiction; also a committee to revise the Constitution and By-Laws: fourteen charters granted—two of them for lodges in Dakota, and six dispensations continued.

The address of the Grand Master (JOSEPH CHAPMAN) is brief: he had trouble with a lodge in Dubuque, in relation to dancing in the masonic hall; the matter at one time threatened serious results, but it was finally arranged and good feeling restored: he gave four decisions, most of them involving the proposition that one lodge may confer a degree for another, but that the fee belongs to the latter, and the work is really the work of the lodge making the request; and that the lodge conferring the degree should send a certificate thereof to the other lodge on whose records it should be entered.

As usual the Grand Secretary (PARVIN) makes a full report, showing that the business of his office is transacted in a systematic and most thorough manner. His report on the library shows important additions to it, and that it is among the first in size and quality. As he is almost, if not actually, the

Father of the plan of masonic libraries, his success must be highly gratifying to him.

The Constitution provides that trials shall take place in a lodge opened in the highest degree to which the accused has attained ; the question was raised whether a Past Master must not be tried in a Past Master's Lodge, and the Grand Lodge very sensibly decided that a Lodge of Master Masons does not know anything about a "Past Master's Lodge."

The question of dancing in Masonic Halls occasioned much discussion and apparently produced much excitement, as it came before the Grand Lodge in many different forms. It was finally settled by the adoption (by a vote of 405 to 198, two-thirds being required) of the following resolution offered by Bro. PARVIN :

"Resolved, That halls erected and dedicated to the purposes of Freemasonry, can be used for purposes other than Freemasonry, by and with the unanimous consent of the members of the lodges owning and occupying such halls."

This is precisely correct doctrine : a lodge has no right to devote its funds, or use its halls or furniture for any non-masonic purpose, which offends the conscientious scruples of any one of its members. We once knew a case in which a masonic body was called upon to pay for intoxicating liquors used by a portion of its members on a festive occasion, while others of its members were under a solemn pledge not to use, sell or *buy* intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Upon a full discussion it was determined, that the funds ought not to be devoted to such a purpose, against the objection of any member. We think the large vote in the negative, upon Bro. PARVIN's resolution, must have been the result of the excitement, without a due consideration of the principles involved.

For some *seventeen* years, this Grand Lodge has been exercised over the "Ten Mile Rule"—which prohibited the issuing of a dispensation for a new lodge within less than ten miles of another lodge. Various attempts have been made to get rid of it, but as it requires a vote of the subordinate lodges to change the Constitution, a sufficient vote for its repeal could never be obtained on account of the neglect of the lodges to vote on the subject. And now, after all the tumult, the Committee find out, and the Grand Lodge decide, *that the regulation itself had never been adopted*, and is not, and never has been the law. But a regulation was adopted in 1862, as a substitute for one which was supposed to exist, but did not. Now does the fact that it was adopted as a substitute for, or in place of one that did not exist, destroy the validity of its adoption ? It was formally adopted, though under an erroneous impression, and we do not see how the *reason* for its adoption can affect its validity, if it was really *adopted*. An amendment was proposed, giving the power to the Grand Lodge to amend the Constitution, without a vote of the lodges.

The Grand Lodge decided that a member cannot be tried a second time on charges upon which he has been once tried and finally acquitted ; affirmed a former decision that the expenditure of money in charity in no

case gives an absolute claim to re-imbursement; and held that it has no jurisdiction over the proceedings of a lodge in another State in the expulsion of a member of a lodge in Iowa, but resident in the other State.

One singular case came before the Grand Lodge. A member of a lodge^{*} was tried, and expelled, and the transcript filed in the Grand Secretary's office for the action of the Grand Lodge: before it met, however, the lodge restored the accused, but no notice being given to the Grand Lodge, it confirmed the expulsion: the lodge, however, treated him as in good standing: this year, the Grand Lodge postponed final action in the case, but sent an edict to the Master of the lodge to conform to the judgment of the Grand Lodge. Past Grand Master GUILBERT was Master of the lodge all this time, and the committee intimate that he set up his authority as paramount to that of the Grand Lodge. We shall look with much interest for the result.

The Proceedings of a "Convocation of Past Masters" were presented to the Grand Lodge, but Bro. PARVIN properly objected to their being received. It was stated that the "Convocation" had been called at the request of the Grand Master, and that he desired them to be read, and it was done. One Master elect refused to take the degree, for reasons which were verbally stated to the Grand Lodge, which thereupon prohibited his installation and ordered the lodge to elect another Master. His action indicates that he refused to be installed, and the Grand Lodge accepted this refusal as a declination of the office.

The Grand Orator, Bro. BRYAN, delivered a beautiful address, but we cannot subscribe to all his propositions. He gravely proposes to celebrate the centennial year by literally opening all prison doors, and releasing all who are confined for, it matters not what crime. We suppose that upon the same principle he would restore to the rights and benefits of masonry, all who have been suspended or expelled. But the scheme is too Quixotic for discussion even.

The Report on Correspondence (68 pages) was presented by Bro. HENRY J. B. CUMMINGS. He first discusses various subjects under special heads, and then very briefly notices each Grand Lodge. Under "Our Bow," he concludes that he is a *sentinel*, and as he assumes his duty he tells his readers they *may go to sleep*: he thinks it would be a benefit if the Grand Lodge would print extra numbers of these reports and send a large supply to the lodges, as practically but very few can get access to the printed proceedings: he deprecates the "want of life" in many lodges, and advises the greater cultivation of the social element; calls attention to the general complaint that we are chartering too many lodges; discusses affiliation, which he regards as a duty, of which the Grand Lodge has plenary power to compel the performance; sustains the rule of our Grand Lodge as to physical qualifications; takes strong ground against allowing those engaged in "dram-selling" to become or to remain masons, well remarking that "masonry lives in the lives

of its initiates"; and in regard to dancing in masonic halls says, "'There is a time to dance,' but what is this time? We believe we are with Paul on this question. Wasn't it he who said: 'If plain quadrille or fancy dance make my brother to offend, I will dance no more while the world standeth.'" We are with CUMMINGS on this question, any how.

In his review of Maine, he refers to Grand Master CARGILL's decision, that masons should appear in public only on strictly masonic business: he says if this is limited to funerals and to laying the corner stone of *masonic* edifices, he approves. We apprehend that the custom of laying the corner stone of any *public* building, with masonic ceremonies, is too old to be excluded from masonic business, and that public processions on St. Johns' Days are within the rule. The fact is that in former times, it was the custom to pay respect to the civil magistrate—to the powers that be—in our character as masons: and we confess to a regret that the custom has fallen so much into disuse. We have noticed one grave error in this respect—making a distinction between one who is a mason and one who is not. The President of the United States is entitled, as a *mason*, to no higher post of honor on a masonic occasion, than his *masonic* rank requires. If we make the distinction referred to, we say by our action, we respect the civil magistrate *when he is a mason*, and do not respect him *when he is not*. This is contrary to all the teachings of masonry: we are taught to respect the *magistrate*, not the man, or the mason. And we maintain that our duty to pay respect to those in authority, on all proper occasions, whether masons or not, is established by the principles of masonry and the ancient customs of the fraternity.

There are many other things in this report worthy of notice, but we have room for reference to but one more. He objects to the doctrine of "perpetual jurisdiction," for the reason (among others) that worthy men are sometimes rejected through pique or malice: but is not this argument just as sound against the secret ballot? Why make any distinction *for this reason*, between those who change their residence and those who do not?

KANSAS, 1875.

Ninety-nine lodges represented: seven charters granted, one revoked, and one surrendered: one dispensation continued: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming and "Dacotah" recognized, and the consideration of the recognition of the Grand Lodges of the Indian Territory, Manitoba and Prince Edward's Island postponed till the next year: the work exemplified: one hundred lodges made returns within the required time; twenty-nine between that and the meeting of the Grand Lodge; four during the session; and twelve made no returns, though three made them before the Proceedings were published, while those of the other nine are not included in the Statistics: and the usual routine business transacted.

Pending the Report of the Committee on Credentials, the Grand Master (OWEN A. BASSETT) delivered an excellent address in relation to the early history of Freemasonry. He afterwards presented his "Report."

He refers in feeling terms to the "grasshopper plague" which had devastated a portion of the State, and acknowledges in fitting terms the receipt of over \$8,000 contributed by the masons of other States.

He cites one interesting case: a resident of Missouri was accepted in a Missouri Lodge, where a ballot for each degree is required; before initiation he moved into Kansas, where but one ballot for all the degrees is required; thereupon the Missouri lodge requested a Kansas lodge to confer the degrees on him for it, which the latter proceeded to do and made report thereof; then the former concluded that they had done wrong, and should have merely requested the Kansas lodge to confer the first degree on him, and should have waived jurisdiction as to the other degrees; but the Grand Master held, properly, as we think, that the candidate was a regular Master Mason and a member of the Missouri lodge.

We quote some of his decisions, all of which were approved by the Grand Lodge:

"19. By the law of the land one neglecting to provide for his family is guilty of a misdemeanor, and such neglect is an offense against masonry, and may be punished.

"21. It is unmasonic for a mason to disclose his ballot on a petition for admission, advancement, or for the mysteries of masonry; therefore, it would be unmasonic, for a mason to black-ball one at the request of another.

"24. Jurisdiction for the trial of one charged with an offense against masonry may be in one of three lodges. First, in the lodge of which the offender is a member; second, in the lodge where the offender resides or may be found, and third, in the lodge within whose territory the offense was committed.

"26. It is not proper for a lodge or its members to pass resolutions commendatory or otherwise of the Worshipful Master, nor is it proper for a lodge or its members to enter into an investigation of any charges against the Master; such inquiries should always be under the direction of the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

"30. The Past Master's Degree, so called, is not a requisite qualification for the Master of a lodge under dispensation, and if any one, whether a member or visitor, assumes to question the qualification or authority of the Master while acting within the scope of his office, he should maintain his authority with dignity and firmness, if necessary, to the extent of closing the door against the offender.

"31. The comity of Grand Lodges requires each to recognize the acts of every other, provided good faith is maintained, the ancient landmarks not infringed, and the territorial jurisdiction of another is not invaded, and within these limits full faith and credit must be given to the acts of each lodge, conforming to local regulations, not only by Grand Lodges, but by every lodge, whether of the same or another Grand Jurisdiction.

"32. When a lodge has acted favorably on a petition for the mysteries of masonry, it has obtained exclusive jurisdiction of the person of the applicant, and no other lodge can undertake or finish the work except by request of the lodge having jurisdiction, or until such lodge waives all right thereto, and it is only in cases of waiver of jurisdiction that the candidate can claim membership in the lodge completing the work.

"33. Every lodge is bound to work according to the rules prescribed by the Grand Lodge to which it owes allegiance, and when the work is so done, it is good and lawful, and must pass inspection. When one lodge is employed by another to work on certain material furnished, and the work is done according to the skill and understanding of the workman, the employer, in good faith, is bound to accept it, and good faith to the candidate requires his acceptance.

"34. If you employ another to do your work for you, and having given him no specific instructions, he fashions it according to the rule of the Craft in the country where he has wrought, you are bound to accept it, for it was his duty to do the work according to his understanding. Without specified instructions you could not expect him to have knowledge of rules and customs peculiar to a country in which he has neither traveled or worked. Remember the laborer is worthy of his hire.

"35. In a trial before a lodge the Master is the judge of the law applicable to the case, and the Master and members acting together are the judges of the facts; and in the consideration of the evidence they act in the capacity of jurors, and their determination of the guilt or innocence of the accused, based on the law and the evidence, partakes of the character of a verdict, and when the finding is one of not guilty, unless an appeal is taken to the Grand Lodge, the cause is concluded.

"36. If, on the trial of a cause, the accused is found guilty, he must be punished by expulsion, suspension or reprimand, and it is the duty of the Master and members acting together to determine the punishment, and for that purpose they act as judges, and within the range of the different degrees of punishment they may exercise a sound discretion, and so if two-thirds of the judges do not agree on one ballot they must ballot again, and for a reasonable time within the discretion of the Master, continue to ballot until such agreement is reached."

We do not agree to No. 21; we believe that a mason may properly, under certain circumstances, disclose that he cast a black-ball: and we hold beyond question, that a member who cannot be present may object to a candidate, to the Master; or to another brother, who may, if he considers the request reasonable, properly cast a black-ball.

Nor do we agree to No. 26, so far as it denies the right to a lodge to pass resolutions complimentary to a retiring Master. The resolution of thanks by his Grand Lodge to Bro. BASSETT would be "improper" under the principle of his decision.

The last decision is new, but we believe it to be sound. It meets cases which have arisen. A member is found guilty, by a unanimous vote perhaps: on the vote to expel, less than two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and it is not carried: the votes to suspend or reprimand are lost because those who voted to expel, vote in the negative, because they deem the punishment insufficient: the result has been, that all three votes have been lost, and *no punishment imposed*: by the decision, the vote should be tried again and again until a decision is reached, or the Master, in his discretion, concludes that there is no prospect of agreeing and stops the proceedings.

It appears that one of the lodges in the Indian Territory was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Kansas, which received its returns and dues, as the Grand Lodge in the Indian Territory had not been recognized by it.

In 1873, the Grand Lodge adopted a Standing Regulation, that it is a ma-

sonic offense for a Master Mason to sell intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and required subordinates to enforce it by the appropriate discipline. Charges were filed in a lodge against a member for keeping a saloon in which intoxicating liquors as a beverage were habitually sold. He pleaded that when he petitioned, was accepted, initiated and became a member (before 1873), he was engaged in the same business, and was well known to the lodge to be so engaged; and pleaded guilty to the charge so far as the facts were concerned, but denied that he was injuring masonry. On this plea the lodge voted, 16 "guilty" and 11 "not guilty," and he was acquitted. The Grand Lodge revoked the charter, but requested the Grand Master to issue a dispensation for a new lodge.

In another case, a lodge acquitted a man clearly proven guilty of "the lowest and most gross of crimes," and the Grand Lodge ordered a new trial, censured the lodge for acquitting him, and directed the Grand Master "to reprimand the lodge for their said action." Isn't a second trial by that lodge under the circumstances something of a farce? Wouldn't it have been better for the Grand Lodge to pronounce the decision which it really *commands* the lodge to render, though it *nominally* leaves the matter to the judgment of the lodge? The very fact that the lodge must decide, not according to its own judgment but according to the decision of the Grand Lodge, shows the utter folly and *injustice* of the proceedings—*injustice*, because it compels the lodge to declare that, in its judgment, the man should be *convicted*, when in fact its judgment is that he should be *acquitted*! The lodge is compelled to act contrary to its own judgment, and — *about it besides!* Out upon such proceedings. We do not mean these remarks specially for this particular case, but for those who sustain such doctrine as masonic law and make others believe it. We have infinitely more respect for that Illinois lodge which repeated its former decision at the expense of its charter, than we have for lodges which would stultify themselves by reversing their decision against their judgment, simply because commanded to do it. Of course, we do not include a case in which a lodge errs *as to the law*, and the case is sent back for a new trial, for in such cases the effect of the evidence under the correct law is a question for the members to decide.

The action of a lodge was set aside because the accused was a member of a lodge in another State, and his lodge was not notified. If the accused lived within the jurisdiction of the lodge by which he was tried, as seems to have been the case, we hold that it had jurisdiction (see MACKAY, pp. 555, 556; LOOK, p. 28; SIMONS, pp. 84, 85) and its proceeding were valid, but it was guilty of discourtesy to the other lodge in not notifying it. If the decision of Grand Master BASSETT upon this point means that the second and third courses can be followed only when the first-named lodges refuse to act, we do not agree to it. Upon further examination we find that this decision was based upon an express regulation, and therefore correct, though not in accordance with the general masonic law.

A Master of a lodge was tried by the Grand Lodge and acquitted; but in order to preserve harmony in the lodge, he resigned his office and the Grand Lodge accepted his resignation. Fully appreciating and highly approving the motives of the Master, we do not see how he could legally resign his office.

BRO. E. T. CARE made an excellent and most sensible report on the "Masonic Mutual Protection Association." He would not have the word "masonic" used in connection with it: he denies the propriety of the Grand Lodge's assuming any responsibility for it, much less to become an Insurance Company. The most he would do, and that with misgivings, would be to have the Grand Lodge endorse some plan and appoint a committee to examine and report for the satisfaction of the members, rather than as assuming any control. We believe this would be too much, and we hold to the views expressed in the latter part of his report, in which he advises "not to go after strange gods." A resolution, however, was adopted, appointing a committee called Censors to examine the affairs of "The Masonic Mutual Benefit Society of Kansas," and report to the Grand Lodge, "or *ad interim* to the M. W. Grand Master." If this practice is continued, and any misfortune *should* happen to the Association, the Grand Lodge will inevitably be involved in it to the wounding of its good name.

The Report on Correspondence (137 pages) was presented by Bro. JOHN H. BROWN.

He says that the ordinary remedies against intemperance are ineffectual, and hence he would resort to legislation, and of the most stringent kind, to save the Order from "a vice, at once insidious, wide-spread and overwhelming;" thinks "money enough has been wasted in the erection of such follies as Masonic Temples;" hopes that no "body of *Freemasons* can be found in this country which will solemnly declare that non-payment of dues is a crime;" deprecates the tendency to excessive legislation; confesses to a change of views after reading and reflection, and now holds that, when a Grand Lodge reverses a conviction by a lodge, the accused is restored to membership; expresses views similar to those we have expressed in relation to the Iowa "dancing" flurry; opposes connecting masonry with any plan of Life Insurance as a departure from the landmarks, and as leading to confusion and discord, ending in litigation; calls upon Grand Masters to exercise moral courage enough to refuse dispensations for new lodges where none are needed, as small lodges have all they can do to live, without disbursing anything in charity.

He has pronounced views upon affiliation, and expresses them in forcible terms:

"Yes, were lodges managed in an enlightened way, were they made what we are sure they were intended to be, places of thorough culture, the subject of affiliation would cease to invite discussion or call for legislation. So long as the mere barren forms of opening, closing and routine, constitute the staple of lodge work, few but the most enthusiastic will be regular in their attend

ance, or promptly pay dues. Let the liberal sciences, again and again mentioned in the rituals and works peculiar to the craft, once more gain their former pre-eminence in the lodge; let men competent to discourse thereon be chosen to fill the chairs, and lodges will be crowded by those anxious to learn that they in turn may gain place and diffuse light. Unproductive formulas will not satiate hungry souls; initiation, passing and raising without exhaustive instruction, will only provoke the inquiry, what is the worth of all this? and compel those who desire to advance to seek the means therefor in more generous halls."

* * * * *

"This question of non-affiliation is a disturbing element in our Institution, yearly increasing in magnitude, which neither the animadversions of Grand Masters nor the legislation of Grand Lodges has lessened or abated; on the contrary, we think both have rather increased the number and obstinacy of un-affiliated masons, and that such will be the result until there is an entire change of policy and practice, as well in Grand as in subordinate lodges. It is hard to conjecture whither and how far the radical mind will lead and control in matters of this sort. The first step towards an equitable solution of this and cognate questions, is to stop legislation; the second, to cease calling non-affiliation a crime. Non-affiliation is no crime,—has but recently been so denominated, and that in defiance of general ancient usage, so far as it can be ascertained, and in opposition to the present practice of the oldest Grand Lodge on the continent. There is not a word in the obligations which the mason assumes on his making, that contemplates or looks to continued lodge membership. While in a lodge he is bound to obey its laws—laws, however, destitute of public sanction—and, therefore, wanting the very element upon which crime can be predicated in case he is guilty of their infraction. Out of the lodge by virtue of a legally obtained dimit, such and all laws of a private and particular nature no longer bind him to obedience, and so long as he violates no part of the Common Law of Ancient Craft Masonry, crime cannot, with any degree of justice, be imputed to him. There are many good and sufficient reasons why masons do not wish to affiliate, and the attempt to compel them is as absurd as it would prove futile. We say let humanity, fraternity, govern our councils, and the strife now looming up with angry aspect in many jurisdictions will be averted. Induce the large number of members systematically absent, except at celebrations, parades and elections, to attend the lodge regularly, and possibly their example may stimulate the non-affiliate to lay aside his indifference and seek lodge relations. At any rate cease to denounce him, to placard his name on your lintels, to call him drone and criminal, until you can show, by a general attendance of your present membership, that a new impetus has been given to old forces, and to them have been added new ones, to interest, enlighten, and upbuild faster and firmer the brother remaining within the lodge, than any appliances which can be found or adopted by him who stays without. We hear much of perfect ashlar and pure cement; we fear five-eighths of the former are naught but cobble-stones or spawls, while the latter has no more consistence than pure putty. Any how, the chinks in some walls are yearly growing in number and size, and unless master workmen are soon summoned to repair with better materials than frequently used, those walls at no distant day will crumble to dust."

He holds that a Master may remove an appointed officer at his pleasure—the power of appointment and removal being co-extensive: on the same reasoning the lodge can remove an elected officer at will. In the absence of any by-law to the contrary, we hold that neither an appointed or elective officer can be removed save upon due trial and conviction.

In his review of Maine, he quotes with approval from Grand Master CARRILL's address, pays a handsome tribute to the memory of Bro. CHASE, sus-

tains enthusiastically the decision in relation to dimits, approves the action in the case of PUEBLE Lodge, and notices various other matters with approval.

Referring to the statement of our Grand Master that he had forbidden intercourse with CORNELIUS SMALL on account of having illegally obtained the degrees in Kansas, he says:

"Should it prove to be the fact that the said Cornelius Small has been made a mason in Kansas as alleged, he will derive small and short comfort therefrom. We neither foster nor palm off on others illegitimate masons."

He thinks the fact that Portland Lodge required the payment of dues in 1769 is not sufficient to prove that dues are *not* a modern invention. But the fact that Portland Lodge adopted the system of dues when organized shows that such was the custom then, at least in Massachusetts. Did he consider the small number of lodges then existing?

KENTUCKY, 1875.

Four hundred and thirty-two lodges represented: Gov. McCREARY introduced and received with appropriate honors: seven charters granted, twelve dispensations continued, six granted and one refused: an amendment to the Constitution proposed, providing for District Deputy Grand Masters.

The Grand Master (HENRY BOSTWICK) announces the death of P. G. M. and Grand Secretary JOHN M. S. McCORKLE which we mentioned last year; and gives a very brief statement of his official acts, which were but few. But he says he had received very many communications, a very large portion of which might have been saved if the writers had read the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge. But few grievances had been brought to his notice, and he reports the prevalence of peace and harmony.

He decides that the election to office of a mere Honorary Member was absolutely void; and that no election to membership, save by ballot in the ordinary mode, gives one the prerogatives of membership. We would not have supposed that there was any question about this, were it not the question has been several times seriously raised. There is no doubt that Honorary Membership, when it is not *additional* to actual membership, is not the membership required by the Constitutions, when it is made a necessary qualification for anything. A mere Honorary Member of a lodge, without *actual* membership, is to all intents and purposes an *unaffiliated* mason.

We regret greatly to learn from his address that a tornado damaged the "Widows' and Orphans' Home" to the amount of nearly \$30,000: but we are proud to state that the Louisville Brethren at once called a public meeting, and before it adjourned enough subscriptions were pledged to make good the loss. The Directors reported that about \$100,000 would be needed to complete the buildings and furnish them, and that applications enough are on file to fill the Home to its utmost capacity.

The Grand Lodge voted that the Directors of the Home issue \$100,000 in "five-thirty" seven per cent. bonds, to be endorsed by the Grand Lodge, and that the requisite legislation should be asked for to make this plan legal: that a yearly *per capita* tax of fifty cents should be collected to pay the interest and provide a Sinking Fund for the ultimate payment of the principal: but no bonds are to be issued until the plan shall be approved by at least one-half the lodges in the State.

It will be remembered that the Grand Lodge gave the Home last year \$78,500 in eight per cent. securities as a permanent fund: but it still has a fund remaining of over \$30,000. The membership returned (and their names are all printed) is 21,594. If the spirit heretofore shown is maintained, our Kentucky Brethren will achieve a triumphant success in their noble undertaking.

On the first day of the session, the Grand Lodge consigned to the grave the mortal remains of Bro. JOHN M. S. McCORKLE, to whose memory a touching tribute was paid. A dispatch of condolence was received from the Grand Lodge of Ohio, also then in session.

The death of Bro. JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE, "the idol of Kentucky," was announced, and an eloquent tribute to his memory, reported by Bro. HENDERSON, was adopted. Bro. BRECKENRIDGE, says the report, has taken no part in politics or masonry since the war. He kept himself apart from masonry on account of his anxiety that the public should impute nothing to masonry that looked like favoritism, or any attempt to use the influence of the Brotherhood to remove from him any of the disabilities he might have incurred as a citizen. His silence was "not forced or reluctant, but wise and willing."

The report of the Treasurer of the Masonic Temple Co. shows that the receipts are sufficient to pay expenses, the interest on the debt, and four per cent. semi-annual dividends on the stock.

The Grand Lodge owns a large lot in Cave Hill Cemetery. About one-third of the purchase money was the gift of Bro. McCORKLE: he was buried in the centre of the lot; and the Grand Lodge authorized the Committee to issue Circulars to the lodges to solicit contributions for the purpose of erecting a monument to his memory.

A lodge expelled a member for disobeying a summons; he was a telegraphic operator on a railroad; a train being delayed he could not leave his post; it is needless to remark that the Grand Lodge reversed the judgment: it affirmed a sentence of expulsion against a member for slandering a lady; a few more of the same kind would check this terribly mean evil, now so fearfully prevalent: a brother appealed from certain action of a lodge, the ground being that the Master elect objected to the election of the appellant as Senior Warden and nominated another Brother, saying he wanted such Brethren elected to office as would attend and perform their duties; the appeal was dismissed,

the Committee, by implication, censuring the Master for electioneering; if the Master acted in good faith and had reasonable ground for his statement and what it implied, we think he is to be commended, and that it would be beneficial to masonry to have other Masters of the same stamp.

The Grand Lodge decided upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, that the Master or one of the Wardens and two other members can legally open a Masters' lodge: that a lodge expending money for the relief of a member of another lodge has no right to *demand* re-imbursement: that a special assessment upon the members of a lodge to raise money for the Home is invalid; and that a resolution in conflict with the by-laws cannot be stricken from the minutes at the next meeting.

An amendment to the Constitution was proposed, giving the lodges in each County one representative in the Grand Lodge for the first hundred members, and an additional one for every additional two hundred members, the oldest lodges to have the representatives first and then the others in rotation. A new plan, but we don't like it.

Some brethren presented to the veteran Grand Treasurer, A. G. HODGES, his portrait, as a token of their appreciation of his long and faithful services; worthily bestowed.

There are about five hundred lodges in Kentucky, but only one has two hundred members, and only fifteen which have one hundred or more: the average membership is about forty. This explains the movement to reduce the representation in the Grand Lodge.

BRO. THOMAS TODD presented the Report on Correspondence (112 pages). It is chiefly a synopsis—an excellent one—of the Proceedings reviewed, including the New York review of the European Grand Lodges.

In the opening of his report he gives a brief history of the life of Bro. McCORKLE, and copies from a newspaper a fine analysis of his character. We judge, however, that it was originally written by Bro. TODD. The inscription on the memorial page is taken from it. "His life was an embodiment of that charity and brotherly love, which are the characteristic tenets and teachings of the Order. He was the true masonic idea incarnate." A high eulogy, but not much exaggerated.

BRO. TODD heartily approves the refusal of granting dispensations to confer degrees out of time: condemns the act of the Grand Master of Connecticut in making a mason at sight; deprecates the too rapid increase of lodges; holds that an installed officer cannot resign or dimit; denies that an *appointed* officer can be removed after installation any more than an elected officer; and commends the Grand Lodge of Utah for refusing to heal a mason made under the authority of the Grand Orient of France.

In his review of Maine, he styles Grand Master CARGILL's remarks about dimitts as "sensible;" he refers to the case presented by him, of an improper allusion to masonry, on the trial of a cause in court, saying the matter interested him considerable, and was disappointed at the action, as he thinks the

committee should have investigated the matter at once, and if the allegation was true should have introduced a resolution expelling the offender: all in good time, Bro. TODD; the case happened over two hundred miles away, and it was impossible to investigate the matter during the session; and, moreover, it is a matter of so much importance that it should receive deliberate consideration; a year's delay in such a matter is a trifling evil, compared with erroneous action.

MANITOBA, 1875.

The three lodges in Manitoba, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Canada, met in Convention, by their legal representatives, on the twelfth day of May, 1875, adopted, with the necessary changes, the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and formed a Grand Lodge.

The proceedings were in due form and the Grand Lodge was regularly organized. Under the "British North America Act," Manitoba is placed on an equality with Ontario, Quebec and the other Canadian Provinces, and, therefore, like the other Provinces is entitled to a Grand Lodge.

BRO. GEORGE BLACK, the District D. G. Master under the Grand Lodge of Canada, presided in the Convention and was invested with the rank and title of Past Grand Master of the new Grand Lodge.

We see no reason for withholding recognition from this Grand Lodge, especially as it has been recognized by the Grand Lodge of Canada.

MARYLAND, 1875.

The main topic of interest in the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge is the debt incurred in erecting the Temple. As a warning against the prevailing disposition to erect temples, we give an abstract of a portion of the address of Grand Master J. H. B. LATROBE. When the plan was started, stock at \$10.00 a share was issued, and parties, many of them not masons, took the stock as an investment, relying upon the honesty of the Order and the good faith of masons. The Temple was at length completed: but it absorbed all the means of the Grand Lodge, all the avails of the sale of stock and large amounts raised on mortgage, and even then it was in debt to the amount of \$80,000, and it was hampered with liens, so that the Grand Master says the managers "had every reason to apprehend that a sale of the Temple would be the consummation of the ill-advised counsels that had led to its erection at a cost far beyond the present or any probable future means of the fraternity in the State." The liberality of two Brethren prevented a sale, and the floating debt has been reduced to \$3,000, and we believe that has now been paid and a sinking fund of \$2,000 a year has been established. But he says the "stock of \$238,000, with arrears of interest on it amounting to over \$80,000, is in its present condition a standing and deserved disgrace to it." All the revenue

is absorbed in paying ground rents and the interest on the mortgages. The interest on the stock (\$14,285.40) was beyond the present or early future means of the Grand Lodge, to say nothing of the arrears of \$80,000; but as over \$100,000 of the stock was held by the Grand Lodge or Bodies meeting in the temple, he proposed that this stock should be surrendered, and if that was done, he believed two per cent. semi-annually could be paid on the balance: but he announces in November, that owing to the decrease of work and consequent diminution of dues and other unforeseen contingencies, it had been impossible to pay any interest on the stock. The "ground rent" is \$6,330; interest on loans, nearly \$8,000; pay of janitor and firemen, \$3,500; gas bill, almost \$1,900; coal over \$700; sinking fund \$2,000; total \$22,430; the hall and stores bring in about \$9,000, leaving over \$13,000 to be paid by the Bodies occupying it, and this without paying any interest at all on the stock. The devotion, energy and ability of Grand Master LATROBE, will in time, we have no doubt, remove this disgrace from his Grand Lodge, but we hope the example will be sufficient to deter other Grand Lodges from a similar course of folly. We say this (the Grand Master has spoken of it with equal plainness) not with any design to reflect on the Grand Lodge of Maryland, which has our kindest wishes, but in the hope of preventing its repetition.

The Grand Lodge, after inquiry, by the Committee, of the neighboring Grand Lodges, recognized the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory.

Two charters were granted, and two restored: a historical sketch of Bro. DAVID A. PIPER, for many years one of the most active masons of the State, and at the time of his death, Grand Tyler, with appropriate resolutions, is given; he is believed to be the last survivor but one, Bro. JOHN DOVE, of the Baltimore Convention of 1843, of which he was temporary Chairman: the death of Past Grand Master JOHN N. McJILTON was announced and a page in the Proceedings inscribed to his memory.

The Report on Correspondence (48 pages) was presented by Bro. JNO. M. CARTER. It is mostly an abstract of the Proceedings reviewed, with few comments. He gives a synopsis of the "SPIGHT case" and remarks, "REQUIESCAT IN PACE."

The Committee of Michigan having criticised the granting, by Grand Master LATROBE, of a dispensation for a new lodge without the consent of the nearest lodge, Bro. CARTER very ably defends it. His doctrine is that "As a Master Mason the Grand Master is bound to maintain the Constitution of his Grand Lodge. As Grand Master he is charged with the higher duty of preserving unimpaired the Ancient Landmarks of Masonry." And he holds that the Grand Master, by the landmarks, has the power to issue dispensations for new lodges, which no Grand Lodge can annul or take away.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1875.

At the Quarterly Communication in March, the Grand Master, PERCIVAL L. EVERETT, was not present on account of the recent death of his wife. A resolution of condolence was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Work reported and exemplified the ritual of the first degree, and it was adopted without change, with only four dissenting votes out of nearly three hundred. They report that they had given about forty hours to the work and lectures of the first degree, and almost every word had been carefully considered: they had endeavored to make every sentence grammatical, and the work and lectures conform in every particular: differences of phraseology had been found, and indeed every member of the committee had found himself obliged to surrender some word or phrase to which he had been accustomed: but finally they were unanimous, and as the committee consisted of thirteen, this fact is important.

Sketches are given of the history of LOVELL BICKNELL, who continued his regular attendance on the Grand Lodge till his death at the age of *eighty-two*, and of JOHN FLINT, Past Grand Warden.

Resolutions were adopted commending the New England Freemason to the support of the Fraternity, which, however, they did not grant, and we greatly regret to say that this excellent magazine has been discontinued for want of the requisite support.

The Grand Lodge of Wyoming was recognized.

At the June Communication, the death of EBEN F. GAY, Grand Tyler, was announced: the gift of a portrait of P. G. Master ISAIAH THOMAS was acknowledged: Grand Master BASSETT, of Kansas, and Grand Secretaries BROWN, of Kansas, and BURRILL, of Illinois (a son of Maine), were introduced and welcomed: the apron worn by Lafayette at the laying of the corner stone of Bunker Hill Monument, June 17, 1825, was presented to the Grand Lodge by Bro. FRANCIS C. WHISTON, and accepted with a vote of thanks: the Royal Arch apron of Gen. JOSEPH WARREN was presented to the Grand Lodge by the Grand Master, in the name of the heirs of BENJAMIN RUSSELL, Past Grand Master, two ladies in humble circumstances, to whom the Grand Lodge voted an annuity of one hundred dollars each, as a token of its appreciation of their gift, the annuity to be paid on the seventeenth of June: the work and lectures of the second and third degree were reported and unanimously adopted: and the committee directed to consider the propriety of preparing a Masonic Trestle Board: and two charters were granted.

A report was presented, proposing to take away the power of lodges to inflict discipline, and vest it in the Grand Lodge, the trial to be had before commissioners appointed annually by the Grand Lodge. While much can be said in favor of such a plan, it appears to us to be so radical a change in the powers of lodges, that we should consider it long and carefully before adopting it. We are not satisfied with the argument of the committee in its favor.

An amendment was proposed to the Constitution, entertained, and referred to a committee, who reported against it in its original form and proposed a substitute, which was entertained and referred to a committee to be acted upon at a future communication. We notice this to show the manner of procedure, as some have supposed that an amendment proposed at one session may be amended at the next and at once acted upon: but the method pursued by this Grand Lodge is undoubtedly the correct one.

The Grand Lodge decided one question contrary to the practice of almost every other Grand Lodge. A candidate was accepted; objections to him were then made which were investigated by a committee and not sustained, and their report was accepted; afterwards the Master ordered a new ballot and the candidate was rejected; but the Grand Lodge held that the second ballot was null and void: we think there was no necessity for a ballot, as by the almost universal law an objection after ballot and before initiation is a rejection as much as a rejection by ballot, and we are surprised to find the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts holds otherwise. An elected candidate does have rights which a lodge is bound to respect, *but he is not a mason*, and every member of the lodge has a higher right which the Grand Lodge ought to respect—the right not to be driven from his lodge by a profane with whom he cannot sit, if made a mason.

A special communication was held June seventeenth, "for the purpose of solemnizing the one hundredth anniversary of the death of our illustrious Past Grand Master, JOSEPH WARREN." The Grand Lodge joined in the civic procession and then repaired to the old site of the Green Dragon Tavern, where WARREN's lodge used to meet, and where it had now prepared a banquet.

Another communication was held on the third of July, to celebrate at Cambridge the centennial anniversary of that day when Brother GEORGE WASHINGTON assumed command of the Colonial Forces. The Grand Lodge joined in the civic procession and repaired to a tent on the common, near the historic old Elm under which WASHINGTON first drew his sword as Commander-in-Chief of the army. Here a civic poem was read and an oration delivered, and then all repaired to the Memorial Hall to a banquet. To the toast "To the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts," Grand Master EVERETT responded in fitting terms.

On the sixth of August, another special communication—saddest of all—was held to attend the funeral of the universally beloved Past Grand Master WINSLOW LEWIS. Bros. BURNHAM and DODGE, with the writer, had the melancholy pleasure of being present. A full account of the solemn services at the church and at the grave are given in the Proceedings.

At the September Quarterly Communication the most of the voluminous Proceedings are taken up with a sketch of Bro. WINSLOW LEWIS, with a collection of his masonic addresses and other matters relating to him. We cannot quote with any justice, and shall not attempt it. Bro. LEWIS, as one member of the Grand Lodge said, "was born a mason," and he never seemed

to grow old. His spirits never waned, but preserved the freshness of his youth: his heart was as tender when he was three-score and ten as when he attained his manhood. Made a mason in the most bitter of anti-masonic times, his devotion to the Institution, to the latest moment of his life, has rarely been equaled, never exceeded. For nearly fifty years, he was the intimate friend of Bro. CHARLES W. MOORE; and yet they resembled each other in but few points. The interest of both in masonry and their love for each other increased with their years, so that, until separated by death, they were together upon almost every masonic occasion. When we reflect upon what they did for masonry in their lives, we may well be troubled as we ask "who will fill their places?" In Bro. LEWIS' death the concluding lines of Bryant's *Thanatopsis* were verified. For some time he had been delirious, then rallied, and consciousness returned; he looked at all who were around him, bade them good-bye, turned on his side, saying "*I am going to sleep,*" and died. We would gladly dwell upon the life and character of this noble man, but with feelings akin to those with which we took our last look at his mortal remains, we must say, FAREWELL.

At the same communication the amendment to the Constitution providing Trial Commissioners, was presented and discussed; but final action thereon was postponed, as it was also at the following Annual Communication: it was decided to prepare a Trestle Board: and a very learned and interesting address on "The Antiquity of Masonry" was delivered by Bro. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY.

The Proceedings of the Annual Communication are adorned with a splendid portrait of Bro. MARSHALL P. WILDER, one of the veteran masons of the old Commonwealth.

One hundred and forty-nine lodges were represented: Bro. THOMAS A. DOYLE, Past Grand Master of Rhode Island, in behalf of Bro. GEO. H. SMITH, presented to the Grand Lodge, in felicitious terms, the portrait of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of Masons in England: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward's Island recognized: and \$1,000 appropriated for the completion of the Washington Monument.

The address of the Grand Master (PERCIVAL L. EVERETT) is comparatively brief, but is an excellent business-like document. Referring to the Centennial, he claims that masonry had much to do in obtaining "the liberty regulated by law which we now enjoy:" historians have not noticed it for obvious reasons; but we fully agree with our M. W. Brother that masonry exerted a great influence, and was a bond of union among the heroes of the Revolution. The Temple debt is reported by him as reduced to about \$300,000. He calls attention to an impostor, who pretends to be making masons in Boston, and advises lodges to require the production of a diploma or certificate before examining strangers.

After the Installation came the "Grand Feast," at which the intellectual portion was of an unusually high character, even for Massachusetts. The "Grand Feast" was observed generally from the organization of the Grand Lodge till 1810, when it fell into desuetude. It was revived in 1858, and has been observed every year since. We have no doubt that it is productive of much good, by creating a stronger bond of union among the members of the Grand Lodge, and especially by fostering that *esprit de corps* in which the masons of Massachusetts surpass all others whom it has been our fortune to meet.

MICHIGAN, 1875.

Two hundred and ninety-seven lodges represented: six charters granted and four dispensations continued: the Grand Lodge deem it inadvisable to establish a Masonic Home or any other organized charity at present: from returns of lodges it appears that \$11,207 had been expended in charity during the year: a special tax of ten cents a member laid to meet the expenses of the Grand Lodge.

The address of the Grand Master (WILLIAM L. WEBBER) is a full account of his official action, with a large number of decisions. He had not employed some one to write a history of masonry in Michigan, as he had been authorized to do, on account of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge; and he suggested that all Brethren, knowing facts bearing upon the history, put them in shape and send them to the "Michigan Freemason": in response to the circular from Louisiana for aid, he had forwarded \$1,585 contributed by the lodges; he had been obliged to suspend three W. Masters—the primary cause in two cases being intemperance; *fourteen* pages of his address are devoted to his decisions; he makes some most excellent suggestions under the heads of "General Considerations" and "Masonry not a Religion."

He regards the "crusade against non-affiliation" as an innovation in the body of masonry, and suggests that those Grand Lodges which compel masons to be affiliated or lose their rights, in order to be consistent should *compel* lodges to receive them when they apply. Admitting non-affiliation to be an evil, he does not believe that it can be corrected by force. He thinks we should assume that as it is a duty to be a member of the lodge, every mason would be a member unless he has a good reason for not being, and that we must leave the sufficiency of the reason to him.

Some lodges having adopted a by-law that members might commute their dues for life by the payment of a fixed sum, he objects to it strongly, and as it seems to us, upon valid grounds. We have heard of a case in which a lodge had a by-law that members after paying dues for fifteen years should be exempt, and after a time they wanted a new hall, voted to have one and assess the cost on the lodge, and while the "exempts" voted the tax, they also voted that the "non-exempts" must pay it all! As Grand Master

WEBBER well says, "Voluntary organizations like ours are not adapted to the safe handling of large sums of money"; and the expenses of supporting the lodge in the future are much more safely left in the hands of the members to be paid when needed. The future needs of a lodge cannot be foreseen, and therefore no sum can be fixed which shall be a just commutation for dues. In one Grand Lodge it was proposed to allow lodges to exempt members of twenty-five years' standing from dues; the Grand Lodge wisely struck out "twenty-five" and inserted "fifty."

Almost all his decisions are founded on local law. He decides that a dimit, granted without a request from the one to whom it was voted, is void; and that the pendency of proceedings in a criminal court is no ground for the postponement of a trial on charges for the same offense.

In one case in which a lodge voted a reprimand as punishment, the Grand Lodge expelled the offender and gave the reprimand to the lodge. In all the cases, the Grand Lodge determined the punishment, sometimes confirming that imposed by the lodge, sometimes increasing it and sometimes diminishing it.

The Report on Correspondence (142 pages) was presented by Bro. FOSTER PRATT. It is a very full and able review and discussion of the proceedings.

He holds that while Grand Masters have the *right* to grant dispensations, they should be granted only in the interests of masonry, and never for the accommodation of individuals; that it is unmasonic to pledge one's *masonic* word in business or politics; that a lodge has no right to levy special assessments; that Proceedings should be attested by the Grand Master as well as Grand Secretary [to which we do not agree unless the Grand Master has the right to say what shall and what shall not be recorded or printed]; that it is not proper to lay corner stones—even of a church—on Sunday; because, while the church regards it as a *religious* ceremony, masonry regards it as *secular work*, and thus offensive to some of our members, none of whom should be required, as masons, to do what they have conscientious objections to doing.

He approves the present law of New York in relation to granting dimit; but as he construes that law, it seems to us that he reduces the changes made by it to mere matters of form. A *dimit* is to be granted only when a member has petitioned for membership in another lodge and been accepted: but a *discharge* from membership may be asked for whenever a member pleases, and be granted by the lodge if it sees no good reason to the contrary. The *discharged* mason renounces all claim for *pecuniary* and material assistance, but nevertheless, he continues a mason; can petition a lodge again, and is liable to discipline. He is not entitled to a discharge as matter of right, but only when the lodge deems it sought from proper motives, and not injurious to its interests to grant. Now if this is the New York law, wherein does it differ, save in *form*, from that of most of the Grand Lodges? It seems to us that it makes no difference whether we call it a "dimit" or a "discharge," nor whether we give the party a paper called a dimit, or do not give him any,

inasmuch as his *status* is precisely the same in both cases. According to Brother P.'s statements, the *status* of the *discharged* mason in New York is precisely the same as that of the *unaffiliated* mason in Missouri. We have understood that the New York law goes further, and that under it the *discharged* mason is no mason at all; is, in fact, the same as an *expelled* mason, *save only in the manner of getting out*. We may be in error, but if so we do not see why New York has been to so much pains to obtain a result which might have been attained in a so much simpler manner.

He believes that a lodge has the power to grant a new trial in a case finally decided by it, [which is not the case in this section]; that the doctrine that no appeal lies from an acquittal is preposterous; that it is very dangerous for Grand Lodges to have anything to do with Mutual Benefit Associations; that the printing of the names of members in the Proceedings is a useless expenditure of money; that we are taking too much notice of the Grand Orient of France, and, by thus flattering the vanity of its members, encouraging them in their action; that we should discriminate between responsible and irresponsible suicide; that the position of Grand Master LATROBE, of Maryland, in regard to the power of Grand Masters to "dispense" with the law is untenable; and that the character of masonry depends upon each individual member more than upon the Grand Lodge or its legislation.

In his review of Maine, he says:

"The Grand Master's address is a practical document, devoted, almost exclusively, to the business of his office and the internal affairs of his jurisdiction. His action in two cases involving the question of masonic public display is worthy of emphasis."

One was the "Decoration Day" decision: and the other his action in relation to the Master who paraded his lodge on the Fourth of July.

He says further:

"The Grand Treasurer's annual financial statement gives abundant evidence that its author is not only a good officer but a genial companion and a wag. His whimsical face appears at us, in such comical fashion, between and around the facts and figures of his excellent report, that one is puzzled to know which most to admire—the faithful official or the good humored, fun-loving Brother.

"We admire the energy and perseverance with which the Committee on Masonic History are pursuing their labors; and we congratulate them on their success in the accumulation of materials for a valuable history of the craft within their jurisdiction."

He again discusses the action of Maine in relation to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and while it seems that we were in error in attributing to him the expression that the legislation of Maine was "unfriendly," still he admits that that was the inference from what he *did* say. We insisted that our legislation was the result of recognizing Quebec, and as Michigan did the same thing, it did not lie in her mouth to criticise us.

We recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec (and so did Michigan) with sole and exclusive jurisdiction in that Province. Quebec, after waiting several years for Canada to withdraw her authority and cease founding new lodges

in Quebec, and when more than three-fourths of the American Grand Lodges had recognized her, issued an edict forbidding her lodges and the masons of her obedience from having any masonic communication with lodges in Quebec hailing under any foreign Grand Lodge. This last pregnant fact Bro. PRATT ignores. The masons of Maine, who have frequent intercourse with those of Quebec, were thus placed in a position where they *must* decide with which division of the masons of Quebec they would fraternize.

Bro. PRATT's argument is, that as Canada once had unquestioned jurisdiction in Quebec, and had not withdrawn from it, but on the contrary was still *claiming* exclusive jurisdiction there, our Grand Lodge was guilty of unmasonic conduct to a qualified extent in following the example and yielding to the request of Quebec, and refusing to hold intercourse with Canadian Lodges in Quebec.

He claims that the question was still *sub judice*, that is, undecided; and right here is the error in his argument. There is no High Court of Appeals for the decision of such questions. *Each Grand Lodge* decides for itself, and when it has decided, the question is no longer *sub judice*, so far as it is concerned. Otherwise, the decision is nothing. She must either await the decision of Canada, or hold her own decision as final, at any rate until reversed by herself. When the Grand Lodge of Michigan, as well as our Grand Lodge, recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec with *exclusive* jurisdiction, what did she mean? Was "exclusive" used in a Pickwickian sense? Would not the masonic world have smiled if she had added "but we don't mean that Canada has not a right to found lodges in Quebec, as that question is still *sub judice*?" If the action of Maine is of "a *reductio ad absurdum* nature," that of Michigan, *as expounded by Bro. PRATT*, needs no *reduction* to bring it to an *absurdity*!

In these remarks we speak only of the action of Maine. Illinois and Vermont are amply able to defend themselves. Nor would we have spoken of it at all, now that the whole matter has been settled, were it not that our silence would be an admission that his strictures upon the course of our Grand Lodge are well founded, and his doctrine correct.

MINNESOTA, 1875.

Eighty-two lodges represented: six charters granted and one refused, and four dispensations continued: a committee appointed to revise the Constitution: the Grand Lodge of Quebec recognized, and the following decisions confirmed:

"1. When a mason is stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues, no lodge is at liberty to entertain his petition for affiliation until he brings a certificate from the lodge from whose roll he was stricken, showing that he is clear on their books.

"2. When a Brother, stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues, pays in full the amount due from him to the lodge, he is entitled to a certificate signed by the Secretary, showing that he is a non-affiliated Master Mason, and clear of their books.

"3. While a deceased non-affiliate is not entitled to masonic burial, yet it may be accorded him by courtesy, or as a favor."

The Grand Master (CHARLES GRISWOLD) announces the death of ALFRED E. AMES, the first Grand Master of that Grand Lodge; and gives a succinct account of his official action. He gave numerous decisions, but all save the three above quoted were referred to the Committee on Revision of the Constitution.

He submits some most excellent remarks upon the evils growing out of hurrying the work. He finds that candidates hurried through almost invariably become superficial masons, knowing little of the work and less of the principles of masonry, never reading, and in a brief time losing all their interest in the institution and everything connected with it.

The Reports of the District Deputies are very full. The officers report in relation to the hall, furniture, clothing, jewels, working tools, books, the usual attendance, the by-laws, and the financial condition of the lodge, as well as the particulars usually embraced in these reports in Maine.

The Report on Correspondence (144 pp.) was presented by Bro. A. T. C. PIERSON. He devotes much of it to extracts, which he seasons with brief but spicy comments.

He holds that an appeal lies to the Grand Master in vacation, and that he can set aside the action of a lodge in case of either discipline or acquittal [this cannot be law in States in which the Constitution expressly provides for an appeal to the Grand Lodge]; says that a Master who is morally and intellectually qualified for his office, is not disqualified because he has but one arm or leg; thinks that he has some proceedings found neither in the libraries of Maine, Massachusetts or New York, but we think it will puzzle him to name any; knows there are genuine masons in Brazil, although there may be trouble in the organizations, because deeds of charity performed by them prove it; does not believe in the doctrine of "perpetual jurisdiction," and has his say about the "SPRIGHT case."

He says that the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in restoring the accused to membership, was in violation of the Constitution, but that the Constitution is in violation of every principle of justice! He holds that in the absence of a constitutional provision prohibiting it, the Grand Lodge had the power to send the case to another lodge for a new trial.

In his review of Maine, he pays a tribute to the memory of Bro. BRADFORD, his old friend, and quotes several matters, generally with approval.

MINNESOTA, 1876.

This Grand Lodge closed its session on the *thirteenth* of January, and Bro. PIERSON, who was elected Grand Secretary, gives earnest as to the promptness with which his duties will be performed, by "getting out" the Proceedings in time to place a copy in our hands on the *fourth* of February!

The pamphlet contains 214 pages. We trust that we shall not be deemed impertinent in recommending this example of Bro. PIERSON to those Grand Secretaries who take three times as many *months*, as he did *weeks*, to do the same thing. We have for three years made a record of the date of receiving the various Proceedings, and those figures measure the energy of Grand Secretaries with great accuracy.

Ninety-one lodges represented: nine charters granted and one dispensation (of WINSLOW LEWIS Lodge) continued: the Committee on Revising the Constitution continued: and the Report on Correspondence ordered to be printed in advance of the session.

The Grand Master (CHARLES GRISWOLD) refers to the death of WILLIAM MERCER WILSON, WINSLOW LEWIS and J. M. S. McCORKLE; besides S. Y. McMASTERS and ANDREW G. CHATFIELD, of his own State.

He deservedly censures certain lodges for recommending petitions for new lodges, when they really think none are needed, and in some cases write a private letter to the Grand Master urging him not to grant the dispensation, and saying that they gave their sanction to prevent hard feeling and for the sake of peace and harmony.

He decided that a ballot must be taken at the same meeting at which the Report of the Committee of Inquiry is made, and that the Master has no right to postpone it. This decision was approved, but we hold it to be erroneous. The Master, for causes satisfactory to himself and under his accountability to the Grand Lodge for the abuse of the power, can postpone the ballot to another meeting. But under our Constitution, when one ballot is taken and one black-ball appears, the Master has no right to postpone taking the second ballot, as the Constitution requires it to be done *immediately*.

He decides that an objection after ballot and before initiation, is equivalent to a rejection by ballot, and that the fact should be entered of record: and that a threat by a member to black-ball every candidate is a *gross offence*, for which he may, and ought to be expelled.

According to his statement dual membership is allowed in that jurisdiction: difficulties have arisen in consequence of it, and he recommends that it be provided that a mason can be a member of only one lodge at the same time, and that he must dimit from one before he can apply to another.

He devotes eight pages of his address to "Colored Masons and Colored Masonry." The matter was referred to a committee of five to report next year. We propose to have something to say upon this subject before we conclude this report, and shall probably refer to this address.

He makes excellent remarks under the heads of "*Worshipful Masters and their responsibilities*" and "*Making too much of masonry*," which are too long to be copied, but which we earnestly recommend all our Masters to read from the Proceedings in the Grand Lodge Library. To the Brethren he says, Never elect a man Master to pay him a compliment, or because he wants the office, or because he is "in the line of promotion," no matter what his social standing

may be : nor one who will not qualify himself to discharge the duties, nor one who cannot or will not devote the necessary time and attention to the office : but when you get the right man in the right place, keep him there if possible.

The Report on Correspondence (152 pages) was again presented by Bro. PIERSON, in which the Proceedings of forty Grand Lodges (including Maine, 1875) are reviewed. He had also received various foreign documents, but as he does not read Arabic "with fluency," or Italian understandingly, and his "early education" in Portuguese was sadly neglected, and as he was not certain which was Spanish, and as French "gets" him—he gives no extracts.

He favors the appointment of several Committees on Returns instead of one—a good plan, unless our Maine plan of having the returns in, and the Report prepared by the Grand Secretary in advance of the session is adopted.

He is very strenuous in his opposition to the tendency to introduce the money element into masonry, and insists that discipline for non-payment of dues, beyond mere deprivation of membership, is unmasonic.

In speaking of the delay in publishing Proceedings, he says they ought to be out in *sixty* days, and then makes his assertion good, by getting them out in *one-third* of that time.

In his review of Delaware he asks certain questions, and as one affects our Mother Grand Lodge, we take the liberty of answering them :

"1. Is there, outside of America, a single Masonic Power that recognizes the doctrine of *exclusive sovereign* power, in a given territory ? If so, what one ?"

Yes ; the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, and some in Continental Europe, recognize the doctrine of exclusive sovereign power in *territory*. They do not go so far as our Grand Lodges, and recognize jurisdiction over *individuals*, before they become masons ; but they fully recognize exclusive jurisdiction in territory, and hold that no Grand Lodge can legally *do any masonic act* in the territory of another.

"2. Was not the claim first put forth by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, after the union in 1792 ?"

No : it was formally announced in 1782, ten years before, by Massachusetts Grand Lodge. Bro. PIERSON will find the resolutions, with other interesting history, in the first volume of the New England Freemason, pages 465 to 473.

"3. Has not the doctrine been practically ignored by one of the Grand Lodges of the United States within a half-dozen years ?" Not to our knowledge.

We desire to call Bro. P.'s attention to one view of this question. When there was but one Grand Lodge, there was no occasion for laws regulating the relations of Grand Lodges to each other ; but when there became more than one, the necessity for such laws first arose. Must such laws be made by treaty ? It is well to refer to the analogous case of nations ; we have what is called the law of nations ; and it was *not the result of treaties*. There are certain principles of right and justice which are held to be binding on all

nations, and a nation that does not recognize them is held to be without the pale of nations. These principles are held to grow out of the very existence of a plurality of nations, and, as before stated, are not matters of treaty. So we maintain that there is equally a natural masonic law growing out of the existence of a plurality of Grand Lodges, binding, not on account of agreement, but on account of natural obligation. We discussed this matter, as Grand Master, in 1860, and our views have never been assailed. We hold that Massachusetts Grand Lodge in 1782 was not making a new law, but merely declaring the law growing out of the existence of a plurality of Grand Lodges—a law binding on *all* Grand Lodges: and any Grand Lodge which will not be governed by it, is as much outside of the pale of regular Grand Lodges, as the Barbary States formerly were outside the pale of nations, because they refused to heed the law of nations: in the case of the Grand Orient of France, the other Supreme Masonic Authorities have adopted a course analogous to that adopted by the other nations of the world towards the Barbary States.

He objects to the discussion of the "temperance question" in masonic papers; while he personally is in favor of the "touch not, taste not and handle not" doctrine, and is with those who "make war upon the making, selling or using the pernicious thing," and that, too, on account of his own experience; still he deprecates the introduction of the subject on masonic occasions. We do not see the force of the objection. In the first degree, we are taught that temperance is a masonic "cardinal virtue," which it is the duty of all masons to practice everywhere and on all occasions. Now if masons forget their duty in this respect, it certainly cannot be out of place to exhort them to remember it. We have read some very forcible and even sharp articles from the pen of Bro. PIENSON against evil-speaking by one mason of another; and we thanked him for it: for that has become a crying evil among us; and we believe that it is proper, and our duty to rebuke intemperance, profanity, slander and other vices among masons; more, if masons will persist in them, or any of them, we hold that they should be expelled. We do not agree with Bro. P., that no mason can bring disgrace on masonry: we think masonry is disgraced, when its votaries make it in the eyes of the community a synonym for profanity, intemperance or evil-speaking.

MONTANA, 1875.

The Proceeding have the portrait of the retiring Grand Master, EDWARD S. STACKPOLE (a native of Maine).

A Special Communication was held to lay the corner stone of a new "U. S. Assay Office," at which the Grand Orator, Bro. W. F. SANDERS, delivered an appropriate and interesting address.

At the Annual Communication, the Grand Master was not present, being

re-called while on his way by the sudden death of his only child. The Grand Lodge adopted resolutions of condolence, tendering

"To him and his sorrow-stricken companion the only consolation that avails for such a loss—the assurance of faith in a resurrection and a Redeemer; of a wise Ruler who often smites in love, never in wrath, and who is able, out of seeming evil, to evolve eternal good. God gave and God has taken away. He never errs, and never willingly afflicts. Blessed be his name."

All the sixteen lodges represented, two-thirds of the whole number being required for a quorum; [this requirement would have extinguished or suspended the Grand Lodge in the anti-masonic days]; address of Grand Master brief and devoted to a statement of his official action; the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Indian Territory, Manitoba, Prince Edward's Island and Wyoming recognized; one charter granted, and another voted to be issued "when the Brethren shall have provided themselves with a safe and suitable lodge-room"; and the Grand Master requested to visit all the lodges, "inspect their work and records, and do all he can to infuse a greater zeal and raise the standard of masonic morals and duty."

The Grand Master granted a dispensation to a lodge U. D., to affiliate members to assist in the work of the lodge. The Grand Lodge correctly held that this was not in accordance with the law. The desired result could have been reached by adding the names by endorsement, by the Grand Master, upon the dispensation, as has often been done in this jurisdiction.

At the suggestion of the Grand Master, the Standing Committees are appointed in advance and required to meet two days before the session.

His recommendation that but one ballot be had for all three degrees (as with us) was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, for report next year.

The Grand Secretary had collected such Proceedings as had survived the fire and the migrations of his office, and earnestly urges a "systematic and resolute effort to gather a library," and in order to have materials for exchange he advises a reprint of their Proceedings, a full file of which it is impossible to furnish. The Grand Lodge authorized the reprint, and appropriated \$500 therefor. We fear the mistake (already made by Illinois) of reprinting merely the *action* of the Grand Lodge will be made: whereas, the documents and reports omitted are frequently of the greatest value, as showing the history, polity and usages of the craft. No student of masonic history has failed to regret deeply the non-publication and loss of some document "ordered to be placed on file," which would have been invaluable in settling a doubtful point.

BRO. HEDGES, as Representative of the Grand Lodges of Maine and Illinois, improved the occasion of the presentation of credentials by the Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, to renew, in behalf of those jurisdictions, "expressions of their warm-hearted fraternal interest in the prosperity of masonry in this distant Territory." Thanks to him for so doing.

A committee was appointed to devise a plan for "Masonic Life Insurance,"

and report to the Grand Lodge next year. The best plan is to have nothing to do with it.

The Master of a lodge visited another lodge and was installed by the Grand Master, and then, in pursuance of verbal authority, installed the other officers. The Grand Lodge held this to be irregular, but confirmed this installation, expressing the opinion that all dispensations should be in writing and entered on the record. That is correct doctrine; but if the Master was properly installed, what need of a dispensation? It is his prerogative to install his officers, and, therefore, he requires no dispensation.

In consequence of certain irregularities, the Grand Lodge ordered that the names of all members and visitors present at lodge meetings shall be recorded—a return to an old and excellent usage, which we are sorry to note has been falling into disuse in these modern times.

A resolution was adopted declaring that the rejection of a candidate must be by ballot: that the character of the report of the Investigating Committee should not be recorded; and that such reports must be made orally, and not in writing. This last feature is different from our practice, but it seems to us a wise one.

The Brethren had their usual exercise in parliamentary law, in fixing the place of holding the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The Constitution was revised (a penal code being added), and as amended, is published with the Proceedings, and a small number of extra copies was ordered. While the publication of the Constitution with the Proceedings is very desirable, experience satisfies us that it is more likely to be at hand to be examined and read by officers of lodges, if it is published by itself.

The Report on Correspondence (102 pp.) was presented by Bro. CORNELIUS HEDGES. To save expense he made it shorter than usual, and as a consequence is more sparing in comments. It is prepared on the plan of making no quotations (or next to none) but giving an abstract of all matters of interest in his own language.

He commends the Grand Lodge of Arkansas for the steadiness with which it has upheld St. John's College; thinks that the greater conservatism that generally prevails across the line (in Canada) renders it more congenial soil for masonry; does not believe (nor do we) that the power of restoring to membership should be possessed either by Grand Master or Grand Lodge, unless the judgment of the lodge is reversed; wisely advises Colorado to "wait a few years and not hurry then," before building a Grand Lodge Temple after the example of Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania; deprecates the rage for revising and elaborating Constitutions; hopes that the demise of a lodge in Connecticut may teach a lesson, much needed, that the moral standard of Grand Lodges must always be a little in advance of the average moral standard of society and the subordinate lodges; is satisfied that there would be twice as much masonry if there were but half as many masons;

declares that no man can be a *Free-mason* and a good Catholic ["and pity 'tis, 'tis true"]; holds that there is no difference between an objection and a black-ball, and that both should be treated alike in their results; objects to sending cases back for a new trial, when the Grand Lodge can pronounce the proper judgment, as he knows of nothing so demoralizing as these second trials, a very few of which will kill the strongest lodge; commends the action of a Grand Master in annulling an election because the brother elected had *electioneered for himself*, and says such should be masonic law and practice everywhere; declares Bro. SPEED's report in the "Spight case" to be "unanswered and unanswerable"; objects to paying a salary to Grand Masters; has no compassion for masons who can pay dues but are too selfish to do so, as he has found that those who do not pay dues are apt to neglect all other masonic duties, but at the same time says the deserving poor should never be asked to pay.

His review of Maine is quite complimentary. He says the Grand Lodges "that surpass her in solid, steady growth, in soundness in the faith, strictness of discipline and general good example and influence, are so few that we need not name them"; calls Grand Master CARGILL's address "a model business paper, wasting no words, clear, direct and sensible"; commends the action in the case of Preble Lodge; gives his "unlimited approval" of our plan of preserving lodge histories; sees no sense in the law of perpetual jurisdiction, though he believes the idea very general that this is universal law and usage, and concurs with us in the doctrine that upon appeals the Grand Lodge should have the power to render such final judgment as the case requires.

Thanks for his kind invitation to Montana; but upon reflection, we shall not go equipped as we suggested last year, for we fear we should have more occasion to use our ears and tongue, than our eyes!

In that jurisdiction the Grand Master seems to be, in Grand Lodge, merely the chairman. "Ill-defined prerogative powers are very distasteful," it is true, but the expression cannot apply to those of the Grand Master. *His* prerogatives are well defined; we believe *all* authority is "distasteful" when it conflicts with one's wishes, but for all that is necessary and wholesome, and in masonry submission to it is a duty.

We should be very glad to copy his concluding remarks entire.

He reminds the Craft of the position of our country among the nations of the world, of our prospect for peace and of becoming the possible arbiter among the nations of the world; and calls upon the Craft to prepare for it, at home in our own hearts. The seeds of strife, plentiful everywhere, must be weeded out and kept down by the active cultivation of all the arts and virtues of peace. "Let us show to the world how to differ without bitterness, how to contend earnestly without sacrifice of mutual respect and esteem."

He thinks that masonry on the Continent and generally in foreign countries, is not in a condition to invite or allow close alliances. He would have Grand

Orients confine themselves either to the three degrees, or else to the higher degrees, yielding their jurisdiction over the first three.

"There cannot possibly be two things more essentially hostile than Freemasonry and that bigotry which blasphemously claims the right to tyrannize over the human conscience. Even a truce is impossible; only one will survive when peace arrives. The establishment of masonry in Rome during the year past—not secretly, but open and boldly—is an event over which every mason and philanthropist should rejoice. With most of the tenets and teachings of Catholic religion, we have no objection; but the spiritual servitude that it teaches and strives to enforce is absolutely inconsistent and irreconcilable with freedom and civilization, even with manhood, and with that there is no possibility of peace. In the contest now going on in Europe, not only our sympathies should be earnest with those who are warring with intolerant bigotry and spiritual tyranny, but we should be outspoken in our words of encouragement. Of the result, however long delayed, there can be no possible doubt. Civilization is extending its conquests on every side, multiplying its defences and ever inventing more effective weapons; while on the other hand, the walls of ignorance, which alone give shelter to bigotry, are crumbling to decay."

MISSISSIPPI, 1875.

Two hundred and twenty-seven lodges represented: eight charters and four dispensations granted and two refused: six charters arrested; three restored: and a testimonial voted to Grand Secretary POWER as a token of appreciation of his skill and ability in managing the finances of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master (A. H. BARKLEY) says that the lodges are generally in a healthy condition; that the rigid discipline has improved the moral tone: and that there is cause for congratulation upon the condition of masonry in the jurisdiction.

He had granted a dispensation to retake the ballot for two candidates rejected for advancement, the Brother who threw the black-ball stating that his vote to reject was cast upon erroneous information. It seems to us that this was dangerous: we admit that one casting a *black* ballot may disclose it, if he sees good reason, but it cannot be certain that the one, who *says* he cast it, did so.

He annulled an election and installation of a Master who had not served as Warden, and decided that only in case all the Past Wardens declined to serve could he grant a dispensation to elect a Master from the floor. He annulled one election because the one elected circulated votes and electioneered for himself.

He had suspended the charter of several lodges for violation of regulations, incompetency or misconduct of members in general.

He gives a detailed account of his official acts, by which it appears that he has been a faithful, able and hard working officer.

The Report of the Grand Secretary is a complete account of the transactions in his office during the year. He had prepared a Circular to be sent, under the Seal of the Grand Lodge, to every one deprived of membership for non-payment of dues, as he believes that it often happens from carelessness, en-

grossing business or temporary absence; and he confidently predicts that this course will bring many back. He takes ground against expulsion for non-payment of dues, saying that the experiment in that State, while relieving lodges somewhat, has permanently alienated many from the Order; and suggests that suspension from, or deprivation of membership is the highest penalty which should be imposed for non-payment of dues.

He acknowledges the receipt of several Reprints, including ours, and recommends a reprint of their own Proceedings, as he says there is not a single complete file in the State, "though the missing links, singular enough, can be obtained from the libraries of other Grand Lodges." His recommendation was referred to a committee, but we cannot find that any report was made.

A communication was received from Bro. H. G. CALHOUN, of Illinois, that a lodge in his District had purchased a set of jewels, supposed to have been stolen from a Mississippi lodge during the late war; the matter was referred to a committee, which reported that *seventeen* lodges had lost their jewels during the war, and that the Grand Secretary convey to Bro. CALHOUN the "high appreciation of this Grand Lodge of the truly masonic spirit evinced by the R. W. Brother in this behalf"—and ascertain, if practicable, to whom the jewels in question belonged.

A contribution was taken up to pay a balance due for the monument of GEORGE H. GRAY, and there still being a deficit, the Grand Lodge made it up.

The practice in Mississippi is to submit questions of law to the Committee on Law and Jurisprudence in vacation for immediate answer. The Committee report to the Grand Lodge *thirty* decisions, and say that they have made many others which they did not deem of sufficient consequence to report.

The following decisions were confirmed by the Grand Lodge:

"1. Can a man who can neither read nor write be made a mason in this Grand Jurisdiction?"

"He cannot. The authorities on this point are meagre, but there is so much to learn that is written, that a man who is totally illiterate is not fit material for our 'moral and masonic edifice.'"

"3. Can a Worshipful Master appoint a new committee, unless the first one is discharged, on petitions for initiation—the first one being absent and failing to report—or can he add two members where one member attends, and instruct them to report instanter?"

"He cannot. The petition having laid over one month, and one member of the committee having made due enquiry into the character of the petitioner, by unanimous consent two might, perhaps, be substituted in lieu of those discharged, and they may report at the same meeting, but they cannot be required to do so unless they announce themselves ready. It would be the safest course to continue it another month.

"7. A mason belonging to the jurisdiction of a neighboring State comes into Mississippi, and spends a few hours, and while here commits a masonic offense. What is the duty of the lodge where the offense is committed?"

"Notify the lodge in the neighboring State of which he is a member of the offense, with specifications, &c. Being neither a resident or sojourner here, our lodges have no jurisdiction, unless he were itinerant and had no residence.

"8. What course should a lodge pursue against a brother who refuses to obey a summons of his lodge to visit a sick brother and administer to his wants?"

"To relieve the distresses of our brethren is a duty incumbent on all

masters.' Although we may have no written law, yet it is written in our hearts to go, when requested by the lodge, to visit the helpless and the needy. The lodge, in such case, should act discreetly. In the opinion of your committee, a brother ought to be reprimanded who wilfully refuses.

"9. What course should a lodge pursue against a brother who insults another in open lodge?"

"The W. M. can order him to leave the room, and the lodge should require him to make satisfactory amends; and if he refuses, presuming that he committed the offense without cause, he should be dealt with in a summary manner.

"10. Can a Master of another lodge, not a member, preside over the lodge he visits, while the Master is present?"

"He can, if the Master invites him. His rulings would be those of the Master; he being responsible for them.

"17. A Fellow-craft is raised, and after it is done, a member announces that he saw him drunk a short time before. What ought to be done in the premises?"

"The committee is not certain, but rather incline to the opinion that the offense is blotted out by raising the Brother. The one who saw the degree conferred and then gave the information, ought to be reprimanded, and the newly made Brother ought to, 'sin no more.'"

"23. Who bears the expenses of trials for masonic offenses—the lodge or the accused?"

"The custom has been for the lodges to bear all expenses."

- * It was also decided substantially that the defendant, in a case at law between a brother mason and himself, is not liable to charges for pursuing any course in his defense authorized by the laws of the State.

That a member acquitted on charges is not entitled to a dimit, notice of an appeal having been given.

That, under their law requiring a ballot for each degree, the vote on advancement is not on *proficiency*, but each member votes as he pleases, the question being one between himself and his own conscience.

A lodge expelled a member, returned him as expelled, but he appealed and the sentence was reversed by the Grand Lodge. Yet he was published as expelled in the abstract of the returns, in the Proceedings. This was held to be improper, and the Grand Secretary was directed to add a note in such cases, giving the action of the Grand Lodge.

Upon the question, whether a Brother under charges can march in a masonic procession before the trial, the committee were divided, and the question was re-committed for a report the next year.

The following additional decisions were approved:

"1. How should a lodge proceed against one of its members who refuses to cast his ballot on an application, after having asked to be excused, and by the lodge been refused? Or can a lodge compel a member to vote?"

"A member who is not excused should be required to vote, and the lodge can compel him, and if he still refuses he can be dealt with for contumacy and punished accordingly.

"2. What are the prerogatives and duties of Masters of lodges when committees neglect their duties and fail to report duly, after due notice of their appointment?"

"Masters have the right, and it is their duty to require committees to perform the work assigned to them, and when derelict to reprimand and continue or dismiss them, as he may think the interest of the lodge may justify. Mere forgetfulness is not a valid excuse.

"3. Is it the province of the W. Master to decide on the physical disqualifications of a candidate ?

"Yes.

"4. Is it not the duty of the W. M. to require brothers, when casting their ballots on application for membership or degrees, to conceal their ballots from the view of those present ?

"The W. M. should see that the secret ballot is secured to every brother without the knowledge of another.

"5. Has any brother a right to exhibit his ballot before he puts it into the box in balloting on applications for membership or degrees, whether it be white or black ?

"No. The committee regard it as highly improper.

"6. The application of A for initiation is presented to the lodge and referred to a committee. The report of said committee is received and the ballot spread. The W. M. announces that A has been duly and constitutionally rejected. Whereupon B states that the application of A is improperly before the lodge, as A did not sign the petition nor authorize others to sign it for him, and asks that the minutes of the meeting recording the rejection of A may be expunged, and for leave to withdraw the 'so-called' application. Should the motion to expunge the minutes be entertained by the W. M. ? What course should the lodge pursue ?

"The Master should declare the result of the ballot, and neither allow the application to be withdrawn or entertain the motion to expunge."

A resolution approving the Text Book in course of publication by Grand Secretary POWER, was laid over to the next Annual Communication, to give an opportunity to examine the book.

The following resolutions were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Masters of lodges at each regular meeting to appoint a Committee of Three to serve until the next regular meeting, or until their successors are appointed, whose duty it shall be to ascertain who are sick and who are destitute within the jurisdiction of the lodge.

"*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the committee so appointed to report cases of destitution to the Master of the lodge, and to appoint a suitable number of brethren daily to visit and nurse the sick, if necessary, and it shall be the duty of the brethren so selected to discharge this duty unless excused for reasonable cause.

"*Resolved*, That the Annual Report of subordinate lodges shall state the whole number relieved or visited, but give no name; and this part of the report on subordinate lodges shall not be printed in the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge."

The famous "SPIGHT case" was again before the Grand Lodge. The Committee on Complaints and Appeals made a report of sixteen pages, going over the whole case, with a full history of it. The case was fully discussed and (again) "finally disposed of." The discussion was long and evidently earnest; and in the Proceedings is a "review" of the report of the committee (of which Bro. FRED. SPEED was Chairman) by Past Grand Master HOWRY.

Although we last year gave an account of this case, as our account was not full, we will give in as brief terms as possible the substantial history of the same—with comments.

SPIGHT was Collector of Taxes, and the charges were for defrauding brother masons, in representing to them that if they paid their taxes the money should be laid out in repairs on the streets, and not in payment of

Corporation Warrants, but that he did apply it to the payment of the warrants.

There must be some outside facts, for this charge upon its face fails to show that any body was *defrauded*; he may have broken his promise, but none of the parties seem to have been so unmindful of propriety as to pledge their *masonic* word in this matter; but how can a man be defrauded by the application of a tax legally assessed upon him, for one, rather than another purpose, to which it could legally be appropriated?

He was, however, convicted by a vote of about two to one, and indefinitely suspended; he applied then for restoration, which was refused by a vote of nine to sixteen. He then appealed to the Grand Lodge.

In the Grand Lodge the committee were divided, the majority reporting in favor of confirming the action of the lodge; but the minority reported in favor of setting aside the action of the lodge on purely technical grounds, save in one respect—the committee were ordered to take, and did take all the testimony taken out of the lodge, without allowing either the prosecutor or accused to be present. The minority report was accepted and a resolution adopted, setting aside the judgment of the lodge and granting him a new trial, "*in any neighboring lodge*"; and by another resolution the lodge was named. This lodge proceeded to try SPIGHT and he was acquitted; thereupon his own lodge appealed to the Grand Lodge; but the action of the lodge acquitting him was confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

It was afterwards claimed that while, according to former usage, the Grand Lodge had the right to send a case to another lodge for trial, yet under a recent regulation it had no such power. But it did send the case to another lodge, and so far as we can discover, no question was raised as to the correctness of this course or objections made to it, until a year after the final decision. Whether the Grand Lodge did have the right to send the case to another lodge or not, we have formed no opinion; but the failure to object to it was a waiver and the final decision of the Grand Lodge was valid, and SPIGHT stood acquitted of the charges against him; and if the case had stopped there, no further proceedings could, under any sound principles of law, ever have been taken against him upon those charges.

But afterwards a resolution was introduced, and without reference to a committee, was adopted, requiring his lodge to enter SPIGHT's name upon its rolls as a member. But the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, provided that upon the reversal of the judgment of a lodge by the Grand Lodge, the accused was *not* restored to membership. The idea, upon which this provision was based, is that the judgment of the lodge *severs the membership* and the appeal does not vacate or affect the proceedings till acted upon by the Grand Lodge; and as membership is acquired only by the unanimous vote of the members, the Grand Lodge had no power to restore the accused to membership. The idea is erroneous; the correct idea is that the proceed-

ings of the lodge do not take full effect till confirmed by the Grand Lodge; and hence, when the proceedings are reversed, the accused has not lost his membership at all. This provision of the Constitution of Mississippi we regard as an unjust and barbarous one; but *it was the law* and the resolution was in direct conflict with it. The lodge objected to the resolution as being unconstitutional, but the Grand Master decided that it was constitutional and ordered the lodge to obey it.

This decision of the Grand Master was referred to the committee in 1873, who reported that the decision was illegal and the resolution unconstitutional. When the report was presented, objection was made that the matter was *res adjudicata*; and further action was out of order; and the Grand Master so ruled. Technically this ruling was correct; the decision of the Grand Master in vacation is final, *as to the particular case*; but the Grand Lodge may properly determine that the rule of law acted upon is erroneous.

But still we think that if the lodge had sent a memorial to the Grand Lodge, asking for the rescinding of the resolution, it would have been the *duty* of the Grand Lodge to have rescinded it, and declared it of no further force or effect, as being in conflict with the Constitution. This course was not taken, but in 1874 a hypothetical case was submitted to the Grand Lodge, which, by a very large vote, practically reversed the action which had been before taken, although in a *general* manner, without naming this case. But immediately a resolution was introduced that "It is the sense of this Grand Lodge that the present status of S. R. SRIGHT * * * is that of a suspended mason under appeal to this Grand Lodge." The Grand Lodge had the *power* to adopt this resolution, and make it binding on SRIGHT, as it might a resolution that SRIGHT never had been a mason; but the resolution adopted was no more *legally* true than the one suggested would have been. The Grand Lodge had decided the appeal and reversed the action of the lodge suspending SRIGHT: no one doubts its competency to do so: and even if the sending of the case to another lodge for trial was wrong and illegal, the reversal of the judgment of the lodge was, beyond any doubt, legal and valid: and SRIGHT then stood as a mason under charges pending in his own lodge.

The case then went to a committee, which in 1875 reported that SRIGHT had been legally acquitted and was then a member of the lodge: but a substitute was adopted, recognizing the action of the previous year and disposing of the case by confirming the original action of the lodge (on the assumed pending appeal) indefinitely suspending SRIGHT.

We are sorry to discover, in the proceedings, indications that in the discussions feelings for and against SRIGHT influenced the decision of a mere abstract question of law. We regret also to find given as a reason that the proceedings were illegal—the statement that when the first decision of the Grand Lodge was given, it was done at the statement of the minority of the committee, without reading the record of the case.

We desire, also, to enter our earnest protest against one proposition of Bro. HOWRY in his "review." He says:

"One of the main pillars on which our institution rests is the complete control which a lodge has over its membership. It takes them in and can put them out."

The doctrine that a lodge can deprive a member of his membership at pleasure is so outrageous, that we are infinitely surprised and pained to find it seriously stated in a Grand Lodge. It comes to this, and there is no escape from it: if Bro. HOWRY's lodge, having seven members present, votes, without charges or notice to him, by a vote of five to two, to expel him, he loses his membership, and can regain it only by a unanimous vote of his lodge—and yet he denominates the proposition that the Grand Lodge can remedy such an outrage, "an absurdity."

This SPIRIT case is an instructive one, but to us it is a warning, that when a Grand Lodge desires to do a certain thing it is pretty certain to find a way to do it.

The Report on Correspondence (41 pages) was presented by Bro. THOS. S. GATHRIGHT. We have given so much space to this Grand Lodge that we cannot notice his review at any length. In his review of Maine (1874) he says the address of Grand Master CARGILL is creditable to himself and his Grand Lodge.

He also says:

"The Grand Lodge of Maine is one of the very best Grand Bodies of this continent, in all that enters into the 'make up' of a Grand Lodge. Its financial affairs are conducted in an admirable manner, and the statements of its officers show the wisdom and charitableness of its disbursements and prudence of its conduct.

"The printed Proceedings contain two handsome and elegantly engraved portraits of two Past Grand Masters, who died during the past masonic year, to wit: M. W. Freeman Bradford and M. W. John H. Lynde. We are inclined to believe this the most appropriate memorial page that the Grand Lodge could offer these two distinguished and deceased brethren, though additional pages are dedicated to their memory."

MISSOURI, 1875.

One hundred and seventy-nine lodges represented: the Grand Lodges of Manitoba and Dakota recognized, and a qualified recognition given to the Grand Lodge of Quebec: the work exemplified: three charters and two dispensation granted—and several petitions for dispensations referred to the Grand Master: the incorporation of subordinate lodges under the laws of the State forbidden: three charters surrendered.

The Grand Master (JOHN W. LUKE) gives a full statement of his official action, his decisions, and some observations on the condition of the craft.

His introduction to his decisions describes an evil which only those, who have had experience, can fully appreciate. The Grand Master would have to answer less than a quarter of the questions now submitted, if none were

asked by any one until after he had read the Constitution of his Grand Lodge. Bro. LUKE says:

"It might have been supposed that the labors of my predecessors for several years had exhausted every question of jurisprudence or usage that could in any way present itself; but the ingenuity of the Brethren, in inventing new issues and making the reverse appear to be the meaning of a law, is perfectly wonderful, and, when actual intricate cases do not present themselves to call forth enquiry, they propound suppositious ones. Now, I concede that it is a duty to be always as ready to give, as other will be to receive information; but there is no use in speculating upon imaginary probable contingencies, and inventing such issues to waste time and labor upon, when there is plenty of real current work to be attended to. 'Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.' All such speculative questions I therefore declined to answer unless an actual case were presented, and for the further reason that questions so presented might assume a different aspect when viewed in the light of all attendant circumstances.

"It might be seriously objected to that the Grand Master should be considered as a kind of living index to all the published by-laws and decisions of the Grand Lodge, so that Brethren never think of any search on their part, but actually write for information, stating that they know there is such a law or decision, but it is handier to write a few lines to the Grand Master than to examine for themselves."

He had granted but two dispensations for new lodges and had refused fifteen. He found that only about three-tenths of the lodges have a membership of over fifty members, and taking all the circumstances into consideration, he concluded that it was unwise to increase the number of lodges, except in cases in which there was an evident necessity for them.

He had found that the District Deputy system is not working as it should do. He was of the opinion that the reason for this failure was the lack of authority of these officers and the lack of care in selecting them.

He thinks that too many have been made masons, and in consequence dissensions have arisen in lodges, the standard of morality lowered and the interest of the members diminished. Still a large proportion of the lodges are in a sound and healthy condition and doing good work.

He discusses the "Past Master" question. He says the Grand Lodges have "conceded a partial control of the Past Master degree to the Grand Chapters." This is news to us: and if there is any evidence of this assertion, we would be glad to have it pointed out. We have always understood that whatever part of that degree the Grand Chapters have, was *taken* by them and not *conceded* by the Grand Lodge. From this erroneous proposition Grand Master LUKE deduces the result that a "Virtual Past Master" may sit in a lodge of "Actual Past Masters," and the Grand Lodge endorsed the decision. We have elsewhere in this report discussed this question, and will only add, that an "Actual Past Master" cannot recognize as such those who have not been installed as Masters of a regular lodge, though they may have the secrets, any more than a mason can recognize a cowan, who has obtained the secrets by eaves-dropping, as a regular mason. Each degree has one method, and *but one*, in which it can lawfully be obtained.

The Grand Secretary reports that the Grand Lodge Library is steadily increasing in size and value.

Some years since, a citizen of Missouri, who had been rejected in that State, went to Scotland on a visit and was there made a mason. After considerable correspondence on the part of Bro. GOULEY, he succeeded in getting one letter from the Grand Master of Scotland, in which the act of his lodge was sustained, on the ground taken by the Grand Master of England in our case in 1860. The Grand Lodge of Missouri, for the sake of harmony, concluded to yield the point as to foreign Grand Lodges. We are sorry : we would have preferred a refusal to recognize the party thus made, and let it rest there. In our case, it will be remembered, that while there was no direct abandonment of their position by the Grand Lodge of England, the practice complained of was abandoned, and when the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was formed she adopted our doctrine. In the case of Missouri the evil may not be great, but in our seaboard States it would be a constant source of dissension, if the same course should be followed. We make no war on the Grand Lodge in such cases; we refuse to recognize the individual as a mason, and leave him to settle the matter with the lodge which conferred the degree as best he can; this course prevents the occurrence of many such cases.

A Board of Relief having sent circulars into other jurisdictions asking for aid, the Grand Lodge wisely adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that the issuance and sending of circular applications for charity out of our Grand Jurisdiction by Masonic Bodies or individuals, without the endorsement of the Grand Lodge or its Grand Master, is contrary to masonic propriety, and is hereby forbidden."

A suit at law against the Grand Lodge, in relation to \$20,000 of the bonds of the Masonic Hall Association had been decided in favor of the Grand Lodge; but the opposite party had carried it to the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Grand Lodge decided, as we think correctly—that a Master has not the right to issue a peremptory summons to a member of another lodge as a witness, but should apply to the Master of the witness' lodge, who does have the power to summon a member peremptorily to appear as a witness in another lodge.

The Grand Master decided that a visitor has no right to see the charter of the lodge, until he has been properly vouched for, or passed a satisfactory examination. But the Grand Lodge adopted the following:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that a visiting Brother has the right, after he has taken the test oath, to call for and see the charter under which the lodge works."

This comes very near the decision of our Grand Lodge, but not quite, and, as we think, is not quite correct. No mason has the right to run any risk of disclosing any of the secrets of masonry to any person not authorized to

receive them. A strange visitor should have absolute knowledge that parties proposing to examine him are authorized to do so, and the fact that he has information that the body he proposes to visit is a regular lodge, unless he has it from some one he knows to be a mason, is not sufficient. The charter is a public document: it proves its own genuineness: and the production of it is a sufficient guaranty that those who have possession of it, are a regular lodge. We hold, therefore, that the first thing to be done in the examination of a stranger, is for the committee to satisfy him, *by the production of the charter*, that their body is a regular lodge, and, therefore, they are duly authorized to examine him.

BRO. GEO. FRANK GOULEY presented the Report on Correspondence, one hundred and thirty-nine pages (of which twenty-five are devoted to the European Grand Bodies) of *fearfully* small type, some pages having almost eighty lines. He copies every decision, many of the resolutions and rulings of Committees on Jurisprudence and extracts from Reports on Correspondence, with comments.

Though we have expressed our own views, which agree with his, in relation to the manner of opening a Grand Lodge, we cannot resist the temptation to quote the following from his review of Indiana:

"There is nothing like having hired men to do one's work. The following we extract from the minutes:

"OPENING.

"A lodge of Master Masons was opened in ample form, when, it appearing that a constitutional number of subordinate lodges were duly represented, after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana duly opened for dispatch of business.

"Who these 'Master Masons' were, where they came from, whence they got their charter? what they did after opening, how and who closed them, what right they had to decide whether the Grand Lodge of the State had a quorum or not, how they were to tell who were and who were not proper delegates, neither the deponent or the record saith not. How the Grand Lodge was opened, on what degree, or by what law the Grand Master can simply 'declare' it open, the record is also silent.

"After the Grand Lodge of Indiana had passed a law whereby a majority can suspend a member, and yet require a unanimous vote to get back again, and also that a lodge can try and expel its Master, we had thought that it had accomplished enough of queer things; but the way it gets itself opened, beats *hari-kari*, and must have been borrowed from the Chinese. We would go the length of our cable-tow to see a Master Mason's Lodge opened in AMPLE FORM, and see how it looked opened without a single officer being mentioned as present. Even young Colorado had to take only one look at that sort of opening to get enough of it. Our hoosier brethren are a mighty good hearted set of fellows, but they are full of practical jokes, you know.

"Having now got the Grand Lodge split open, we will see what they did."

He holds that when one town is annexed to another town, the lodges in both acquire concurrent jurisdiction throughout the new town. A change in the civil law does, therefore, in his view, affect masonic jurisdiction in some cases: a doctrine he vehemently denied in the discussion of the Quebec question.

Referring to Bro. MORRIS's lodge at Jerusalem, he says he did not write Bro. MORRIS about it, but "told him personally what we thought about that kind of a circus."

He also discusses the right of visitors to see the charter. He says that not one visitor in ten thousand has any doubt as to the legality of the lodge he is about to visit, and the charter is usually called for by those only who want to show that they are smart. We protest against this: no stranger has any right to be without "any doubt" as to whether it is a regular lodge, or indeed a lodge at all. His suggestion that a visitor who examines a charter can tell nothing as to its genuineness, places too low an estimate upon their intelligence: the seal of the Grand Lodge is affixed for the very purpose of showing its genuineness. He says further:

"No, from personal observation of years we are satisfied that the great bulk of such visitors call for the charter just to show how smart and important they are; and the way we get around such fellows is simply this: we ask him if he came here to visit a masonic lodge, and he says yes, and he wants to see the charter—we merely say that we are using it as a part of the lodge and if he wants to see it he must prove himself worthy to go in and look at it in its proper place, and if he is able to get in and does not find the charter there, then he can retire without having held masonic communication with a clandestine lodge. As a general thing such 'smart Alexs' come to the conclusion that it is a masonic lodge they are trying to visit, and as it is a rule to be examined, they had better stand the test and go through in the good old way. However, on two occasions we had visitors who said they had heard that there were clandestine lodges in the city, and that they knew the signature and seal of our Grand Lodge, and would be better satisfied to see our warrant. Now there was some sense and reason in such a request, and it was granted, the lodge suspending work for a moment. But for a person who does not know one charter from another to demand it, like a grand Tycoon, it is simply ridiculous."

This looks to us as if the attempted smartness was on the other side: and the just reply would be "you act so much like the manner in which I suppose a clandestine mason would act, that I will not run the risk of imparting any genuine masonry to you."

But we quoted this mainly to repudiate the ridiculous idea that the lodge must stop work while the charter is shown to the visitor: there is no masonic law that we know of that makes one particular apartment the only place where the charter can be when the lodge is at work. The charter may be in the hands of the committee in another apartment, and be in the possession of the Master and lodge as fully as if the Master holds it in his hand. There may be some peculiar provision in the local law of Missouri which requires so literal a construction: but there is none in Maine. And we repeat that a visitor should not be obliged to ask to see the charter, but the first thing done by the Committee of Examination should be to exhibit the charter to him.

The following so exactly expresses our own views upon a matter concerning which we have very decided opinions, that we wonder how it escaped our notice last year:

"Oregon is one of the few, if not the only State, which comes up to our notion of an 'educational fund.' She did not get in debt by trying to build

masonic colleges, etc., but she paid for the tuition of her orphans in the neighborhood where they lived and could be best taken care of, and at one-third the expense, and hence to three times as many children as by the special college system. The result has proven the wisdom of her course."

He desires "Foreign Correspondents" to answer the following questions:

"1st. IS IT THE USAGE IN YOUR JURISDICTION FOR YOUR SUBORDINATE LODGES TO PAY THE BURIAL EXPENSES OF THEIR ABSENT MEMBERS?"

"2d. IS IT THE USAGE OF YOUR SUBORDINATE LODGES TO SEND BILLS FOR BURIAL EXPENSES OF SOJOURNING AFFILIATED MASONS, WHEN BURIED BY THEM?"

To both of which the answer is, NO, so far as Maine is concerned.

He thinks we were in error in ascribing to the SPIGHT case an importance of a merely *local* character, "for it involved the introduction into general jurisprudence of a new feature entirely antagonistic to settled rules of lodge membership." We did understand, and do now, that the new features were defended on the local law. We were, perhaps, misled by the fact that none of the new features can be applied in Maine.

In his review of Maine, he gives the names of several of our lodges, saying, "we presume it's all right if the Worshipful Master's jaws have been weaned on chewing goat's muscles." Why, BRO. GOULEY, those musical Indian names are mouthed as much more readily than the names of many of your Missouri lodges, as a liquid than a guttural!

He says that we misapprehended his remarks last year, in reference to a Grand Lodge's deciding a case finally, on appeal, or sending it back for a new trial; and he admits that the Grand Lodge may reverse an acquittal and decide the case finally, but thinks that when one member appeals against the action of two-thirds, the Grand Lodge should do no more than affirm the decision, or send the case back for a new trial. The power and right of deciding the case finally, on the appeal, being admitted, we have no objection to leaving the policy of which course to take to be determined by the circumstances in each case; the *number* of appellants, however, is a slight circumstance, for one appeals in behalf of all; but in many cases the unanimity of the vote of the lodge would deserve serious consideration.

He says further:

"Under the same head, we for the first time learn the reason why he some years ago argued against our law, which makes the verdict of a lodge final until reversed by the Grand Lodge, and which does not allow an appeal to the Grand Lodge to vacate the judgment of the lodge."

* * * * *

"From the peculiar structure of his Constitution, which *suspends* the convicted party during pendency of appeal, we see but little difference in the result as between the two States. We did not so understand this *suspension in abeyance* by any of his previous arguments."

And yet we stated our law every time: our ground was and is, that, in masonic law as in our courts, in the absence of express statute provision, an appeal vacates the judgment appealed from; and that in consequence our Constitution expressly provides that in case of appeal from expulsion or in-

definite suspension, the accused stands *suspended* until the appeal is decided: in other cases the appeal vacates the judgment, so that we do not allow a penalty inflicted first and a trial afterwards. What do you do in Missouri, Bro. GOULEY, in case a mason is sentenced to be reprimanded, and is reprimanded, appeals, is granted a new trial, and again found guilty? Do you sentence him over again? Or do you in effect declare, that having been punished before he was tried, further punishment is dispensed with?

In his review of Delaware, he refers to the custom prevalent there (and to which we have already referred), of calling a Past Master to preside in the absence of the Master, and he says "but whence it came, or how it got started, no one knew," &c.: this has prompted us to examine in order to ascertain.

We find that it is given in Anderson's Constitutions, the first edition, as the law then and previously existing. In 1723, the Grand Lodge adopted the present system (that the Senior Warden succeeds to the chair) by a "New Regulation," which, however, was not recorded, through neglect, and was not published till 1738, in the second edition of the Constitutions. But in the mean time, BENJ. FRANKLIN had re-published in America the first edition, which was followed in Massachusetts, and from which the old custom there and in Maine first arose. But when DERMOTT came to publish his "Ahiman Rezon," he of course copied the New Regulation which had been observed about twenty years. The lodges in America which used ANDERSON practiced according to the "Old Regulation," and those which used DERMOTT followed the "New Regulation."

Bro. GOULEY holds that it is a landmark that one must serve as a Warden before he can be Master: our Grand Lodge has otherwise decided, under the lead of Bros. BRADFORD and JOHN J. BELL; and we must be reckoned, therefore, among the heterodox, against whom he inveighs.

He criticises severely the proposed action of Grand Master LATROBE, of Maryland, in "dispensing with" a law of his Grand Lodge: denies that Grand Masters ever had such powers; and calls for the production of any "old regulation," giving it to him. Our own views are that a Grand Master should never attempt to set aside the positive law of his Grand Lodge; but we are forced to admit that in the olden time the Grand Master did possess that power. Of course this power was not given to him by any regulation, as if it was, it could be taken away by another: so Bro. GOULEY is very safe in calling for such a regulation, so far as his argument can be affected by the failure to produce one. If one *could be produced* it would be fatal to the argument, not of Bro. GOULEY, but of his opponents.

This prerogative must antedate the regulations, and not depend upon them, or it cannot exist or have existed. Let it be remembered that during the seventeenth century it was law in England that the sovereign had the power to dispense with any law in particular cases: it was held that this was a pre-

rogative inherent in the crown, which could not be taken away. To be sure, James II. lost his crown in 1689, in consequence of pushing this prerogative beyond bounds, and using it for purposes that were deemed dangerous to the public. Still the existence of the prerogative was fully admitted. The popular idea invested sovereigns with this prerogative. Naturally, the same idea would prevail as to the Grand Master of Masons, an office which existed before the Grand Lodge system was adopted.

Accordingly, in the first edition of Anderson's Constitutions, we find this power of the Grand Master recognized as an existing prerogative. *The power of giving dispensations is not granted to him*; but is recognized as existing in him. In regulations four and five, are prohibitions, "unless by a dispensation from the Grand Master, or his Deputy:" in number six it is declared, "Nor is this inherent privilege subject to a dispensation," the only instance in which the power is denied, and the very denial shows that it would exist in that case if not denied: for if it existed only when granted expressly, or by implication, there was no need of a denial.

In the second edition of the Constitutions, the Regulations are given sometimes in language different from that in the first, and the doctrine of dispensations is still more clearly recognized. Even in one of the "Old Charges" is it recognized: "No Brother can be Master of a lodge till he has acted as Warden," &c.: but in the forming of a new lodge, which was done by a dispensation from the Grand Master, "these Master Masons, though never Masters or Wardens of lodges before, may be constituted Master and Wardens of that new lodge": in the first edition this exception is not given.

Remembering that the Regulations were not a code enacted at that time, but a compilation of the usages of the craft, there is no escape from the conclusion that the power of dispensation recognized now in Rhode Island and Maryland actually existed.* It was recognized in the old Regulations, and has been since by every writer, and it is too late to deny it. It is true that the oath of office of the Grand Master is to support and maintain the Constitution of his own Grand Lodge: but it is also to maintain all masonic usages: and in most Constitutions, among the enumerated powers of the Grand Master, is the one "to do all other acts that are warranted and required of him by the regulations and ancient customs of the fraternity." His power to control proceedings in the Grand Lodge is a similar prerogative.

He holds that the "previous question" is out of place in the Grand Lodge, as the Grand Master has the prerogative of closing the debate; that for the same reason, a motion to close the Grand Lodge at a particular time is out of order; that a person who cannot read and write should not be made a mason; that it is the right and duty of the Grand Master in vacation to construe the law, and if the case is of any importance, he should report it to the Grand Lodge that it might determine (as we understand him) if the decision shall be held to be a correct rule for the future; that a member of a lodge cannot be

deprived of the right of voting, or any other right save by trial; that *expulsion* for non-payment of dues is a "boomerang which hurts more of those who fire it than those fired at"; that objection after ballot is precisely the same as rejection by ballot; that Utah needs to have her knuckles gently rapped for speaking slightly of the "Ancient Regulations"; and that Past Masters are amenable to their lodge precisely like any other member; and takes exception to the inviting by the Grand Lodge of Iowa of the Grand Master of Odd Fellows to a seat in the East among the Past Grand Masters: in all of which we concur.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Nineteen lodges represented: one dispensation granted: the Grand Lodges of Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Wyoming recognized: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (JOHN V. ELLIS) alludes to the installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of Masons in England; to the dedication of masonic apartments in Rome; and to the dedication of the New York Masonic Temple, in congratulatory terms. He was not able to be present at the latter, as he was at Charlottetown assisting in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward's Island. He reports that the condition of the craft is satisfactory, with a healthy addition in numbers. He urges the Grand Lodge to take practical steps to create a charity fund.

The following from his address is of special interest to us:

"Permission has been given to two persons, residents of the Island of Grand Menan, to apply for admission in the Eastern Lodge of Eastport, Maine, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and the Grand Secretary has notified that lodge of this fact. The nearest lodge in our jurisdiction to the residence of these persons is that at St. Andrews, a place which they rarely visit, whilst it is much more convenient and easy for them to go to Eastport, with which place indeed they are in constant communication. The ground upon which I granted the application is the general one that it is better for a man to be made a mason in a lodge where he is likely to become an active member, and perhaps a useful, working mason, than in a lodge which he may rarely or never visit after he has received the degrees. As, however, I have recently received another application from three gentlemen residing at Forest City for permission to join another lodge in the State of Maine—upon which I have not yet acted—I deem it advisable to bring this matter before you for your consideration.

"A complaint was received from Alley Lodge, No. 14, to the effect that Lewy's Island Lodge of Princeton, Maine, had refused to examine or receive in any way as a visitor, Brother———, of that lodge. It did not appear, however, that Lewy's Island Lodge declined to receive as visitors all of the members of Alley Lodge. The objection appears to have been made simply to an individual Brother, and, recognizing as I do the right of a lodge to refuse admission to a visitor who may be objectionable, I did not deem it advisable to interfere. Of course, it is our duty to secure for our subordinate lodges, from the masonic powers with which we are in amity, every right to which they are entitled. Whilst it is sometimes difficult to prevent differences among lodges of different jurisdictions whose territory is contiguous, I am glad to be in a position to state that our relations with the Grand Lodge of Maine are of the most satisfactory kind, and that we can rely on its best

efforts in aid of our own to promote peace and harmony among our Brethren on the border."

With a mutual state of feelings, as described in the last sentence, the relations of the two Grand Bodies must ever be of the most fraternal character.

The Constitution was revised and a new edition ordered to be issued.

We are very happy to find that our neighbor on the east is enjoying such a high degree of prosperity, attributable largely to the ability and faithfulness with which her affairs have been administered.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1875.

A Semi-annual Communication, with a large representation of the lodges, was held in Manchester for the exemplification of the work.

At the Annual Communication fifty-six lodges represented: two charters granted: all the District Deputies made full reports: the usual routine business transacted.

The Grand Master (NATH. W. CUMNER) announces the death of four permanent members of the Grand Lodge, who were indeed veteran masons. JESSE CARR, a mason for *sixty-five* years; HORACE CHASE and HARRISON G. HARRIS, masons for *sixty* years; and WILLIAM P. RIDDLE, a mason for *over fifty* years.

He had decided that a man, removing from the jurisdiction of one lodge into that of another, cannot apply to any lodge; not to the former, because he does not live in its jurisdiction, and not to the latter, because he has not lived long enough in its jurisdiction; an undoubtedly correct decision, and equally applicable in Maine.

He had one curious case: the usual hour for the meeting of a lodge was fixed at seven: at that time the Master came to the hall and said to a few members whom he found there, that if there was no objection, he would not open the lodge till after the close of a meeting at the Town Hall: hearing no objection, he left: soon after the Senior Warden arrived, with other Brethren, opened the lodge, did the business, closed and went home: after the close of the meeting at the Town Hall, the Master, with several other members, went to the hall, opened the lodge, did the business, closed and went home, in their turn: it was held that the first meeting was the valid one.

We are glad to perceive that the Grand Lodge Library, under the efficient care of Bro. JOHN A. HARRIS, Grand Secretary, is rapidly increasing: it is already a large and valuable collection, embracing many rare works, and especially old Proceedings.

Bro. NATHAN P. HUNT presented the Report on Correspondence (109 pages), an excellent abstract of the Proceedings reviewed, with few comments.

He objects to the Kentucky regulation, authorizing lodges to tax non-affiliates at their discretion for charitable purposes, and upon neglect or refusal to pay, to suspend them from the privileges of masonry; holds that a

mason under charges has the right to join a procession, on the ground that he is presumed to be innocent until convicted; [this is correct in our view, but we should wish that every Brother would have regard enough for masonry not to avail himself of this right, under such circumstances]; thinks that the decision of the *SPRIGHT* case, in 1874, was wrong and against the principles of masonic "law and justice;" believes that the expenses of a lodge should be met by annual dues, without depending on fees of candidates; and thinks it is the best way to let non-affiliates alone, as they cannot be forced into the lodge, and if they can be, they would be useless members.

NEW JERSEY, 1876.

We are indebted to Bro. *HOUGH*, Grand Secretary, for advance sheets.

One hundred and thirty-three lodges represented: at the opening an ode sung to music "composed expressly for the occasion": the Grand Master and a Past Grand Master, of New York, and the Governor of the State received with appropriate honors and seated in the Grand East: receipts in excess of disbursements, so that \$2,500 was invested: \$1,111.75 contributed by the lodges and sent to Kansas through the Grand Secretary: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Indian Territory, Manitoba, Prince Edward's Island and Wyoming recognized: a steel engraving of *DANIEL COX* procured, and is to embellish the Proceedings, we presume: two charters granted: \$2,500 in addition, ordered to be invested, making the fund \$10,000: action in relation to the Washington Monument decided to be impolitic, as more properly within the province of the subordinate lodges: a committee appointed to collate the Constitutions, By-Laws and General Regulations, Code of Trial and Digest of Decisions, to be published by the Grand Secretary: a Past Grand Master's Jewel ordered for the retiring Grand Master.

The Grand Master (*WILLIAM A. PEMBROOK*) congratulates the craft on the growth of the Institution during the *eighty-nine* years since the organization of the Grand Lodge; and gives a full account of his official action with several decisions, and concludes with some eloquent and valuable remarks in relation to *masonic work*. He says a Master should be a good man, commanding the respect of the Brethren and of the community; possessed of sufficient intelligence to enable him to *comprehend* the ritual as well as to *acquire* it; firm and decided in presiding, but always courteous; and in his deportment should combine dignity with affability and ease.

Among his decisions are the following:

When any committee fail to report within a reasonable time, such committee should be discharged and a new one appointed.

A lodge has a right to enact a by-law, excluding all but its members from the lodge during the election of officers.

An elected candidate moved to Massachusetts, and a lodge there, by request of the New Jersey lodge, conferred the degrees upon him, and he signed the

by-laws; afterwards he signed the by-laws of the New Jersey lodge; the Grand Master decided that he was a member of the latter and not of the former, and the Grand Lodge sustained the decision.

The Report of the "Grand Instructor" shows that good results have followed his efforts to secure uniformity of work.

The Grand Visitor of the German Lodges (of which there are ten) reported that they are not up to the Ritual of the Grand Lodge, each one having a work of their own, and no two working alike; but he found that the officers were willing and even anxious to become proficient.

A last year's decision of the Grand Master was reversed—that one lodge cannot surrender jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice, to another lodge. The law in this jurisdiction, and we believe in most others, is in accordance with the decision of the Grand Master.

A Past Grand Master's Jewel was presented to P. G. M. DANIEL BRUEN, a mason of almost sixty years' service—one who stood by the Institution in the dark days. He read an address to the Grand Lodge, in which he gives some interesting reminiscences. In 1837, at the hour of opening the Grand Lodge, but two representatives were present, but after a little delay a third arrived, and the Grand Lodge was opened. Bro. BRUEN was then elected S. G. Warden, and was an officer until 1845, when the storm had passed over and masonry began to revive and enter upon its subsequent career of prosperity. He has lived to see his faith and works rewarded in the success of the Institution to which he was so devotedly attached.

BRO. MARSHALL B. SMITH (now Grand Master) presented the Report on Correspondence (70 pages). He "endeavored to study brevity as much as possible," and as a consequence, he gives a condensed abstract of such matters as he deemed of special importance. He thinks motions to "lay on the table," and for "the previous question," are unmasonic, and should not be allowed in Masonic Bodies. We have elsewhere discussed this matter, but it now occurs to us that the Grand Master may be willing or even desire to consult the wishes of the Grand Lodge as to whether a matter shall be further discussed, and thus allow these motions to be acted upon: the only danger is that, in time, by the mere force of usage, the practice will become law.

We were surprised the other day, to see in a masonic magazine, that the neighbors and friends of Bro. HUGH had come to the conclusion that he needed to be *watched*. But when we came to read the whole account, we were ready to say, "Served him right," and were not at all surprised, though Bro. HUGH evidently *was*. The "whole account" was that his brethren in Trenton, inveigled him into a room at the Trenton House, and, as a token of their respect and esteem, presented him with a valuable *watch*. It was a well deserved tribute to the worth of next to the oldest Grand Secretary, a mason always true to his profession, and one of the most modest and unassuming of men.

NEW YORK, 1875.

Six hundred and sixty-two lodges represented: eight charters granted: the Grand Lodge of Wyoming recognized: a resolution to abolish affiliation fees, laid on the table: a pitcher, said to be two hundred years old, embellished with masonic emblems, presented to the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master (ELWOOD E. THORNE) congratulates the Grand Lodge upon the completion of the Temple, and urges that measures be at once taken to pay the debt incurred, so that all the revenue from it may be devoted to an Asylum. He announces the death of Past Grand Master JOHN H. ASHROB and other members of the Grand Lodge; gives a statement of his official acts, and a list of his decisions.

But the great event of the session was the dedication of the new Masonic Temple on the second day. The Temple has cost about \$1,300,000: its debt is about \$550,000: the gross income from rents is about \$50,000 per annum: the construction being completed, it was determined to dedicate the Temple during the session of the Grand Lodge. Invitations were extended to all the jurisdictions, and over one hundred officers of other Grand Lodges were present. The procession was composed of twenty-six divisions: nearly six thousand Templars were in the ranks, and nearly eighteen thousand other Master Masons formed the escort of the Grand Lodge: in one division were members of the Supreme Council, the Grand Council of New York, the Grand Chapter of New York, and aged or infirm brethren, all in carriages, and numbering three hundred: the head of the column started at nine and reached the Temple at twelve, and the procession was three hours passing. At the Temple elaborate dedication services were performed, and an oration delivered by Past Grand Master JOHN L. LEWIS. In the evening followed a Masonic Banquet, at which the intellectual portion even surpassed the rest of the feast.

All previous decisions having been repealed by the Code, the Grand Master was called upon to make a very large number, most of which depended upon the Code. Several of them were modified upon the report of the committee, which also reported adversely to four of them: but the Grand Lodge approved the decisions. As one of them was that an officer may be installed by proxy, we conclude that the great business of the session was the Dedication, and decisions were held to be of little consequence.

BRO. JOHN W. SIMONS presented the Report on Correspondence (104 pages), in which he reviews the Proceedings of forty American Grand Lodges and eight foreign Grand Bodies. He excepts to the decision that a Grand Master can allow a re-ballot in case of rejection, on the ground that the black balls were cast by mistake, holding that the ballot must be absolutely secret: he holds that one's masonic word should not be lightly pledged, but if it is, and is violated, the one offending should be signally rebuked by adequate punishment: he believes in requiring masons to be affiliated, holding that those who pay nothing and do nothing should not stand on the same level with those

who contribute their money, time, talents and zeal for the Institution: he holds that it is not wrong to open our lodge rooms occasionally to our friends who are not masons, but that the discussion of our principles on such occasions does much good, and he speaks from considerable experience in this respect: he explains that under their new Constitution an appeal may be taken in vacation to the Grand Master, whose decision stands until the meeting of the Grand Lodge, and always, unless there is an appeal from it: he strenuously objects to requiring a mason to affiliate with the nearest lodge, as an innovation, and holds that refusing to admit a mason to membership in a lodge in no wise affects his standing or the right to apply elsewhere: he holds that when Constitutions came into vogue, they did so with the consent of Grand Masters, and, therefore, they are bound by them as well as the rest of us; but he does not say what effect he would give to the clause in many of them, that the Grand Master may "do all other acts and deeds that are warranted and required of him by the regulations and ancient customs of the fraternity": he dissents from the doctrine that an unfavorable report of an Investigating Committee is equivalent to a rejection by ballot, holding that a ballot is the only means by which a lodge can express its willingness or unwillingness to accept a candidate: and he approves the refusal of the Grand Lodge of Utah to heal a mason hailing from the Grand Orient of France, saying that such a one is, to us, a profane, and no more.

In his review of Maine (1874) he says the Grand Treasurer's report is one of the most entertaining documents of the series, saying that "his pursuit of dividends and legacies amounts to the very poetry of devotion."

He excepts to our granting a charter without the consent of the nearest lodge, apparently supposing that we overstepped our Constitution. But that provides that a charter may be granted without such consent, *provided it is unreasonably withheld*. This has always been the provision of our Grand Lodge Constitution, and was that of Massachusetts, when the consent of the nearest lodge was first required—and that was since 1800. Will Bro. SIMONS tell us when the practice of asking the consent of the nearest lodge originated?

He thinks "the wholesome discipline of the craft was entirely set aside" also in "passing by" a case in which a rejected candidate was made in another lodge without its consent. Bro. S. is in error; no such case was passed by; in one the offender was expelled, and the lodge visited with the "severest censure" of the Grand Lodge. Another case, in which the rejected candidate was made in a lodge *out of the State*, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and *that case* was acted upon last year.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1875.

One hundred and sixty-six lodges represented: eight charters granted and one dispensation continued: a Masonic Code, compiled by the Grand Secretary, approved: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (GEORGE W. BLOUNT) notices the death of three members of the Grand Lodge: gives his more important decisions (most of which depend on local-law), saying many of the questions had their solution in the uniform code of By-Laws, many more in the Constitution and General Regulations, and many others in previous decisions: he says that the return to the "ancient work" (the STEVENSON work) has been favorably received, and now there is hope for uniformity throughout the State; and he makes some interesting and valuable suggestions how to make lodge meetings interesting, and secure a good attendance; he had found the lodges alarmingly loose in matters of discipline, and disposed to wink at the short-comings of their members; he commends the code compiled by Bro. D. W. BAIN, the "Masonic Journal" and the "Orphans' Friend" to the craft; he makes a most eloquent appeal in behalf of the "Orphan Asylums," and congratulates the craft upon the public interest aroused in their behalf; and he notices with gratitude, the act of the Governor in calling attention to them in his Thanksgiving Proclamation, as worthy of the thank-offerings of the various congregations of the State, and he returns thanks for the liberality with which response was made.

The Grand Secretary makes some excellent suggestions for the administration of the affairs of the Grand Lodge: reports the continued increase of the library: and says his labor in compiling the code, was a work of love, in saying that the proceeds, after paying cost of printing and distribution, will go into the treasury of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge has under its care two Orphan Asylums, one at Oxford, and one at Mars Hill—the latter recently started. The disbursements of the former were \$12,540 for the year; number in attendance at beginning of year, 132; number admitted, 50; number discharged, &c., 77; number at end of year, 105; but ten had been transferred to Mars Hill, and those to come in, in place of those discharged, had not yet come in.

The means of supporting these Asylums are received largely through contributions secured by committees of subordinate lodges. A paper called "The Orphans' Friend," had bought its own outfit, paid its way, besides doing active service for the orphan work. Other institutions having proposed to receive and educate gratuitously (except clothing and books) a limited number of the most advanced and intelligent, the propositions were accepted and provision made for supporting at such institutions four each year. Efforts were to be made also to secure donations for a permanent fund. The committee give to the Superintendent, Bro. J. H. MILLS, the credit, in a great measure, of the success of this enterprise. He intended to be released from further service, but we are glad to see that he was persuaded to remain. This is a

grand work, and we believe it will fully succeed, thereby relieving an immense amount of suffering of the worst kind, and doing an amount of good that in this world cannot be estimated.

A memorial was presented, to the effect that an American citizen, while residing in France, had been made a mason, taken his dimit, and was desirous of joining a lodge; the lodge was authorized to receive and act upon his petition with a view to healing, in event of a favorable ballot. As we understand that the ballot was to be unanimous, and after the same proceedings as in case of a profane, we think the course taken was the proper one.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1875.

Four Emergent Communications were held with reference to erecting a new Masonic Hall, the old one having become dilapidated. It was finally determined to sell a part of the lot owned by the Grand Lodge, and erect a hall sixty feet square upon the remainder.

At the Annual Communication forty-two lodges were represented: one charter granted and four dispensations continued: reports of District Deputies very full, showing that active and faithful officers will do much in securing prosperity in their Districts: the work exemplified; and greetings exchanged with the Grand Lodge of New York, in session at the same time.

The Grand Master, by the advice of the other officers and many members of the Grand Lodge, went to New York to attend the Dedication, and sent in his address, which is a brief statement of his official acts and a few decisions. He had refused a lodge permission to have a public installation, but upon what grounds he does not state.

The Deputy Grand Master had visited a large number of the lodges, and his report shows a high degree of prosperity among them and a very general knowledge of masonic law among the officers.

The efficient Grand Secretary, Dr. BENJAMIN CURREN, made a full report of the transactions of his office, and the Committee on Grand Lodge Library give a list of volumes bound during the year, of the Proceedings received and of those wanted to complete files.

It appearing that a lodge had been in the habit of issuing "traveling certificates," it was prohibited from doing so in the future.

The Report on Correspondence (121 pp.) was presented by Bro. ALLEN H. CROWE, Deputy Grand Master, who takes the place of Bro. SMITHERS, removed from the jurisdiction. It is a very full abstract, with well-selected quotations and but few comments.

He criticises the Colorado and Minnesota method of opening the Grand Lodge—"prying it open," as Bro. GOULEY says, with an improvised Masters' Lodge for a lever and fulcrum. He thinks that the decision that a person with but one eye is ineligible, is carrying the point a little too far; and that

BRO. CHAPMAN'S (of Iowa) theory, that we have too much masonic jurisprudence, is not carried out in his practice, as he made some thirty decisions and called out from BRO. PARVIN a carefully prepared disquisition of ten pages, which is supplemented by a report of seven pages upon the same subject; he objects to giving masonic signs, &c., out of the lodge, unless in case of real distress; holds that it is not safe to allow unaffiliated masons to become members of a lodge *U. D.*; wants some one to suggest a plan by which Representatives near other Grand Lodges may be made useful.

In speaking of the resignation of the Grand Master of England because he had become a Catholic, he suggests a greater significance to the acceptance of the office by the Prince of Wales than had occurred to us. He says that "the noble example of the Prince of Wales in stepping forward and accepting the sceptre that had fallen from the hands of our weak brother—and at a time when the arch-enemy of the craft was gloating over the fancied blow—is the grandest masonic event of the nineteenth century." We join with all our heart with BRO. CROWE in his "Long live Albert Edward."

He objects to granting charters for lodges to be composed exclusively of colored men, as masonry recognizes no such distinction, and the ballot-box will be better guarded if not left to any particular class.

He defends a regulation of his Grand Lodge, allowing lodges to return as "missing" any member whose address is not known for three successive years, on the ground that theirs is a maritime jurisdiction, and many of their craftsmen, who "earn their bread upon the great deep," leave them in good standing, never to return.

His comments make us regret that he deemed it his province to refrain as much as possible from making them.

OHIO, 1875.

Four hundred and thirty-five lodges represented: the Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and "Dacota" recognized: fifteen charters granted and three dispensations continued: \$1,000 contributed for the Washington Monument; a Special Communication ordered on June 24, 1876, to celebrate the centennial of American Union Lodge, No. 1.

The Grand Master (ASA H. BATTIN) advises the Grand Lodge to repeal the provision of the Constitution authorizing the Grand Master to make masons at sight, and submits an able argument in support of his position. He had been urged three times during the year to exercise this power, but in each instance he had promptly declined.

Last year the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution that

"It is unmasonic for any lodge of masons to attend the funeral of a brother, when the same is not under the control of and conducted by a lodge of Master Masons."

The Grand Master says that the Grand Commander of Templars held that

by this action, and the definition of the words "masonry" and "masonic" by the Grand Lodge, the Chapters, Councils and Commanderies were excluded from the term "Masonic Bodies," and he had refused to allow the Templars to unite on any occasions with lodges. Indeed, taking these resolutions with others, these bodies were actually excluded from occupying the halls, which, in many instances, they owned jointly with the lodge. The Grand Master sensibly argues that these bodies having been so long recognized as masonic, the words "mason" and "masonic," as names of identity, should not be limited to the lodge degrees. "One extreme usually follows another." We can remember when it was deemed quite "the thing" for a brother to appear in his lodge clothed in the insignia of the "highest degree" to which he had attained—and this was deemed a compliment to the lodge.

The Grand Lodge rescinded the former resolutions and adopted the following:

"That no lodge under this jurisdiction shall participate in the funeral of a Brother unless the same be under the exclusive control of a lodge of Master Masons, or one of the masonic organizations which recognize the degrees of E. A., F. C. and M. M., and make the possession of said degree a pre-requisite to admission into such organizations, and that, when more than one masonic organization attends the funeral of a deceased Brother, but one funeral service shall be performed, but that in case the funeral be under the control of the Knights Templar, and their funeral service be performed, nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the Master Masons present from depositing in the grave the emblem of immortality and explaining its significance according to our ritual."

The Grand Master had found a shrinking, on the part of Masters, from presiding at masonic trials; and he had had many applications to preside himself in such cases, and had frequently done so with good effect, and many appeals to Grand Lodge had thus been prevented. We have noticed the same thing, and it would be advantageous to the craft to have the Grand Master or District Deputy preside in all cases in which the trial creates interest in advance in the lodge.

A member of a lodge had been convicted of a felony and sent to the penitentiary, and the question came up as to the effect of such conviction in the lodge, and considerable excitement ensued, some holding that upon the production of the record, the lodge should declare him expelled, but the Grand Master held otherwise, and the Grand Lodge sustained him and adopted the following:

"That, on the trial of a Brother on charges of unmasonic conduct, the production of the record of his conviction in a court of criminal jurisdiction of a violation of the civil law, involving a masonic offense, is *prima facie* evidence of his guilt, which, unexplained, is sufficient to warrant conviction, but, like other mere *prima facie* evidence, may be explained by any competent testimony."

This agrees with the rule adopted in this State, and in fact in many other Grand Lodges.

The following was also adopted:

"The jurisdiction of Subordinate Lodges is determined by the enactments of the Grand Lodge, and while the Subordinate Lodge may, under the powers conferred by the Grand Lodge, surrender its jurisdiction over an individual, a subordinate has no power by agreement or otherwise to alter or change, without the consent of the Grand Lodge, its territorial jurisdiction. A subordinate may enter into an agreement with a sister lodge, altering their jurisdiction as affecting the mutual rights of the lodges so consenting, but no such agreement is binding until reported to and approved by this Grand Lodge."

We regard this as wise, but under our Constitution such agreements would not be valid, even when sanctioned by the Grand Lodge.

During the session, a dispatch of condolence was sent to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, then engaged in paying the last tribute to the memory of Bro. McCORKLE, which was gratefully acknowledged.

But the subject of the greatest interest, and one which has since caused a great excitement in the masonic world, was the action in relation to the proposed recognition of the "Colored Grand Lodge of Ohio."

The Grand Master called attention in his address to the subject, devoting two pages to it. The gist of his argument is, that the question ought to be met, and if those interested *are* masons, they should be recognized as such, and if they are *not* masons the fact should be fully established and declared. He, however, goes farther, and holds that if they are in possession of the same secrets with us, if the principles and objects of their organization are identical with ours, and if they originally derived their authority from a legal source, but there is illegality in their organization, it should be healed, as has been done in similar cases. He also refers to the action of the German Grand Lodges in recognizing them, and suggests that the centennial year is a fitting time to illustrate the charity and liberality which characterizes all masons, and to "extend the fraternal hand of fellowship to our Brethren of every nation, clime, race and kindred under heaven."

A memorial was also presented from Hanselmann (German) Lodge in Cincinnati, urging very powerfully the same views.

Also Bro. JOHN D. CALDWELL, from the Committee on Foreign Communications, submitted a long report of a *quasi* historical character, bearing upon the same question.

All the documents were referred to a Special Committee, who unanimously submitted the following report:

"Your committee to whom was referred so much of the annual address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and accompanying documents, as relates to the so-called Colored Lodges, and more especially the Colored Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio, have given the subject careful consideration, and respectfully submit the following:

"We do not propose, nor do we deem it necessary at this time, to enter into the history of the origin of so-called Colored Freemasonry in this country. That subject has been fully discussed in nearly all the Grand Lodges and masonic periodicals of this country, for more than twenty-five years past.

"Your committee deem it sufficient to say that *they* are satisfied *beyond all question* that Colored Freemasonry had a legitimate beginning in this country, as much so as any other Freemasonry; in fact, it came from *the same source*.

"Your committee will not attempt, at this time, to investigate as to the

transmission of this legitimate beginning down to the present time, when we find more than forty Subordinate Lodges and a Grand Lodge of so-called Colored Freemasons, and an aggregate of more than eight hundred members in the State of Ohio. Your committee have only to say that such is the fact.

"Your committee have the most satisfactory and conclusive evidence that these Colored Freemasons practice the very same rites and ceremonies, and have substantially the same esoteric or secret modes of recognition as are practiced by ourselves and by the universal family of Freemasons throughout the world.

"The question of the recognition of these Colored Freemasons has long been before this Grand Body, and your committee feel that its importance is pressing upon us, and demanding prompt, serious, and decided action.

"Your committee, therefore, offer for adoption the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, By the 'Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio,' that this Grand Body will recognize the so-called Grand Lodge of Colored Freemasons of the State of Ohio as a legitimate and independent Grand Lodge, on condition that the so-called Colored Grand Lodge shall change its constitutional title, so that it shall read as follows: '*The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.*' And if the said so-called Colored Grand Lodge shall accept this recognition and make the suggested change in its constitutional title, then, and in that case, upon said action being reported to the M. W. Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, under the seal of said body, then the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorized and instructed to issue his proclamation to the subordinates to this Grand Lodge and to the Grand Lodges throughout the world with which we are in fraternal correspondence, recognizing the said so-called Colored Grand Lodge as an Independent Grand Lodge in the State of Ohio, under the title of '*The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.*'

"Respectfully submitted,

L. V. BIERCE,
E. T. CARSON,
F. WILLMER,
C. A. WOODWARD.
L. H. PIKE."

And thereupon,

"After discussing thereon, Brother Lewis H. Williams, W. M. Russellville Lodge, No. 166, now R. W. Grand Junior Warden, moved that final action on the subject matter of the Colored Grand Lodge, as above, be deferred until the next Annual Communication, which was agreed to.

"On motion, the Grand Secretary was directed to embody, in printed circular or pamphlet, the address of the M. W. Grand Master on the Colored Grand Lodge, including the memorial formerly presented to this Grand Lodge of said Colored Grand Lodge, the report of special committee just read, with the memorial of W. M. of Hanselmann Lodge, on said subject, and the report of the Committee on Foreign Communications, which had been referred to said special committee, and distribute the same to subordinates and Grand Lodges."

Accordingly all these documents are issued in a pamphlet, entitled "New Day—New Duty:" Bro. CALDWELL advocates recognition with his usual enthusiasm.

We shall not, at this point, devote space to the discussion of this question, because we hope and intend, before closing this report, to discuss it under a special head.

We will only say that, in our judgment, the proposed action of Ohio is utterly inadmissible; because,

1. IT ANNIHILATES THE DOCTRINE OF EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION.

2. IT INTRODUCES INTO MASONRY, FOR THE FIRST TIME, A DISTINCTION FOUNDED ON RACE.

We regret exceedingly to perceive that some good Brethren seem to have "lost their head," in consequence of the discussion of this question, and have become unduly excited over it. We even see it stated in the masonic prints, that the members of one Grand Lodge are seriously proposing to place it "under the protection" of the Supreme Council of the A. A. Rite. It may be that we are to have a masonic "irrepressible conflict" upon this question: but we have an abiding faith, that however the foolishness and passions of men will contrive to destroy masonry, God will overrule all things for good and bring the Institution out of all its troubles, based upon a firmer foundation, and more powerful than ever before, to enlighten and elevate mankind. But with this faith, we do not propose to be diverted by enthusiasm on the one hand, or fear and prejudice on the other, from pursuing such course as it shall be given us to see that justice and the welfare of masonry require.

OREGON, 1875.

Fifty lodges represented: four charters granted, and one dispensation continued: one charter restored: a "funeral service" adopted and published with the Proceedings: the work exemplified: arrangements made for the re-union with the Grand Lodges of Idaho and Washington: the Grand Lodges of the Indian Territory, Wyoming, and Chili, and the Grand Orients of St. Domingo and Hungary recognized.

The Grand Master (JOHN B. CONGLE), having visited twenty-two of the fifty lodges in the jurisdiction, represents that, as a general thing, masonry is prosperous in that jurisdiction.

The Grand Master made the following decision:

"The payment of dues is a modern regulation, rendered necessary from the fact that we are merely Speculative Masons, whilst prior to 1703 our Order was almost entirely composed of Operative Masons.

"When a profane offers himself as a candidate for the mysteries of our Order and pays the necessary fees to the lodge, is accepted, initiated, passed and raised, he thereby secures to himself all the rights and privileges of masonry, *i. e.*, visitation, charity, relief and assistance for his widow and children, and burial; and of these inherent rights he cannot be deprived except after due trial and conviction for some masonic offense.

"Having thus secured the universal rights of masonry, *he, by the additional payment of dues for the support of a particular lodge, secures additional privileges and benefits*: these are, the right of a voice in the management of the affairs of the lodge, of ballot, of holding office, and a claim on the lodge for charity.

"When he ceases to contribute to the support of the lodge for more than one year, he should be summoned to show cause why his name should not be stricken from the roll of members (see Sec. 9, Art. X of the Constitution), or, in other words, why he should not be excluded from that particular lodge. Should he fail to appear or to show cause, the lodge *can, by a majority vote, strike him from the roll, and thus debar him from the privileges, which the payment of dues secures him; BUT NOT FROM ANY OF THE UNIVERSAL PRIVILEGES.*

Under our Constitution, however, he is debarred from visiting that particular lodge.

"Having once been accepted as a member of that lodge, and inasmuch as he has not committed any heinous crime against masonry, nor overstept any of the ancient landmarks, I hold that he can, at any time, by paying to the Secretary the amount of dues he owed at the time he was stricken from the rolls, re-instate himself to good standing in the lodge, without any vote on the part of the lodge. The lodge cannot claim dues for the time during which he was excluded from the lodge, for it would not be just to demand of him payment for privileges of which he was denied."

The Grand Lodge modified it, holding that he is deprived of *all* lodge privileges, and cannot visit any lodge in the jurisdiction.

A jewel was presented to the Grand Master, and at the installation, the Grand Orator (J. N. DOLPH) delivered a very readable address on the subject of "masonry."

BRO. S. F. CHADWICK presented the Report on Correspondence (90 pp.). We find, in reviewing his report, one drawback in our experiment of presenting a condensed statement of points, instead of quoting—we lose his forcible manner of putting things.

He approves the decision, that in masonic trials the accused should be allowed to testify: concurs in the views of BRO. PARVIN, quoted by us last year: says the system of "Androgynous Masonry" (of which he was one of the defenders) has ceased to exist in that jurisdiction: hopes never to see lodges in full blast of parliamentary law, as the power of the Master should not be compromised in any manner: wishes that all masons were such in reality, so that they could be relied upon to give voluntarily all that is needed to pay the expenses of their lodge and relieve distress, and believes that the system of dues has given birth to the feeling quite prevalent among masons, that when they have paid their fixed dues, all their obligations in this regard are discharged, whether the amount thus raised is enough to meet the calls or not.

Upon a few points, we quote his own language:

"Brethren should bear in mind that a masonic lodge is not a place where business disputes and misunderstandings are to be settled. If lodges are to construe contracts, inquire into the solvency of Brethren, the propriety of giving them credit, their ability to pay what they owe, to furnish a poultice for the sore head of a Brother, who has not received his pay from another Brother, a debtor, as fast or as soon as he should, etc., then lodges have indeed a job to cultivate that species of harmony, which would be equal to a discord in a frog-pond. Business is business, and if masons are true to it, they will never be deceived, or have cause to expose their ignorance of it, in a masonic lodge. Friendship may be an aid to business, but it is seldom in harmony with its principles. A mason may join a lodge with a view to benefit himself in both business and friendship. He who does this is sure to be deceived in one of these inducements, and he will find that his motive is not that which a mason respects."

We commend the foregoing to the careful consideration of all, as we find a growing tendency to carry such matters into the lodge.

We quote the following from his notice of Maine; it is saying a great deal, and we earnestly hope that we shall prove its truth:

"We are pleased to learn that general prosperity has visited our Brethren in Maine, during the past year. It could not be otherwise, where to have it known that a person has been made a mason, is equivalent to endorsing him as a good and trusty man."

In discussing the question whether the widow of a mason, afterwards marrying a profane, and again becoming a widow, is then a mason's widow, he well says :

"We do not think it is well to be critical in such matters. If the woman needed assistance, we think the first thing to be done is to aid her; then, if it is thought worth while to discuss in what particular character she received it, we probably shouldn't much care, though we might not be greatly interested."

He usually signs his name "S. F. CHADWICK"; some one desiring to call him by *name* writes it "*Samuel F. CHADWICK*," whereas it is "*Stephen F. CHADWICK*." We notice that his Grand Secretary, as well as many others, have fallen into the detestable modern habit of using only the initials of names; and therefore we shall have no sympathy for him, if he is called Samuel, Sylvanus, and all the other names (except Stephen) beginning with "S," in turn; we do not mean that Oregon is a sinner above all in this respect, but his mention of the error about his name gives us an opportunity to enter our protest.

In his review of British Columbia and Washington, he gives some account of the re-union of the Grand Lodges of Idaho, Oregon and Washington at Olympia, W. T., and of the visit to Victoria, B. C. It was a grand occasion, and we earnestly hope that the promised full account of the proceedings will be published.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1874.

At the Quarterly Communication, the Grand Lodge decided "that neither the Subordinate Lodges nor the Grand Lodge should or will, by masonic action, interfere with any question in litigation, which may affect the character, life, liberty or property of any citizen of this Commonwealth;" and that the committee of a lodge erred in refusing to receive the testimony of witnesses because they were not masons.

The death of SAMUEL H. PARKINS, Past Grand Master, was announced; resolutions offered by Bro. JAMES PAGE, Past Grand Master, were adopted; and during the year the same solemn duty was performed on the death of Bro. PAGE; we tender the sympathies of our Grand Lodge to our Pennsylvania Brethren, in the great losses they have recently sustained, in the deaths of Past Grand Masters SAMUEL C. PERKINS, JAMES PAGE, JOHN M. READ and LUCIUS H. SCOTT.

At the Annual Communication one hundred and sixty-eight lodges were represented: receipts about \$185,000: disbursements about \$157,000: there was back interest unpaid of about \$7,000, and the disbursements include \$19,000 paid to the Sinking Fund: estimated receipts for year \$178,000, and the disbursements the same, including about \$30,000 to Sinking Fund: debt

about \$1,500,000: \$7,784.75 had been contributed for the sufferers in Louisiana, including \$1,000 paid by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge decided that suspension severs membership in the lodge as effectually as expulsion; and that restoration by the Grand Lodge (which alone can restore, as we understand it), restores only to good masonic standing, and the one restored can regain membership only by petition and ballot in the usual mode.

A regulation was adopted that a rejected candidate may apply after a year to the same lodge, or to any other with the consent of the rejecting lodge; the facts are required to be stated in the petition; before the ballot is taken upon such application, special notice thereof, and of the time of the ballot, must be sent to every member, *and the ballot must not be taken within one hour of the time named in the notice for the opening of the lodge.* This last clause is a good one: if it had been the law in this State, it would have prevented the smuggling in, in more than one case, of a candidate objectionable to many members. It is no crime to call a meeting before the usual hour, open promptly at the time and proceed to dispatch the business. And it is very difficult to prove that a presiding officer, relying upon the habit of members to come at a particular time, called the meeting half an hour earlier than usual, with the intent of having a candidate accepted and the first degree partially conferred before the arrival of members who, he suspected, would reject the candidate; yet it is morally certain that this has been done in Maine.

A by-law was introduced into a lodge, which the Master ruled to be out of order, as it conflicted with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge; on appeal, it was objected that he had no right so to do, but should have allowed the lodge to vote upon the adoption of the by-law, and if adopted, leave it to be decided whether it was valid or not: but the Grand Lodge held that the course of the Master was entirely right and proper, it being his bounden duty to enforce the laws of the Grand Lodge—a duty he would violate in submitting to the lodge a proposition in violation of the laws of the Grand Lodge.

The Report on Correspondence (146 pp.) was presented by Bro. E. COPPEE MITCHELL. It is carefully prepared, and reflects much credit upon its author, in spite of his modest deprecation of criticism.

He starts out with a statement of the "traditional policy" of his Grand Lodge in respect to these reports—that it is no part of his duty to pass judgment upon the acts of other Grand Lodges; and he says, therefore, that such reflections of his own, as are found in his report, are offered rather as suggestions to the Brethren at home, than as criticisms upon others. This is undoubtedly the proper doctrine—though we confess we have not always had the distinction in our mind, and we are not so particular as to the purpose for which Bro. M. offers his reflections, provided we have the reflections!

He holds that it is an undoubted prerogative of the Grand Master, that he

may make a mason "at sight," but that it should be exercised with great caution; that it certainly is generally understood among the craft, as a landmark, that the Grand Master may dispense with the delay required before an E. A. can be advanced, but that this dispensation should not be given upon slight cause; urges Brethren, and especially officers, to study the significance of our symbols; questions whether masonry should be spoken of as "our Order;" but that term was so used about one hundred and fifty years ago, and has been ever since; thinks that "there can be no reason why a Master of a lodge, *rightfully having exclusive control* of the burial services, should not allow other organizations to officially show their respect for their deceased member;" holds that, in the absence of any regulation or positive authority of the Grand Lodge, it is improper for one lodge to confer degrees for another; that a member of a lodge who does not pay the dues which he has agreed to pay, *wrong his lodge*, and therefore may be punished beyond the severance of his membership, and that the question of how severely *it is expedient* to punish him, is one to be settled by each Grand Lodge, without "foreign interference;" [But how shall the *status* of such a mason be settled when he goes into another jurisdiction? By the law of the latter, or his own?]; that advancement cannot be stopped by mere objection; that a member cannot be deprived of his vote until trial and conviction; he had observed that in the jurisdictions in which advancement can be had only upon examination in open lodge, the masons are the brightest in the first two degrees of any that he meets; thinks that suicide is the most persuasive evidence of insanity; and urges that it is a mockery to place in the position of Master of a lodge, a man who lives day by day in open violation of the plainest teachings of the Masonic Standards. Believing that the greatest danger to Freemasonry is the too great laxity with which persons are admitted as members, he holds that Masters should see that all present vote; and if practicable, have so many vote that it would be impossible, in case of an unfavorable ballot, to guess even who is responsible for it. We would be glad to give his own language upon this and other subjects, but want of space requires us to forbear.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1875.

On October 31, 1874, a meeting of Masters, Past Masters and Wardens was held at Charlottetown, P. E. I., and it was unanimously determined that it would "conduce to the best interests of our Ancient Order," to form an independent Grand Lodge for the Island, which is a Province of the same grade, &c., as Nova Scotia and the other Provinces of Canada.

Accordingly the lodges were notified to meet on December 17, 1874; but the traveling was so bad that some lodges were not represented; the meeting was therefore adjourned to Jan. 28, 1875, when, upon new notice, representatives from six lodges (there being two others in the Province) met and issued a call for the lodges to send three representatives to a meeting to be held

Feb. 24, 1875, to vote for or against the formation of a Grand Lodge. At the appointed time the representatives of all the eight lodges met and voted unanimously to form a Grand Lodge, and to meet on the twenty-third of June for that purpose, and in the meantime to notify the other Canadian Grand Lodges, and those of England and Scotland, of their intentions, and to invite the Grand Masters of the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to be present and install the Grand Officers.

On the day fixed, the representatives of seven of the lodges (chartered by the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland) met, provisionally adopted the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, elected officers and adopted the other necessary preliminary measures: and on the next day (the twenty-fourth of June), the Grand Lodge was regularly organized, and its officers installed by Grand Master JOHN V. ELLIS, of New Brunswick, assisted by ROBERT T. CLINCH, Past Grand Master, and WILLIAM F. BUNTING, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, and others.

A dispensation for a new lodge was granted: and a special communication was ordered to be held on the twelfth of August.

At this session all the eight lodges were represented: a constitution was adopted: and the usual business transacted.

The participation of Grand Master ELLIS, in these Proceedings, is sufficient to warrant the recognition of this new Grand Lodge: but we have sufficient acquaintance with the condition of the Province, and of the proceedings, to enable us to say that the Province is entitled to a Grand Lodge, equally with New Brunswick and the other Provinces, and that it was regularly formed, with the concurrence of all the lodges existing therein; we, therefore, recommend its recognition.

QUEBEC, 1874.

At an emergent meeting held on the sixth day of January, 1874, thirty-five lodges were represented: the order of business read by the Grand Secretary: the Grand Master spoke of the grave importance of the business to be brought before the Grand Lodge, and proposed to call off till afternoon, probably for the purpose of exchanging views among the members.

In the afternoon, the official correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Canada was read (after remarks from the Grand Master), and referred to the Board of General Purposes, which soon reported that a committee be appointed by the Grand Master, with full powers to adjust all difficulties with the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the Grand Master was fully empowered to confirm the doings of the committee. The announcement of the prospect of adjusting harmoniously all questions with the Grand Lodge of Canada, was received with great enthusiasm.

We gave last year the happy result of these negotiations.

At the Annual Communication thirty-four lodges were represented; after the opening, the representatives of the seventeen lodges lately under the Grand Lodge of Canada were admitted, formally received and welcomed as members amidst great applause.

The Grand Master (JOHN H. GRAHAM) congratulates the Grand Lodge on the adjustment of matters with the Grand Lodge of Canada; speaks in warm terms of his reception in England; advises the appointment of a Committee on History; speaks hopefully of an arrangement with the Grand Lodge of England and Scotland, on the basis of the exclusive jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and discusses various matters of local interest.

The reports of the various District Deputies show the general prevalence of harmony and prosperity.

At the evening session, the Grand Chaplain (H. W. NYE) delivered an appropriate and instructive address.

Two charters were granted: measures taken to secure uniformity of ritual; and Bro. D. BURNHAM TRACY honored with the rank of Past Junior Grand Warden.

An interesting question arose: at an election sixteen votes were cast for one candidate, fifteen for the other, and one blank: the Constitution requires a majority of those present: there was no return in advance of the number present: the Master decided there was no choice; on appeal, the Grand Lodge reversed the decision by a vote of 58 to 40, after quite a discussion. We discussed this question last year, sustaining the decision of the Grand Lodge. We did not, however, consider the effect of the words, "a majority of the members present": but we do not see that this changes the matter, as the language can scarcely have any other meaning than "present and voting;" otherwise those not voting, in fact, *do* vote, and against everybody.

During the session, congratulations were exchanged and eloquent remarks made by Bros. WHITE and O'HALLORAN: the former also announced that the Grand Lodge of Canada had given to the lodges lately under its jurisdiction four thousand dollars, which, in their behalf, he presented to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as the foundation of a Benevolent Fund: the Grand Lodge accepted it with a vote of thanks, and a pledge not to divert it from the purpose for which it was set apart.

QUEBEC, 1875.

Fifty-four lodges represented: the craft reported to be in a prosperous condition: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba recognized.

The Grand Master (JAMES DUNBAR) congratulates the Grand Lodge on its continued growth and prosperity. He alludes to two important masonic

events which had occurred during the year, the installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England, and the dedication of the Masonic Temple in New York.

The former event has undoubtedly given a great impetus to masonry throughout the British Empire, and it will be found that since that event, the number of accessions to our ranks has been unusually large.

Upon the announcement of the death of Grand Master WILSON, of Canada, he had directed the lodges to go into mourning—a merited tribute to a good man and mason. The Grand Lodge also passed resolutions of condolence.

He also announces the death of M. R. MEIGS, Past D. D. Grand Master—a great loss to the Grand Lodge, which had in him an able supporter, never weary in working for her interests. We had the pleasure of his personal acquaintance, and we heartily endorse all that the Grand Master says of him.

Correspondence with the Grand Lodge of England was submitted, in which it was proposed to recognize the Grand Lodge of Quebec, on the condition that the English lodges should be allowed to retain their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England as long as they desired. The Grand Master advised the acceptance of this conditional recognition. But the Grand Lodge, by a vote of 84 to 7, voted to postpone the acceptance of the recognition till the next session, and that a committee be appointed to confer with the lodges concerned, with a view to effect, if possible, the junction of these lodges with the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

The committee on re-numbering the lodges asked and received further time, probably in view of the action just stated.

One charter was arrested and two lodges admonished: another had been placed in a distressing position by the conduct of its Master, J. G. A. LEBLANC, who had absconded, and had been suspended for gross unmasonic conduct, and by the Secretary's refusing to attend the lodge or give up the books and papers: the latter was summoned before the District Deputy for such action as he should deem proper.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland has given unconditional recognition to this Grand Lodge.

There was no Report on Correspondence; in 1874 one was announced, but as it was not fully completed it was not published: in 1875 one was expected from Rev. Bro. REID, Past Grand Chaplain, but none was received, and it was stated that he had been appointed so recently, that probably he had not been able to find time to perform the duty. We trust that now her main difficulties have been settled, we shall hear from this Grand Lodge in this department of masonic labor.

RHODE ISLAND, 1875.

The Proceedings are embellished with portraits of Grand Master NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK, and Past Grand Master OLIVER JOHNSON.

The Festival Communication was celebrated with unusual *éclat*. An address of great interest was delivered by Bro. TRACY P. CHEEVER, of Massachusetts. His subject was the "Evolution of the Principle of Masonry." The leading idea is that masonry was never *made*, but has been a *growth*. Though, in his enthusiasm, he may have somewhat exaggerated the extent of the truth of his theory, yet he is undoubtedly correct in his conception. We are wont to compare masonry to a *temple*, the most perfect of the works of man, and yet it more resembles a magnificent *tree*, springing from a germ and attaining its perfection by many years of growth.

At the semi-annual communication, intercourse with the Grand Orient of France was suspended. The Grand Lodge overruled two decisions of Grand Master MORRIS, and decided that signing a petition for a dispensation does not affect one's membership in his lodge, and that it is the right and duty of a lodge to assist one of its members in distress, no matter where he may be.

The Grand Lodge held a special communication to attend the funeral of the Grand Treasurer, GARDNER T. SWARTS. While the Grand Lodge was in session, at the request of the Grand Master, the Grand High Priest and suite entered for the purpose of taking part in the services, and "were received with honors due to their rank." We commend this to the attention of our Ohio Brethren. The record further says, "The procession is preceded by ten Lodges, two Encampments, and the R. W. Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which the deceased was a member." The Templar service was performed at the residence, and the "Burial office for the grave" (by the Grand Lodge, we judge) at the cemetery.

At the Annual Communication, twenty-six lodges were represented: a resolution passed requiring Masters to be satisfied by actual and specific inquiry that candidates have made suitable proficiency before they shall be advanced; also that visitors, unless properly avouched for, must produce a certificate under the seal of their Grand Lodge, to show that they were made in a regular lodge: one charter granted: arrangements made for laying the corner stone of the new City Hall in Providence: a committee appointed to prepare a Monitor for that jurisdiction, and a seal for the Grand Master: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming and the Indian Territory recognized.

The address of the Grand Master and the full reports of the Grand Secretary, show that great progress has been made in the library; a full set of C. W. MOORE's Magazine and of CORNELIUS MOORE's Review had been procured.

A fund has been raised for the care and preservation of the Webb monument, and it was ordered that a committee be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to examine the condition of the monument and grounds, make such repairs as are necessary and report at the ensuing Annual Communication.

A resolution was passed requiring candidates for advancement to be examined in open lodge, and to give the first section of the lecture of the preceding

degree before they shall be advanced; and to give the first section of the lecture of the third degree in the same manner before he shall be allowed to sign the by-laws.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

One hundred and sixty-two lodges represented: the Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Wyoming and Prince Edward Island recognized: eight charters granted and one restored, and the usual routine business transacted.

The Grand Master (JAMES A. HOYT) gives a concise statement of official acts. He had, as authorized last year, with the assistance of other Grand Officers and a committee, settled the work. He had found that the non-payment of dues was a most fruitful subject of vexation; and he calls attention to one inconsistency in their law: one suspended for unmasonic conduct may be restored to membership by a two-thirds vote, while one dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues, can get back only by a unanimous vote.

We are gratified to find by the report of the "Special Financial Agent," that the debt had been decreased some \$2,500 during the year, with the probability of wiping out the floating debt during the current year. The Committee on Jurisprudence reported, and the Grand Lodge decided that objections after ballot for initiation must be deemed sufficient to the lodge, or they do not avail to stop the candidate; and advancement can be stopped after ballot only by conviction or charges. We are surprised that a Grand Lodge should legislate in favor of profanes and against masons. One reason given was, that we tell a candidate that if he passes a unanimous ballot he will be initiated: this reason may be obviated by adding to what we tell him, "and if no member of the lodge objects to him;" this is in effect what we tell candidates in Maine.

A touching tribute was adopted to the memory of Past Grand Master ROBERT S. BRUNS.

Among the decisions is one, that the Past Master's degree is a *necessary* part of the installation of a Master and a condition precedent to the Master's taking his seat. We do not concur: it is made the *duty* of a Master to install his successor and bind him by the Master's charges; each Master, at his installation, solemnly promises to do this; yet this decision holds, that he thus solemnly promises to do what he cannot do, without the assistance of others qualified in like manner with himself, and whose assistance he may be utterly unable to procure.

An amendment to the Constitution was proposed, depriving a member of all his rights for non-payment of dues, *without trial or notice*, and requiring charges to be filed for unmasonic conduct, upon which he may be indefinitely suspended. This is going backwards; a mason should never be deprived of any of his masonic rights without due trial.

The Report on Correspondence (106 pages) was presented by CHARLES INGLESBY, the new Grand Secretary; it is (as another committee say of it) the "most full and complete ever presented to this Grand Lodge, and reflecting great credit on Bro. INGLESBY."

In his review of Maine (1875) he entirely concurs in the views of Grand Master CARGILL, in relation to limits.

He holds that an installed officer cannot resign, and that our amendment to the Constitution, allowing any officer below the Junior Warden to resign, is *not* an "amendment" in all senses. It seems to us, that he mistakes the reason for the old law; it is not because the Master *promises* at his installation to serve for a year; such were not the old forms of installation; and if it was on account of such promise, that must be taken with certain limitations, as he may die, be sick, or move away, and in either of these cases he ceases to serve as fully as he would by resigning. We conceive the true reason of the rule to be, that the Master and Wardens acquire certain rights by serving, and therefore, that they must serve a full term to obtain them; but if a Secretary moves away, or for any other reason cannot attend to the duties, it is vastly for the interests of the lodge, and injurious to nobody, to allow *him* to step aside and allow the *lodge* to fill his place permanently with some one who can serve. We still hold our amendment to be an "amendment in all senses."

He compliments Maine on her discipline, and says that "if every Grand Lodge was as firm in seeing its regulations respected and obeyed, we would hear of very few infractions of law."

He asks us if we "are not a little too fast" in one matter: we answer, no; the rule he speaks of is an exception merely; but we were speaking of cases in which a candidate gets the degrees in a wrong lodge, in his own Grand Lodge jurisdiction.

He dissents from the decision, that it requires seven members to make a Master's Lodge, for the transaction of business: we conclude that while a less number makes a *ritual* lodge, there are provisions in nearly every Grand Lodge Constitution which make the presence of seven necessary, in order to do business.

He is very earnest in his opposition to making masonry a Life Insurance Society, in any shape whatever; holds that masonic burial no more endorses the character of a bad man, than the church services endorse that of a notorious sinner; and, therefore, it is proper to bury any mason with masonic rites; thinks that a Grand Master in full regalia, "tripping around on the light fantastic toe," at a ball, would afford an extraordinarily queer sight; holds that striking a name of a member from the rolls *merely* deprives him of lodge privileges; that when a lodge has once received the petition of a candidate within its jurisdiction, he becomes the "work" of that lodge, and no other has the right, under the Old Charges, to interfere with it without the consent of that lodge; [in this law we find the reason for the "perpetual jurisdiction"]

doctrine; and that Grand Lodges of Symbolic Masonry should extend recognition only to other Grand Lodges like themselves.

TENNESSEE, 1874.

Three hundred and forty-nine lodges represented: seventeen charters granted, and one surrendered: twelve dispensations granted and two refused: a code of "Rules of Order" adopted: a revision of the edicts adopted: a "Lodge of Sorrow" held in honor of Past Grand Master SAMUEL McMANUS: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (JAMES D. RICHARDSON) says peace and harmony prevail all over the jurisdiction; and beyond this, confines his address to matters of local interest.

The "Rules of Order" smack a little too much of parliamentary law, and trench rather too much upon the prerogatives of the Grand Master; and they are of little use as *law*, for they provide that they may be modified or *suspended* by a *majority* vote: still they are useful as a guide in the transaction of business: we notice that the motion "to lay on the table" any matter, is properly defined, and it is provided that a motion to take up a matter laid on the table may be made by anyone, at any time.

The "edicts," or general regulations, contain several provisions worthy of consideration: they provide for mutual arrangements with adjoining Grand Lodges, so that candidates may apply to the nearest lodge, whether in the State of their residence or not; that candidates must live in the jurisdiction of a lodge two years before applying, unless they produce a certificate of good character from the lodge in whose jurisdiction they had resided, and the certificate must state that it was granted unanimously, or if not, by what vote it was granted; that lodges may issue certificates to the widows and orphans of deceased members; that the edicts must be read in open lodge, and the time of doing it be entered of record and stated in the returns; that one of the three lectures must be delivered once a month in open lodge, and the time when it was done entered of record; that the lecture must be given when a degree is conferred, and no degree is considered as conferred until the lecture is given; and that drunkenness, profanity, evil-speaking and gambling must not be tolerated among the craft.

A report was adopted in reference to the "reserved rights of lodges," in which the doctrine was laid down, that the "Grand Lodge is the creature of the subordinate lodges, and has no power save that which is expressly delegated by the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction." We perceive that Bro. INGLESBY, of South Carolina, refers to this with approval, but we do not think that he fully considered it. We have already discussed a similar question on the sixty-seventh page of this report. We will only add, that if the Grand Lodge is the creature of the subordinates, our system is certainly a "double, back-acting" one, for the lodges are created by the Grand Lodge,

which can terminate their existence at any time it sees fit, and for reasons satisfactory to itself. There are, according to the landmarks, certain inherent rights in lodges, and yet if a Grand Lodge should create a lodge, and expressly reserve from it those inherent rights, it could not exercise them. For instance, lodges of instruction are authorized, but they have no one of those inherent rights, but have only such powers as are expressly granted to them.

TENNESSEE, 1875.

Three hundred and fifty-five lodges represented: eleven charters granted, one restored, one surrendered and two revoked: four dispensations continued, five granted and five refused: Lodge of Sorrow held in honor of memory of Past Grand Master JOHN W. PAXTON: Report on Correspondence not printed: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Wyoming recognized.

The Grand Master (ANDREW J. WHEELER) recommends to the Grand Lodge to adopt a system of visiting the lodges; and to secure more accurate information in regard to the condition of the lodges. He says trouble has arisen in some of the lodges on account of occupying halls with other organizations; that the publication of the proceedings last year was delayed for want of funds, and thereupon the Grand Master prepared the copy, borrowed the money of a lodge and had them printed. The sum of \$510 had been contributed by the lodges for sufferers in Kansas. He had arrested two charters. He gives a full statement of his official action, which shows that he was an able, faithful and energetic officer, having solely in view the welfare of the craft.

The question whether the Grand Lodge has the rightful power to modify the sentence of a lodge, or reverse it and itself pronounce the judgment, was considered and decided in the affirmative—such having been the uniform practice for more than half a century.

A system of visiting the lodges by Grand Visitors, and a regulation requiring *fifteen* petitioners for a new lodge, were adopted.

BRO. HENRY M. AIKEN delivered a fine eulogy upon Past Grand Master PAXTON, which is published in the Proceedings.

TEXAS, 1875.

One hundred and eighty-five lodges represented: *thirty* charters granted and two restored: three dispensations continued or granted, and four revoked or refused: special returns from lodges show that 181 own their halls; eight own them jointly with Chapters; seventeen own them jointly with other organizations; seventy-nine rent their halls, and sixty-three made no returns: the Constitution amended so that the number of Deputies may be fixed from

time to time by the Grand Lodge: the Grand Lodge of Wyoming recognized: a "Grand Lodge of Sorrow" held in memory of Past Grand Master PETER W. GRAY, and the other "fraternal dead of 1874."

The Grand Master (THOMAS R. BONNER) says that, "with here and there an exception, unity, harmony, peace and a fair degree of prosperity prevail in our lodges": he gives a summary of the Reports of the District Deputies, a full account of his official action, his decisions, and pays a tribute to the character of P. G. M. PETER W. GRAY, whose death he announces.

He says that there is a lack of vigilance in collecting the dues; that an inclination exists to make masons of those not physically qualified, and then palliate it by the statement that the candidate was of unusually good character and high standing; so that one would be led to believe "that the misfortune of being maimed always happens to the best men only"; that one of the chief barriers in the way of advancement is the excessive use of intoxicating drinks.

We wonder if other Grand Masters have not found themselves in the predicament described in the following:

"During the year, I have faithfully, and to the best of my ability, answered every letter received, touching masonic matters, with but one exception. A Brother, who had preferred charges against a member of his lodge, based upon a transaction purely pecuniary in its character, wrote me at great length. He deplored the wide departure which the lodge had made, in its refusal to convict the accused, from some antiquated landmark of the Order. After a careful examination of the huge pile of manuscript, I found that the conclusion of the whole matter was, the lodge had decided in substance that the court room, and not the lodge hall, was the place to institute law suits and foreclose mortgages. The only practical course left me in this instance was masterly inactivity. I had neither the time or inclination to write a history on masonic jurisprudence, and besides, if I had done so, it would not have been authority on his side of the case; and yet to have answered fully all his enquiries, would have required space enough for a small volume. I could not accomplish any good by a reply; had no consolation to offer, and perceiving his anxiety for a reply sustaining his theory, I felt that it would be cruel and unusual punishment to afflict him with an adverse opinion."

He recommends that a regulation be adopted that all inquiries to the Grand Master shall go through the District Deputy, who shall, in the first instance, answer the inquiry himself; this would divide the Grand Master's labor among so many that it would be comparatively light, and not take his time in answering questions by referring to the Constitution. He had found that, however simple the question, it would not do to omit answering it, for a second letter would follow the first, it may be, asking him, as one Brother did, "What's the use of having a Grand Master if he don't answer our questions?" He had found also an undue disposition to form new lodges, so that he finally announced that he would not grant a dispensation to less than twenty petitioners; as it was, some *thirty-five* new lodges were created; a part of this is accounted for by the change of population caused by the building of railroads through the State; old villages almost disappear and new ones are formed as if by magic.

He had been asked in several cases to grant authority to lodges to engage in lotteries, gift concerts and schemes of a similar character, as a means of raising funds for masonic purposes, but had invariably refused, believing that it was a violation of law, an entering wedge to discord, the lowering of masonry, and the opening of the lodges to designing and unscrupulous men.

He denied requests for authority to hold "Lodges of Sorrow" or performing services at the grave of a Brother after he had been buried.

He had decided—

That the reversal of the judgment of a lodge and the order of a new trial left the accused in the same condition as before the first trial.

That a decision of a Master in a particular case, not appealed from, is binding, and cannot be reversed by his successor, though erroneous; but it does not control cases subsequently arising.

That the rule requiring a brother to have served as Warden before he can be Master, does not require the service as Warden to be in the same jurisdiction, but service anywhere as Warden is sufficient.

That a special tax to build a hall, unless authorized by the by-laws, is invalid.

That persons claiming to have been made masons in Mexico cannot be recognized, as the Grand Lodge has no knowledge of any masonic bodies in that country.

That a refusal to waive jurisdiction is not equivalent to rejection, and the candidate may at once petition the lodge having jurisdiction of him.

In the death of Bro. GRAY, the craft in Texas have sustained a great loss. The Grand Master says he "was without peer in Texas—he was the Master Workman." He was a man of great ability, of pure character, and devotedly attached to masonry.

The Grand Treasurer reports that he had been able to diminish the Grand Lodge debt \$12,000, and that nearly the same amount could be applied to the same purpose during the ensuing year. The debt was incurred in building a Masonic Temple.

The lodges had contributed \$983.95 to the sufferers in Kansas.

Bro. JOHN FRIZZELL, of Tennessee, visited the Grand Lodge and presented a P. G. Master's jewel to Bro. D. R. GRAFTON, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, and formerly our Representative near it, but now a resident of Texas and Master of a lodge there. We notice also that he was appointed District Deputy.

The resolution prohibiting the publication of the Reports of the Committee on Grievances was repealed, and enough of the report is published to show the grounds of the decision as a guide for the future: an excellent plan.

The Grand Lodge adopted regulations allowing the granting of dispensations for new lodges, only to at least *fifteen* petitioners, and requiring applications to waive jurisdiction to be in writing, presented at a stated meeting, referred to a committee and balloted on at a subsequent stated meeting; and the following to relieve the Grand Master:

"Resolved, That all communications from the subordinate lodges to the M. W. Grand Master, involving questions of masonic law or usage, shall be sent to the D. D. G. Masters of the District in which such lodge is situated, who shall examine into the question, and if he finds it has heretofore been determined by the Grand Lodge, shall return the same to the lodge from which it came; but if said District Deputy finds the question presented has not been determined by this Grand Lodge, he shall forward the same to the M. W. Grand Master, together with such information as may be in his possession in reference to the matter."

It was determined to found "The Texas Masonic Orphans' Home," and to raise funds therefor by contribution. To this end each Deputy was ordered to present the matter to each lodge in his District and solicit contributions; and the officers of lodges were required to take up contributions in their lodges as often as they might deem expedient, but not less than twice during the year. One lodge had offered \$500 unconditionally, and \$7,500 additional if the Home was located in its town.

The Report on Correspondence (76 pages) was presented by Bro. M. F. MORR. It is an abstract of the most interesting matters, with but few comments. He strongly favors our regulation requiring the consent of the three nearest lodges, to the forming of a new lodge. He notices the number of rejections as being very large, and as showing that we are careful in selecting the material for our Mystic Temple. He does not seem to understand what is meant by "deprived of membership" for non-payment of dues: we have elsewhere in this report explained it. He holds that it is not proper for this committee to dissent from and discuss the decisions and acts of other Grand Lodges. This is the only sentiment of his in his whole report in which we do not concur, and we say so in spite of his doctrine! He quotes many decisions without comment, many of which are different from his own. We think it better to give the reasons for this difference, in order that the truth may be reached. However, we say this not to criticise him, but in self-justification, because we recognize the right of committees to make the report that suits them; and also to express our regret at not having the benefit of his opinions.

UTAH, 1875.

The six lodges represented: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming, Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized.

The Grand Master (CHARLES W. BENNETT) says that the increase of membership had not been so great as in previous years, but he deems the fact rather a matter of congratulation than otherwise, as showing greater care in the selection: he urges the brethren to restrain intemperance and its kindred vices, which are too prevalent.

The indefatigable Grand Secretary, CHRISTOPHER DIEHL, submits a full report of the doings of his office, and of the condition of the library, which, thanks to his earnest and enthusiastic labors, already excels that of very many of the older Grand Lodges—indeed, scarcely half a dozen have a larger

one. He had prepared a set of Regulations for the Library, and already he is able to say truly, "If any brother in Utah complains of not having anything to read on masonry, or fails to inform himself of the history, the laws, or the different rituals of the institution, and shows himself an *ignoramus*, then I want to have it distinctly understood that it is his own fault, and not the fault of the Grand Librarian."

We are surprised to find that one by-law escaped the notice of Bro. D. It provides that when a member is in arrears of dues for a year, he shall be notified that unless within thirty days either his dues be paid, or sickness or inability to pay be shown as the cause of his neglect, he will be liable to suspension from all the rights and privileges of masonry. If the dues are not paid or one of said excuses made at the first meeting thereafter, *he may be declared suspended by the Master*. No mason should be suspended without the filing of charges, and notice thereof, to be heard at a time specified in the notice.

We are glad to see that the Committee on Returns censured Secretaries "for not reporting the *full given names* of their members." Maine and Utah join hands in this matter.

BRO. C. DIEHL presented the Report on Correspondence (87 pp.),—a full abstract of the Proceedings, with comments. It is written with an energy and vivacity that hold one till he has read the last line.

He lives and learns, and moreover, is not ashamed to say so. He says that some years ago, Bro. JOHN H. BROWN, of Kansas, then Grand Master, refused to grant Bro. D.'s lodge a dispensation to shorten the time between the degrees in a certain case. He says, "It made us hot at the time: we have cooled off since, and now think the refusal a good act, and the granting a bad one."

He makes a strong appeal to his brethren to save their lodge funds, that they may care for the widows and orphans.

He gives a full review of Maine, and says we mean business "away down in Maine." He objects strongly to the practice in our Grand Lodge of pronouncing judgment in cases in which the judgment of the lodge is reversed. He asks, is it just? To which we unhesitatingly say, *yes*. He thinks that a Grand Lodge should have only *legislative* authority, and that that is all the Grand Lodge of Utah has. We beg his pardon, but we must take issue with him on both propositions. Grand Lodges are, and always *have been*, the supreme *legislative, judicial and executive* authority. This supreme *judicial* power is recognized in the old charges, and it is a landmark that a brother *has a right* to carry his case to the Grand Lodge and have it tried by that. The Grand Lodge of Utah entertains appeals, reverses the decision of its lodges, and instructs them what decision to render; this is the highest exercise of the *judicial* power. It is true that the Supreme Court of the United States does not pronounce the judgment, when it reverses a judgment in criminal cases, and for a good reason, that class of cases must be tried by a jury, and that court has no jury. It does not exercise *any* legislative powers. But the

Grand Lodge of Utah exercises both. It also has the supreme *executive* power. It *does* "see that its laws and edicts, and the general laws and ancient usages of masonry are strictly obeyed;" and this is the exercise of supreme executive power. But he says a mason must be tried by his *peers*: every mason is the peer of every other mason except the Master of his lodge, and the Grand Master of his Grand Lodge, or their representative for the time being. He says, "lodges were in existence before Grand Lodges;" in one sense, this is true, in another it cannot be said to be: Grand Lodges took the place of the General Assemblies; and are the same, save that the former is a representative body, and whether lodges had an existence before the General Assemblies, neither Bro. D. nor we, nor anyone else can tell.

We refer Bro. D. to our discussion of this subject elsewhere in this report. It is an important question, and our observation for twenty years is that the Grand Lodge is more likely to do justice than the lodge, because it tries questions on their merits, while in the lodge the friends of the parties are apt to go with their friend, and because we have noticed for more than twenty-five years that there is no so prolific cause of dissensions in a lodge as the second trial of a case in which all the members have already formed an opinion. We believe that further consideration will convince Bro. DIEHL that his theory is erroneous; and that the course adopted in nearly all the Grand Lodges is based on law, justice and the best interests of masonry.

Another point: an offense committed in the very presence of the Grand Lodge, is a contempt of the Grand Lodge, which it may punish at once and in a summary manner. In the case to which he refers, all the proceedings were not printed as he surmises.

After reading his review of Maine, we are surprised to find that he advocates trials by commissioners *instead of the lodge*, saying they will never terminate a trial with the farce (as had been done in Utah as well as elsewhere) of finding a Brother guilty and inflicting no punishment. We confess to a hesitation to adopting the Utah plan.

But we must stop, though there are many other matters in this excellent report that we should like to notice.

VERMONT, 1875.

Eighty-eight lodges represented: no charters granted: JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND appointed *by the Grand Lodge* its Representative near the Grand Lodge of Maine: an eloquent eulogy upon GEORGE M. HALL, P. G. Master, delivered by P. G. M. LEVERETT B. ENGLISBY: a gold watch presented to Past Grand Master PARK DAVIS, the Grand Secretary, HENRY CLARK, making an elegant presentation address, to which Bro. DAVIS made a very neat response.

The Grand Master (NATHAN P. BOWMAN) pays a tribute to the fraternal dead: says that he had organized no new lodge, and believes that the present

number are all that are required for the present: he had issued a circular cautioning the brethren against purchasing a work called "*Eccii Orienti*": he reports progress in the re-publication of the early Proceedings, but says that the work had been slow in consequence of the loss of the book of original records before 1846—another illustration of the importance of not delaying these matters, as a few years ago that book was in the archives of the Grand Lodge: in concluding his address, he discusses eloquently "*The Mission of Freemasonry*."

He decided that as seven members are required to form a new lodge, that number constitutes a quorum: but the Grand Lodge decided (there being no constitutional provision on the subject) that three members make a quorum for any business that may come before a Master Mason's lodge. The decision of the Grand Master is the law in this State under the express provisions of our Constitution.

The report of the Grand Secretary shows a decrease in the membership by the "cutting off process," which he thinks to be of doubtful expediency: he complains of slackness on the part of the Secretaries in making their returns: and mentions as an encouraging sign the formation of two masonic unions "for the promotion of acquaintance and social intercourse between the families of masons." He was present in New York at "*The Dedication*," and gives one of the best reports of it that we have seen.

The Committee on Reprinting urge the Brethren to use every effort to find that old book of records; they think the book was lost while the Grand Lodge was "on wheels." Its loss is a serious misfortune, as the proceedings after 1833 were not printed (save an abstract in 1834) until the Grand Lodge resumed work in 1846; and it is said that, under a resolution of the Grand Lodge, three Grand Officers met at the time of every stated meeting and regularly adjourned the Grand Lodge, and thus kept it alive during the night of anti-masonry, which (the *night* or the *anti-masonry*, as the reader pleases) was of blacker darkness in Vermont than in any other State. We hope the old record will be found, and that we shall have all the proceedings had and documents issued during the first half century of that Grand Lodge. We are glad to see that the committee are not falling into the mistake too often made in reprinting—of condensing the proceedings and omitting documents which to them seem to be of no particular interest, but which are often exceedingly valuable.

BRO. HENRY CLARK presented the Report on Correspondence (147 pp.). As usual, it is an exceedingly fine *resumé* of the Proceedings, with very few comments.

In his opening remarks, he says the report is his eleventh consecutive one, and he refers to the changes that have taken place during the decade then just closing; most of the old Brethren who lived through the dark days of anti-masonry have passed away, but others as earnest had taken their places;

the growth of the Institution during that time has been very great. His reflections have a peculiar interest for us, as we entered this field of labor at the same time Bro. CLARK did.

He commends the practice of printing an extra number of the reports of this committee, and says one copy of the Proceedings should be kept in the lodge room and bound for the use of the members, and as a nucleus for a masonic library.

He strongly urges the cultivation of the social element, and regards the neglect of observing our festivals, as formerly, as a great cause of the decrease of the interest of many in masonry.

He approves the warnings against intemperance as absolutely demanded by the increase of that vice, but he eloquently sets forth the *personal* duty of every mason in such cases, in attempting individual reform, and says that one who puts the cup to the lips of another by way of temptation, is not fit to be a mason—is worse than a villain.

VIRGINIA, 1875.

One hundred and fifty lodges represented: eleven charters granted, one surrendered, and one dispensation continued: the lectures of the three degrees passed by the "Grand Working Committee," and the work of the third degree exemplified with an actual candidate, and the form of opening and closing exemplified: the Grand Secretary authorized to prepare the form of record for subordinate lodges: a committee appointed to revise the Text Book and issue a new edition.

The Grand Master (WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO) speaks of the universality of masonry, congratulates the craft upon their peace, harmony and prosperity, gives some account of his official acts (among which was the dedication of a hall presented to a lodge by "a gentleman from Massachusetts"), and gives the more important of his decisions.

He had dedicated also a Masonic Hall at Norfolk, and the occasion was one of great interest. He advised against arrangements between his own and the neighboring Grand Lodges, which should permit candidates living near the line to receive the degrees in other jurisdictions, as leading to serious complications between the Grand Lodges. He brings before the Grand Lodge the subject of "uniformity of work," and recommends that the District Deputy Grand Masters be made District Lecturers. He discusses the matter of non-affiliation, and recommends that lodge affiliation fees be abolished; he holds that the deprivation of general masonic rights, for mere non-affiliation, is a departure from the original design of our Institution. He calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to the importance of preparing the history of each lodge, mentioning in this connection the recently published History of Alexandria Washington Lodge, his commendation of which we are able to endorse

from actual knowledge. It is the lodge with which WASHINGTON was connected, and it derives its name from that fact.

He decided that when a lodge becomes extinct, it loses all right over the work it has commenced, and though a new lodge may be instituted in the same place, under the same name, the E. A.s and F. C.s made by the old lodge, must apply for advancement to the lodge in whose jurisdiction they reside.

2. That [unless otherwise provided in the by-laws, we presume] a Master of a lodge has no right to detail members of his lodge as watchers for a sick member, nor to summon members for that purpose: and if he does issue such a summons, a refusal to obey it is not a masonic offense.

3. That a member of a lodge changing his residence, and taking his dimit, with the purpose of joining a lodge in his new residence, but taken sick *in transitu*, is entitled to masonic relief, and in case of his death, to masonic burial.

4. That a member of a lodge removing into another Grand Lodge Jurisdiction, has no claim to the protection of the masonic power from which he removed.

5. That a non-resident of that State cannot become a member of a lodge in it, without the consent of the supreme masonic power in his own, and that Grand Jurisdiction.

6. That a member tried and sentenced to a reprimand only, is in good standing and entitled to masonic burial, though he dies before the reprimand is actually administered.

The fourth and fifth are not law in this jurisdiction: we concur in the others.

The Grand Lodge refused to enact, that a withdrawal of a petition after reference, to avoid a ballot, shall be equivalent to a rejection, fearing that such a regulation would trammel the lodges, "which now have full control over the subject, and can best determine, according to the circumstances of each case, what will promote the welfare of the craft, and be most conformable to the spirit of our Institution." Our experience is, that if lodges, by a majority vote, are allowed to permit a petition to be withdrawn to avoid a ballot, the rights of the minority are often sacrificed, and the object of the secret ballot defeated; hence, we favored, and do still, our law that a petition of which a lodge has jurisdiction, shall not be withdrawn after reference to the Committee of Inquiry, until after a favorable ballot. In many cases, when there are reasons to fear that a candidate will be rejected, the majority of the lodge would be inclined to the opinion that the rejection would be from improper motives to a degree sufficient to induce them to allow the petition to be withdrawn.

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution that they consider it the proper work of Congress to complete the Washington Monument, and directed a copy of the report and resolution be forwarded to P. G. Master WITHERS, one of their Senators, requesting him to make known to the Representatives from Virginia the sentiments of the Grand Lodge upon the subject.

Five of the forty District Deputy Grand Masters failing to report, were declared to "merit the severest censure" of the Grand Lodge, and their conduct to be unaccountable and to evidence a very culpable want of zeal and attention to the duties of their office.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were requested not to answer any questions propounded by lodges or Brethren, except such as should be sent up through the District Deputy Grand Masters.

An examination of the reports of the Deputies shows the general prevalence of harmony and a fair degree of prosperity, though there are complaints of a want of interest among the members (shown by failure to attend the meetings), of carelessness in the selection of candidates, and of laxity of discipline. In a few cases outside matters had been allowed to be brought into the lodge, and thereby its harmony destroyed: a revocation of the charter was recommended as the best remedy in such cases.

One of the Deputies made several decisions, which were confirmed by the Grand Lodge; among them are the following:

1. A petition cannot be *entertained* by the lodge unless the candidate is *already* twenty-one years of age.

2. A lodge may be closed on one of the degrees and opened again on the same degree, at the same meeting, at the discretion of the Master.

3. A *pro tempore* appointment may be made for the *remainder* of the term: but in such case there should be no installation, and the appointee does not acquire the honors of the office.

4. When a member has been sentenced to be "reprimanded in open lodge," the Master has no right to summon him before the lodge to receive the reprimand.

We think this last decision cannot have been considered by the committee. We do not believe that the reception of the reprimand should be left to the pleasure of the one to whom it is to be administered. The right to sentence to a reprimand carries with it the right to execute the sentence, and to use the usual masonic means to do so. In our judgment the Master clearly has the right to summon the party before the lodge for the execution of the sentence, and if he refuse to obey the summons he is liable to be dealt with for unmasonic conduct.

A General Regulation was adopted, that officers of lodges hold over until their successors are elected and installed. The same regulation, by implication, recognizes the right of officers to resign.

Resolutions of one of the lodges, favoring a convention of the Master Masons of the world at Philadelphia during the centennial year, were presented: the Grand Lodge, recognizing the difficulties attending the matter, did not commit itself fully to the scheme, but adopted resolutions suggesting to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania that it hold a communication for the purpose, and that the stationed Grand Officers of all the Grand Lodges in the world, in

affiliation with that Grand Lodge, be *ex-officio* delegates to it, and that all Master Masons possessing credentials satisfactory to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania be permitted to visit it.

A resolution was subsequently adopted, that these resolutions should not be communicated to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, until its *status* with the Grand Orient of France and the Grand Master of Belgium [Hamburg?] should be ascertained.

There was no Report on Correspondence. We deeply regret this, as the reports of Bro. WELLFORD are of great interest and *value* to the craft everywhere.

WASHINGTON, 1875.

A Special Session was held August 17, 1875, to attend the reunion of the Grand Lodges of Idaho, Oregon and Washington, at Olympia, and a visit to Victoria, in British Columbia. The affair came off according to the programme, and was pronounced to be a GRAND SUCCESS. The particulars are not given, but we have the promise of them in a "memorial pamphlet." We shall not admit that it was a full "success" till we see that pamphlet! Do you mind, Bro. REED?

At the Annual Communication eighteen lodges were represented: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized: two charters granted.

The Grand Master (JAMES R. HAYDEN) gives a more full account of "The Reunion" than is contained in the record, and a statement of his official acts and of his decisions. He refers to the lodge in Alaska as having ceased to exist; a report was made in regard to it, but was not published.

Bro. T. M. REED presented a *very* brief Report on Correspondence, not noticing in detail the Proceedings of the Grand Lodges. He gives a Table of Statistics, but by an error in copying or printing he gives Illinois a membership of 89,622 instead of 39,622, and thereby makes the aggregate membership too large by 50,000. We sincerely trust his Grand Lodge will remove the injunction she has placed upon Bro. REED, as his reports have given her much of her reputation among her sisters, and afforded all of us much instruction and pleasure.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1874.

Sixty lodges represented: four charters granted: nothing before Committee on Jurisprudence: Constitution amended so as to require candidates to state in their petitions whether they had previously applied to any other lodge and been rejected, and if so, when and where; and applicants for advancement to be examined in open lodge as to proficiency; and providing that, on ballot for advancement, the applicant is elected unless more than two black ballots appear against him: an educational fund created, and \$150 a year set apart

to assist in the education of the orphans or children of Master Masons: a committee appointed to revise the Constitution.

The Grand Master (THOMAS H. LOGAN) says the year has been a quiet one, with a small amount of work and no new lodges; that there has been trouble from the improper use of the ballot, out of revenge, by the friends of rejected candidates; and that the ballot on advancement being upon the question of proficiency only, had also been abused. He also gives an able and instructive dissertation upon Freemasonry, its teachings, history and attributes, with reflections upon the duties of masons. We should be glad to copy this, but must abide by the rule we have adopted.

One of the Deputies made no report: we commend to him to read the action of his mother Grand Lodge (Virginia) in a similar case.

No Report on Correspondence.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1875.

The seventy-two lodges all represented, including five *v. d.*: five charters granted: all the lodges made returns: a revised Constitution adopted; subject to be amended at the next Annual Communication by a majority vote: the work exemplified: no Report on Correspondence.

The address of the Grand Master (ROBERT WHITE), though chiefly confined to matters of local interest, shows him to have been a faithful, able and energetic officer.

The reports of the District Deputies (except two, who failed to report) show a general prevalence of harmony and prosperity, but a lack of attendance upon the meetings, and a want of uniformity of work. The committee recommend to the Deputies to use more care in their reports, "as they are the most valuable contributions to the history of masonry in our State;" this is very true, and should be generally borne in mind.

The Committee on Education reported, urging the building up of a fund to assist in the education of the children of masons at secular institutions; we heartily endorse their plan, believing it to be the only correct and safe one.

The Grand Lodge decided that a lodge cannot refuse a dimit to a brother on payment of his dues and his asking for one; but that a by-law, allowing a member to withdraw on paying his dues and giving notice to the Secretary, is unmasonic; there is an inconsistency in requiring a vote of the lodge, and yet holding that the lodge *must* vote to grant the dimit; in our view, the first decision is either wrong or the by-law valid, of course, assuming that it makes suitable safeguards against withdrawing membership to avoid charges; this could be done by requiring a month's notice, so that the request could be announced in open lodge, and charges filed, if there was occasion for any. But we like the California method, as referred to in this report, pp. 51, 52.

WISCONSIN, 1875.

One hundred and seventy-five lodges represented, being all the chartered lodges, save one: and the three lodges *v. d.* represented: three charters granted: \$200 appropriated to repair a Masonic Cemetery, formerly belonging to a lodge, but now to the Grand Lodge: the Grand Lodge of Wyoming recognized: recognition of the Grand Orient of Hungary denied: \$25.00 appropriated to purchase standard works on masonic law for the library of the Grand Lodge: a proposition to create a "*Temple Fund*" was referred to the next Annual Communication: the Grand Master authorized to give, from the funds of the Grand Lodge, sums not exceeding \$1,000 in any one year, for the relief of distressed brethren in any community in case of the happening of any calamity by pestilence, fire, or other cause; a wise provision and worthy of general imitation: a P. G. Master's jewel presented to Bro. R. DE LOS PULFORD: a committee appointed, upon the recommendation of the Grand Master, to determine the proper design and procure new jewels and aprons for the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master (JED. P. C. COTTRILL) delivered an able address. He announced the death of P. G. M. HENRY S. BAIRD, Grand Marshal S. A. FERRIN and P. G. Chaplain ROBERT LANGLEY.

His predecessor had granted a dispensation to a lodge, which prepared its returns, a petition for a charter, and elected a delegate to attend the Grand Lodge to obtain the charter: he failed to attend or send in the papers, and in consequence no charter was granted and the dispensation was not continued: the Grand Master decided that he had no power to continue the dispensation, and could grant a new one only on payment of the regular fee: his requirements were complied with: but he recommended the Grand Lodge to return the second fee: his decision was sustained and his recommendation adopted.

He had granted a dispensation, in the case of an officer of the regular army, to ballot upon the petition in less than the usual time: and had refused one to an E. A. for advancement, who had lived since his initiation, seven years, within a mile of his lodge, but now was about to move to Colorado, remarking that he would be a useless member of his lodge and of the craft, and masonry would probably be equally useless to him.

He had also granted three dispensations to advance candidates without their exhibiting proficiency; he hesitated about granting these, but after considerable reflection, concluded to do so, as the requests were made by the unanimous votes of the lodges, "deeming that if they were willing to receive the applicants, they might be permitted to do so, inasmuch as it was not likely that *the applicants could ever make themselves sufficiently known to enable them to visit elsewhere*" (italics ours)! Which is the *next* lodge that wants such a dispensation in Wisconsin?

There was an attempt during the year, by a party since dead, to introduce "Adoptive Masonry," in order to give him a better opportunity to sell books,

&c., that he was engaged in retailing. The Grand Master issued an edict forbidding the use of masonic halls by such organizations, and the Chapters already formed disbanded, and "so," says the Grand Master "this irregular and swindling humbug perished in Wisconsin." The Grand Lodge approved his action.

He advised that recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory be deferred, as he was not satisfied that the political condition of the territory, over which that Grand Lodge claimed jurisdiction, is such as to admit the formation of a Grand Lodge; and the Grand Lodge declined to recognize it at present.

Being apparently somewhat of the opinion of the brother who asked, "what is the use of having a Grand Master, if it isn't to answer questions?" he expresses his "pleasure at all times in answering all questions," though he admits that a majority of them might have been answered by a simple reference to the Constitution and regulations. Well, it is better for a Master to ask half-a-dozen unnecessary questions than to make a mistake in consequence of not asking one which he ought to have asked. But we doubt if all Grand Masters regard the asking of useless questions with the complacency of our genial Wisconsin friend.

Two of his decisions, to the effect that one lodge cannot confer degrees for another, were not passed upon by the Grand Lodge. We are sorry: this practice prevails in many States; we know of but one case in Maine, and that was while we were Grand Master: we allowed it with many misgivings, on the strength of the practice of other States; and we now incline to agree with Grand Master CORTILL.

Among his other decisions, confirmed by the Grand Lodge, are the following:

1. Election to membership, pending charges, does not amount to a waiver of the charges; but the lodge electing a person, against whom charges are pending, would be subject to discipline.

2. In such case, the applicant can withdraw his petition for membership, but the lodge may nevertheless proceed to a trial of his charges.

The Grand Master recommended a reprint of the Proceedings, and suggested the omission of various matters. Returns, of course, may be omitted (though they often are valuable in a historical point of view), but beyond that scarcely anything can be omitted. The better way is to publish *every thing*, and take longer to do it, if the expense is too heavy to be borne at once. The Grand Lodge appointed a committee to consider the matter and report this year.

The matter of building a mausoleum to Washington, at Mt. Vernon, was considered, and the Grand Master was directed to confer with other Grand Masters in relation to the subject: this is a different matter from the monument at Washington, concerning which several Grand Lodges have taken action.

The Proceedings of a lodge in Iowa, expelling a resident of that State, but a member of a Wisconsin lodge, were presented; but the Grand Lodge properly decided that it had no jurisdiction, and ordered the papers to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

The Report on Correspondence (86 pp.) was presented by Bro. GEORGE D. WILBER, in which he reviews the Proceedings of thirty-three Grand Lodges, Maine not being among them.

He epitomizes largely instead of making extracts; and while his report is exceedingly readable and valuable, it is a very difficult one to review.

Speaking of the doubts expressed by some of his brethren, as to the utility of these reports, he says:

"When Wisconsin ceases to belong to the sisterhood of Grand Lodges, and when Wisconsin masons cease to be interested in the affairs of the masonic world at large, or become unable or unwilling to learn from others, or be benefitted by their experience, then let these reports be discontinued."

He warns Brethren of the dangers inherent in all attempts to step outside of the legitimate and recognized objects of the Order, referring to the founding of masonic colleges, and similar enterprises.

He takes exception to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of California, in the clause relating to the powers of the Grand Lodge, which declares that "its legislative powers extend to every case of legislation, *not expressly delegated by itself* to the lodges," &c. We have discussed the principle involved elsewhere; and we refer to it now only to suggest that the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin is amendable at its own pleasure, and declares:

"This Grand Lodge is the Supreme Masonic Authority in the State of Wisconsin, *subject only to the Ancient Landmarks of the Order*: to it, faithful allegiance and *implicit obedience* is due from all lodges located and all masons residing therein."

We guess that upon a little further consideration Bro. WILBER will conclude that the fundamental feature of the Constitution of the United States was not recognized in the time of Solomon; and that, whether masonry then existed or not, it is founded on the principles of government then recognized. His own argument seems to us *felo de se*. He says the craft formerly assembled *en masse* in the General Assemblies: and that when they became too numerous for this, their representatives assembled in Grand Lodge. All true: the Grand Lodge, then, has the power of the General Assembly, from which it differs only in the manner in which it is made up: lodges, as such, had no power and no voice in the General Assembly; when and whence did they obtain the power Bro. W. claims for them? Did they obtain it by the law making their officers the representatives of the craft in Grand Lodge? Is it impossible for a *representative* body to be absolutely supreme? The General Assembly was confessedly so: the Grand Lodge takes its place and is equally so.

We are glad to perceive that he bases the doctrine of jurisdiction "on the very constitution of the masonic institution." We conceive that our position

upon this question has been weakened abroad by founding it upon usage, or agreement, and especially by the use of the term "American doctrine." When there was but one Grand Lodge, the question could not arise: the moment there were two Grand Lodges it was liable to arise; and we hold it to be a slander upon masonry to say that its principles do not give rules to govern the relations of those two Grand Lodges to each other; rules binding upon both, rules applicable to and binding upon all Grand Lodges, as they should come into existence.

WYOMING, 1875.

The Proceedings of 1874 (reviewed by us last year), with the Constitution, are re-printed in the same pamphlet with those of 1875.

The four lodges represented, all of which had made their returns: the "Webb-Preston work" adopted, and a Grand Lecturer appointed: nothing referred to Committee on Grievances: no Report on Correspondence, save the acknowledgment of the receipt of Proceedings.

The Grand Master (EDGAR P. SNOW) reports the prevalence of peace and harmony, and that while there had not been a large increase in the membership, it had been as great as perhaps is desirable. He had visited the lodges, and he had found that the more scattered the members and the farther they had to travel to get to the lodge, the greater their interest in masonry; we believe that this is true, quite universally. He found, also, many variations in the work, in consequence of the fact that their members hail from many different jurisdictions. He discusses the subject of non-affiliation, and non-payment of dues; he attributes the cause of these, in part, to the failure to make the lodge meetings interesting by social intercourse, and he advises to do less work and business, and devote more time to each other. He urges the Brethren to discountenance "saloon-keeping, swearing, gambling, drunkenness and their kindred vices," and to elevate the moral standard of masonry by admitting none who are not moral and upright before God. We are gratified to see the high stand taken by this young Grand Lodge.

CONNECTICUT, 1876.

Proceedings not received in season for review in their alphabetical position.

One hundred and eleven (all but two) lodges represented: two charters granted: the Grand Lodges of the Indian Territory, Wyoming and Manitoba recognized.

The Grand Master (WILLIAM WALLACE LEE) announces the death of the Deputy Grand Master, JOHN L. DEVOTION, who, becoming a mason in 1865, was a member of the Grand Lodge (as Senior Warden) in 1868; in 1871, '72, and '73, Senior Grand Warden, and Deputy Grand Master in 1874 and 1875, the last time by an almost unanimous vote.

He announces that the matter in relation to the E. A. whom he advanced "at sight" last year after rejection, had been amicably settled and the Brother had become a member of the lodge. He had had an interview with the objecting Brother (whose objection was solely that an E. A. could not dimit, and therefore that the lodge had no jurisdiction), who then, of his own accord, proposed the party for membership and he was accepted. The Grand Master tells the Grand Lodge that, notwithstanding they disapproved his former action, he firmly believes he was right, and that if his advice had been followed there would have been no need of his reporting the matter to the Grand Lodge; he considers it another illustration of the homely adage that "too many cooks spoil the broth."

He had decided that no dispensation is necessary to hold an election when an officer elect declines to accept. The contrary is almost universally held, but we do not see why a lodge may not make provision for such cases in its by-laws, and thus save the trouble of obtaining a dispensation.

He says the system of compulsory dues has been the cause of much discord and ill-feeling, and is comparatively a new thing in that State. In 1847 a lodge adopted a by-law providing for compulsory dues, and presented it to the Grand Lodge for approval, which was refused on the ground that compulsory dues are an innovation in masonry and unmasonic. Since then many lodges have adopted it, he says, with the result above stated.

He believes that masonry is made for men (not men for masonry), and is to be adjusted according to their wants and needs; that there is too much centralization, and he names a number of laws which in his view do not "appeal to the reason and satisfy the judgment." He instances the law of perpetual jurisdiction, and the laws prohibiting reception of petitions at special meetings; fixing a time which must elapse between the degrees; prohibiting the discussion of merits and demerits of candidates; placing one stricken from the rolls for non-payment of dues in a worse position than one suspended for unmasonic conduct, so far as getting back to the lodge is concerned; compelling a member to vote, when he does not wish to; and others, some of which may be open to objection.

Bro LEE is evidently radical in his views, and does not allow a reverence for precedent or usage to prevent him from following such course as seems to him to be for the good of the Institution. He is a strong thinker and writer, but he does not fully consider that it is scarcely safe to throw aside the experience of the past, simply because it does not seem to "appeal to our reason or satisfy the judgment."

The Grand Lodge decided not to take any action in relation to the erection of a mausoleum at Mt. Vernon, but directed the Grand Secretary to issue a circular to every lodge, asking aid for the Ladies' Mt. Vernon Association.

It was found that over 1,200 had been stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues, and in view of this alarming fact, the Grand Lodge adopted a General Regulation, empowering lodges, by a majority of votes, to rescind

the action within two years from that date or after suspension, upon payment of the dues and application in writing, provided the party has not in the mean time become a member of another lodge. Other regulations were adopted, prohibiting the disciplining, for non-payment of dues, of any mason of twenty-one years' of good and regular standing; and recommending to lodges to restore, without payment of the dues, any one who had been twenty-one years a mason at the time he was stricken from the rolls; and prohibiting striking from the rolls, for non-payment of dues, any such mason.

The Report on Correspondence (64 pp.) was presented by Bro. J. K. WHEELER. He has always looked upon the "Royal Solomon Mother Lodge" as "a masonic humbug"; does not believe in making masons at sight; holds that the *vote* severs the membership, and that the *dimit* is only *evidence* of it; cannot accept the idea that the mourners at a funeral should not be allowed within the circle at the grave; holds that an *Actual* Past Master cannot recognize the *Virtual* Past Master; and says many things we should be glad to copy.

LOUISIANA, 1876.

We have a pamphlet of 514 pages. It may be interesting to compare the "make-up" of it with our own: the list of officers and representatives and the preliminary matters take up ten pages; the address of the Grand Master, forty-six pages; the reports of the District Deputies, Grand Secretary, &c., forty-four pages; the proceedings, including reports of committees, fifty-six pages; returns, 121 pages; edicts (in English and French), twenty-four pages; Report on Correspondence, 204 pages; index, &c., nine pages.

One hundred and seventeen lodges represented: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming recognized: two charters granted.

The address of the Grand Master (JOHN G. FLEMING) is a full statement of his official acts and decisions, with reasons for his action in certain cases. He announces the death of quite a number of Brethren, among whom we are inexpressibly grieved to find the names of JAMES BRUCE SCOR and FERGUS FUSILIER: we shall notice them more at length hereafter.

Among his decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge, are the following:

1. A mason accused by credible persons of a violation of the laws of the land, should be tried by his lodge, whether the matter is noticed by the civil courts or not.

2. An officer of a lodge who fraudulently embezzles its funds, is not relieved from liability to punishment by the acceptance by the lodge of his note for the amount. [We apprehend that if he actually embezzles the money, subsequent *payment* even would not wipe out the offense.]

3. A mason is as much bound to obey a summons from another lodge as one from his own.

This last is the reverse of a decision quoted in this report from another jurisdiction, and we believe is not correct, except, perhaps, when the party summoned does not live in the territorial jurisdiction of his own lodge; he may be bound to obey the summons of the lodge in whose jurisdiction he does reside.

The Grand Master gives some good advice in relation to the conduct of masonic trials, which we cannot quote.

He submits an able argument against the secret ballot in voting at trials, insisting that several acquittals in plain cases of guilt had resulted from it.

He discusses the action of the Grand Lodge of Ohio in relation to "colored lodges" quite severely. He holds that it is perfectly well settled that those lodges are clandestine, and, therefore, cannot be recognized. We regret that he, by implication at least, reflects upon the *motives* which actuate our Ohio Brethren. His own language in his closing is wise, and applicable to both sides of the question:

"If philanthropy is the spirit, and the only spirit at the bottom of this movement, then the leaders of it, both in France and Ohio, are pursuing a very unwise course. If there is any prejudice against the colored man, it can be abolished sooner and more effectually by legal and conciliatory than by illegal and coercive measures. Let the colored man alone, so far as masonry is concerned, to work out his own destiny and standing in society, and the day will no doubt come that in this country he can, as he does now in England and France, enter our fraternity by virtue of his merit and intelligence, and by being made a mason in a *legally constituted constituent lodge*, which, in my opinion, is the only body that can legally make him one."

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution, approving the expressions of the Grand Master upon this subject.

A candidate had been accepted in a Louisiana lodge, and had then gone to New York, been accepted, and received the degrees. The Grand Master of New York held that, having been *accepted* in Louisiana, he could go elsewhere. Grand Master FLEMING held that the law is, that those who *begin* the work, alone have the right to *finish* it, and the Grand Lodge concurred with him.

He reports that the Directors had given \$200, and the lodges had raised and forwarded \$382.60 to the sufferers in Kansas.

It having been questioned whether a member of a lodge can appeal from the sentence of a lodge, on the ground that it is inadequate, the Grand Master made a very able argument in favor of an appeal in such a case, and the Grand Lodge so decided, and expelled one who had been merely suspended for a short time by his lodge.

The Grand Master discusses, among other matters, the subject of non-payment of dues. He believes that the trouble has arisen from carelessness in the admission of candidates, and that non-affiliation may be almost entirely prevented by a proper and free use of the ballot.

During the session the Grand Master ruled (the Grand Lodge apparently concurring) that it is an inherent right of the Grand Master to arrest the charter of a lodge, or to suspend any Brother, for just cause.

Tributes of respect and love were paid to the memory of the fraternal dead; among them we specially notice two.

FERGUS FUSILIER, Master of Parfaite Union Lodge, dropped dead in the street April 26, 1875. At the session of the Grand Encampment at New Orleans, his lodge invited a large number of us to witness its work—to be rendered in English for the first time during the history of the lodge. No one who was present will ever forget the occasion. Bro. FUSILIER presided and was apparently the main-spring of the lodge. In that brief acquaintance we learned to regard him highly, while admiring his devotion to masonry and his love for the Brotherhood. His death must have been a stunning blow to his lodge and an immense loss to the whole craft. In virtue of having sat under his instruction, we join with his lodge in lamenting his untimely death.

Of JAMES BRUCE SCOT, endeared to us by a constant correspondence for many years—crowned by a personal acquaintance which soon ripened into an intimacy rarely accorded to any one—how can we speak?

Of him the Grand Master says:

"On the 6th of this month we were called upon to mourn the loss of one of the brightest lights of our masonic constellation, in the death of R. W. Brother JAMES BRUCE SCOT, Past Master of George Washington Lodge, No. 65, who died suddenly at the residence of R. W. Brother JOSEPH P. HONOR. The fame of Brother SCOT as a most able masonic writer is not confined to this continent. From 1867 until 1874, a period of six years, he was Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Lodge, and his works in that position alone, are a proud and lasting monument of his zeal, fidelity, and ability. In 1873 he published his 'Outline of the Rise and Progress of Free Masonry in Louisiana,' a work that secured to him the admiration, and entitled him to the gratitude of every mason in this jurisdiction. He was interred with masonic honors, as he had requested to be, by George Washington Lodge."

And the Grand Lodge adopted the following Report and Resolutions:

"R. W. BROTHER JAMES BRUCE SCOT.

"On the 6th of February, 1876, masonry lost one of its best workers; one of its most thorough scholars; a great teacher of masonic doctrine; one of the first of masonic archeologists; a scribe of rare ability. But when Brother James Bruce Scot's spirit left its earthly tenement, we, the masons of Louisiana, lost the companionship of one of the most thoroughly masonic men of the long line of worthies, who have illustrated the value of our principles in this jurisdiction.

"He was made in Geo. Washington Lodge, No. 65, in 1854, and was its W. M. in 1858, '59 and '60; was exalted in Orleans R. A. Chapter, No. 1, in 1854, and was H. P. in '62 and '63; passed the circle in Louisiana Council R. and S. M., No. 2, in 1855, and was T. Ill. in '61 and '62; was knighted in Jacques de Molay Commandery K. T. No. 2, in 1856, and was E. C. in '70 and '71; was Deputy Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana in 1870; received his degrees in the A. and A. S. Rite to 32° in Pelican Chapter Rose Croix 18°, No. 11, Eagle Council K-H, 30°, No. 6, and Grand Consistory 32° in 1857-8; was Deputy Grand Commander-in-Chief in 1870, '71, '72; Grand Commander-in-Chief in 1873, '74 and '75; received his 33° and was created an Honorary Member of the S. C. 33° in 1870. Was W. M. of Louisiana Relief Lodge, No. 1, in 1859, '60, '61 and '62.

"Fortunately for him, he was assigned his proper place among us. He was our mentor as the Chairman of our Foreign Correspondence Committee. For six years he stood in the front rank of the masonic reviewers who wrote in

the English language. His knowledge on matters of masonic law and history was accurate and extensive—wonderfully so, when we reflect upon the unfortunately disorganized condition of the records of the history and jurisprudence of the craft. No difficulty daunted him. No labor seemed too great to him when work was needed to elucidate the truth. Sophistry could not blind him. He delved for facts and placed them where they were illustrated. What had been cast aside by others he carefully examined. From rejected material he brought forth priceless treasure—and he did this for us. Long after his health failed he continued his labor of love. Warned by increasing infirmity that a limit must soon be fixed to his endeavors, he strove to make his latest days useful to this beloved fraternity. Masonry had never a more devoted or a more serviceable adherent; our Grand Lodge had no more diligent and faithful officer. While living, the craft of America learned to appreciate the value of his work; now that he is gone the universal brotherhood mourns.

"Appreciating the services rendered to this jurisdiction by this quiet and unambitious Brother, in his writings, and especially that most invaluable work, 'The Rise and Progress of Freemasonry in Louisiana,' the Grand Lodge upon more than one occasion voted him handsome donations. In every instance he most unselfishly devoted the sums to the Temple Fund, thus becoming one of its most generous friends and donors. In these days of greed and money-making, it is worthy of everlasting record that Brother Scot did not labor in the cause of masonry for self-aggrandizement—for the acts just mentioned are clear manifestations of pure self-abnegation. All honor to so worthy an example, which should stimulate us to do likewise.

"The committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge should and will ever revere his name and character as a bright luminary in the galaxy of masonic scholars and historians.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure, if possible, an oil portrait of W. Brother Scot, and cause the same to be hung in the library of the Grand Lodge, or failing in this, shall, when the new Temple is built, obtain a marble tablet to be put up in the east wall of the library room, which shall be commemorative of his virtues, scholarship and services in behalf of this jurisdiction.

"The memory of the just is blessed."

The Committee on Correspondence say:

"Just as we are closing this work, the labors of a precious life have ceased. 'It is finished' is the fiat of an Authority to which all masons bow—but it has taken our tried friend and true Brother, James B. Scot, to eternal rest. He was a scholar, a writer, a gentleman and a mason *sans peur et sans reproche*. He 'put away ambition,' and lived to labor. He won a great reputation that he did not seek, and hardly appreciated. His life was stainless and useful. His end came as he wished it might, and he was buried by his lodge in the grave he had chosen. Respected and loved when with us, his memory will be cherished and revered by those whom he has left—and his works live after him.

"It is useless to speak here of his masonic career and the fruits of his masonic labor. To the reading masons of North America it would be a twice told tale. His death is a loss to the whole Fraternity."

To all this we respond with emphasis. He wrote his History of Masonry in Louisiana, while mortal disease, as he well knew, had its unrelenting grasp upon him. And when he was unable to write himself, he continued his interest in procuring materials for the history of the Consistory in that State, a work we most earnestly hoped he might be able to undertake and complete: but it was not to be. We met him in December, 1874, suffering greatly, but still the same cheerful, kindly friend we had known when in health. His physician

apparently flattered himself that a specific for Bro. Scor's disease had been found; but when he spoke to us buoyantly of his hopes, a quiet shake of the head by Bro. Scor, unseen save by us, assured us that *he* was not deceiving himself with false hopes. When we parted, though words of hope, that in the coming summer he would be able to return our visit, were spoken, it was with an overwhelming feeling understood by both, that we were looking into each other's face and grasping each other's hand for the last time: and so it proved. Though he lingered over a year, he was unable to travel so far when our summer came, and he remained at home, keeping us informed of his continuing among us by papers and an occasional letter, although writing was very fatiguing to him. His letters bore the same cheerful tone, although he was aware that his days were but few, and might end suddenly with no immediate warning. But he waited the time, unmurmuringly and patiently, though he longed for it and was accustomed so to express himself in his letters. By and by, a week passed with no paper from him, and in a few days came one with the usual post mark, but bearing a direction in the writing of another: we knew at once, as well as when we had opened the paper, that our dearly loved friend had been at last released from his sufferings.

The character of Bro. Scor as a mason, and in all the relations of life, was such, that we need make no apology for devoting this space to his memory: but we do it to put on record an example which we may all study with profit, as well as to pay a grateful tribute to our friend.

The Report on Correspondence (204 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM R. WHITAKER, and we much regret to find that it is his last.

He expresses surprise at the expression of surprise by Bro. ROBERTSON, that a brother should have been buried at New Orleans with the services of the Catholic Church, followed by the masonic ceremony, and adds:

"In this part of the world, and among masons, it has been the custom, when ministering the last rites to a deceased brother, to permit his family to hold such religious service over the body as their peculiar denominational preferences might incline them to, whether this be done at the dwelling of the departed brother, or in any church. Then we have been accustomed to convey his remains to the tomb, and inter them according to all the forms of our beautiful and impressive ritual. We do not interfere with the church service, Protestant or Catholic, on such occasions; nor do ministers of the gospel, unless they should be masons, assist in our sad labors. We conceive that in this way we pay due respect to the feelings of the living, as well as to the memory of the dead."

We think he misapprehended the cause of Bro. R.'s surprise. "In *this* part of the world," the Catholic clergy do not allow the *masonic* ceremony to be performed at a funeral of one of their members.

We commend the following to the careful attention of the craft:

"The Mutual Relief Association of the jurisdiction has come to grief. We predicted last year that ultimately it would come to no good; but we did not anticipate that it should fall to the ground on account of an embezzlement. While we deplore this unhappy event, we honestly believe that if it happens that the loss of the association will bring its members to a full appreciation of

the fact that masonic insurance companies are not apt to be as well or as profitably conducted as the ordinary well-regulated insurance institutions of the country, which only appeal to the public on the ground of good management and proper business principles, we shall believe the misfortune will prove an ultimate benefit. We shall congratulate them when they are relieved from further continuance in the experiment, new to them, but sufficiently tried elsewhere. We observe that the Grand Master recommends limitations as to age and rigid sanitary examination of applicants. This is a departure from the original purely masonic character of the association, and the next step should be to cut it loose from masonry altogether; that would be better."

He refers to our experience in New Orleans as sure to satisfy us "that brethren can live in harmony without absolute uniformity, even in ritual, and with perfect liberty as to language." We never doubted this: and yet we do not yield our views as to the impolicy of keeping up *any* distinctive line between masons of the same jurisdiction, for circumstances may sooner or later widen a line of *distinction* to one of *division*.

In his review of Maine, he commends the action of Grand Master CARGILL in the Preble Lodge case; styles his address as "practical and very interesting;" and gives him the best wishes of the craft in his retirement. Bro. W. says wonderful progress has been made in our history, noting that thirty-four lodges have printed theirs; that the importance of this work can be hardly over-estimated, and that nowhere has it been done so well or so thoroughly. He quotes our reply to Grand Master GIRARD, without comment, save that in noticing that Bro. WILBER, of Wisconsin, concurs with Bro. GIRARD, he refers him to his copy of our reply as "sufficient food for thought upon this question." He concurs with us that a mason cannot be dealt with for offenses committed before initiation, except in cases in which he actually deceives the lodge; and then, we hold, the trial is for the deceit, and not for the old offense. Referring to the summary action of the Grand Lodge in a case of discipline, last year, he asks, what will some say, who maintain that a trial ought to be had before the infliction of discipline? We reply that they *ought* to say that when an offense is committed in the very presence of the Grand Lodge, it may punish at once, *summarily*, as for contempt; otherwise, it is at the mercy of any wilful disturber of its deliberations.

We copy the following:

"Under the head of Canada, we find Brother Drummond's statement with reference to Bro. Morris's 'Traveling Lodge of Palestine,' to which we have already made allusion, and which has attracted a great deal of unfavorable attention throughout the various jurisdictions of the United States. Although we are quoting largely from Brother Drummond's report, we cannot conscientiously resist the temptation to avail of this further opportunity to enrich our pages. In this quotation he defends himself with reference to his comments on this Royal Mother Solomon Lodge, or Solomon Mother Royal Lodge, or Royal Mother Solomon Lodge, or the Lodge of the Royal Mother Solomon, which ever it may be—and makes out a case against the organization, so thorough and complete, while he relieves himself from all possibility of proper censure by his frank apologies, that he not only has the best of the controversy, but establishes himself in his original position, as to the merits of the matter, triumphantly."

Of Grand Lodge certificates, he says:

"Last year we said upon this subject: 'If one is a mason and can so prove himself, he ought to receive masonic courtesy.' We are well aware of the European practice with reference to certificates, a practice of comparatively modern date, and evidently introduced to favor masons, not qualified by knowledge of our work, to prove themselves to be such. To strengthen masonry in Europe, the practice has existed for a long time to make members of those whose influence outside of the fraternity would be valuable in maintaining the standing of the Institution in the midst of powerful and aggressive opposition. Persons of rank and influence in the political world have undoubtedly often received our degrees in the old countries, because of their exalted personal and influential political position. It was not expected, when some of these men had an opportunity to see the light whereby masons work, that they would qualify themselves as active laborers in our quarries; and to insure their recognition among the craft, diplomas were issued. In North America no necessity existed for any 'traveling papers.' We admit no one to our lodges, as a rule, who cannot prove his masonic standing. It is, at all events, a great injustice to compel a masonic traveler to produce documentary evidence of his possession of the degrees, when he can thoroughly satisfy the lodge, at whose door he knocks, of his right to enter. The right of visitation is an important one, and the restrictions now thrown about it are sufficient to preserve peace, harmony and the sacred character of our bodies. The right to ask masonic aid may be of the utmost consequence to a brother, who has no certificate of good masonic character about his person. The latter right is one on which he can insist, and its denial is a violation of masonic law. We urge fraternally, but most earnestly, upon our New Brunswick brethren that they recede from their position in this matter. By maintaining it they cut themselves aloof from intercourse in their own lodges with the great body of North American masonry."

As we have in Maine a similar regulation, we may be allowed to reply. Bro. W. entirely misapprehends the *object* and *scope* of these certificates. They are to show that the lodge, in which the holder was made, was a *regular* lodge; only this, and nothing more: the examination is just as full and complete as if he had none; and in these days of clandestine lodges, this precaution we hold to be a wise one, and a practical carrying out of the fifteenth charge to a Master at his installation, "that no visitors shall be received into your lodge without due examination, and *producing proper vouchers of their having been initiated in a regular lodge.*"

He concurs in the proposition that no power can lawfully interpose between the Senior Warden and his right and duty to fill the East when there is a vacancy in the office of Master, thus dissenting from the views of Past Grand Master GIRARD and agreeing with the views expressed by us last year: is glad to see Vermont, Maine and Alabama joining hands in the decision that masons, as such, cannot appear in public on occasions devoted to the memory of soldiers: does not believe that masonry actually originated with Solomon, and thinks that while we teach by symbols and allegories, we do not demand that they shall be received as historically true: cannot see any advantage in distributing charity by the Grand Lodge, as he believes it should be done by individuals and lodges; but his remarks have reference to its being done *solely* by the Grand Lodge, and in that view we concur in them, holding as he does, that the obligation of the individual mason to relieve a distressed brother cannot be transferred to another; desires some Grand Lodge which "adopts the

singular custom" of opening a lodge of Master Masons in order to get the Grand Lodge open, to "be good enough to explain to their less informed brethren why it is that this, to us, meaningless ceremony is persisted in"; holds that a Master cannot remove an *appointed* officer any more than the lodge can an *elective* officer; and that the "previous question" in a lodge is one which, "while the W. M. understands the use of a gavel," he will not need nor permit: he denies that a lodge, by relieving or burying a member of another lodge, has any claim for re-imbursement, as we "don't conduct our affairs upon the life insurance principle, nor do we make a charge from one parish to another, in case of masons, as we might do in case of paupers": and makes many more comments, able and instructive, but we have no space to refer to them.

In his review of Virginia, he says:

"The Grand Master laid the corner-stone of a memorial monument to the Confederate dead. The ceremonies were conducted under the auspices of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4. The Grand Master's account of the proceedings is admirably written, but it contains no justification for his exercise of his official functions in a matter in no possible sense masonic. As masons we know nothing, and can do nothing, with reference to occasions of this kind. As citizens, on the contrary, we may take such a part, and perform such duty, as our personal predilections or personal feelings may prompt. A monument to the memory of Confederate or Federal dead is a monument to the memory of those who have fought in a civil war, and although we have on record evidence to show that our ancient Brethren participated in civil wars and participated in them as masons, it is regarded by the mass of masonry, as a blot on our history.

"The general feeling in the Fraternity throughout our country is, to-day, that masonry should not display its ceremonies in public, except in the discharge of absolute masonic duty or work. During the late war in France, French masons disgraced the name of our Institution by their alliance with the Communists, and their display on the walls of Paris, in the midst of the siege, of masonic emblems and banners. The Grand Master of Michigan was guilty two years ago of a similar violation of masonic usage, and his action has been deemed reprehensible by nearly the whole corps of masonic reviewers. In Maine and Vermont a contrary rule has prevailed, and has been justified almost universally."

While we agree with him in the principle, we question whether it is applicable to the case in question. Laying the corner-stone of a public edifice is masonic work; the lodge in this case *did the work*, and was not present merely to swell the numbers and add to the pomp of the occasion, as would be the case if it appeared on "Decoration Day" or at the "Unveiling" of a Statue, or Monument. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts laid the corner-stone of Bunker Hill Monument in 1825; and we see no impropriety in doing so in the case of *any* public edifice.

Bro. W., under the general head of Masonic Jurisprudence, collects extracts of much value, upon the subject of Assessments, Color Question, Dimit, Masonic Life Insurance, Non-Affiliation, Non-Payment of Dues and Past Master. We repeat, in closing our review, that we regret extremely that he retires, for he puts work, thought and care, as well as ability, into his reports.

MISSISSIPPI, 1876.

We receive these Proceedings at a late hour, but as we can review them this year, we prefer to do so, rather than postpone it a year, when they would be less interesting.

Two hundred and sixty-one lodges represented: six charters granted, four restored, two arrested, and two lodges consolidated into one in two cases: the "Blue Lodge Text Book," by Bro. POWER, adopted for use in the lodges, with the provision that the "Mystic Circle" is recommended to be used as a Manual and Digest of Masonic Law: the "Masonic Jewel," published by Bro. A. J. WHEELER, at Memphis, Tenn., made the organ of the Grand Lodge: we hope our Mississippi Brethren will give The Jewel the hearty and substantial support which it deserves: a committee of five appointed to prepare a plan for the organization and maintenance of a Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home and Industrial School, and report the same to the Grand Master to be printed and sent out to the lodges in the recess, in order that the Grand Lodge may be able to act on the same at its next session: the Grand Lodges of Dakota and Manitoba recognized.

The Grand Master (A. H. BARKELEY) opens his address with some excellent remarks on "the true mission of masonry": he reports that he had granted but one dispensation for a new lodge during the year: his address, though dealing almost exclusively with local matters, is very interesting.

Among his decisions are these:

"The acceptance of a fee, either to prosecute or defend in a lodge trial, is inimical to the objects and contrary to the nature of the institution of masonry.

"A non-resident of the State, though a member of a lodge in the jurisdiction, is not eligible to office in the Grand Lodge.

He complains of many gross irregularities, and insists that the only adequate remedy and the only means of preventing them, is to inflict *punishment adequate to the offense committed*.

He suggests to the Grand Lodge that expulsion is too severe a penalty for non-payment of dues, and recommends that deprivation of membership be substituted. The Grand Lodge changed its by-laws, and makes suspension the penalty, the dues to run during the time he is suspended.

In regard to the proposition to erect a mausoleum to Washington, the Grand Lodge approved the enterprise, but regretted that it was unable to assist.

The Grand Secretary, as usual, presented a full report, in which he is glad to be able to say, that the finances of the Grand Lodge are once more in a sound condition—a result largely owing to him. As a token of appreciation of his valuable services, a Grand Secretary's jewel was presented to him by the Grand Lodge. The arrangement of the business, so as to save one day in the length of the sessions of the Grand Lodge, was one means of reducing the expenses.

The Committee on the "Objective Features of Freemasonry" made a re-

port, recommending the establishment of a Masonic College, but in the absence of the Chairman its consideration was postponed to the next session.

The Committee on Reprinting the Proceedings reported, that but one complete file was to be found in the State (that in the Grand Lodge Office), though Bro. FREDERIC SPEED has a complete file, except 1836; and they recommended that a volume of 600 pages be printed, commencing with the proceedings at the organization, and continuing until the volume was completed. Their report was adopted, and Bros. SPEED, POWER and P. M. SAVERY were appointed a committee to contract for and direct the work. When completed, a bound volume is to be sent to each Grand Lodge, and a pamphlet copy to each lodge; the work is to be stereotyped.

The Report on Correspondence (65 pp.) was presented by Bro. THOMAS S. GATHRIGHT. We are grieved to learn that he sustained a heavy loss, just before the session of the Grand Lodge, by the burning of the chapel connected with "Summerville Institute," of which he is the head.

He holds that the extent of punishment for non-payment of dues should be deprivation of membership, as in Maine: but he would kill, *masonically*, all useless masons, who refuse to work or violate their obligations, and reduce our numbers to such as will be a true band of brothers; well, the *reducing* process is going on in many jurisdictions, but whether the result Bro. G. desires will be reached is not so certain.

In California a mason hung another in effigy in public: upon trial for this, the Grand Lodge decided that, as it grew out of "political differences," the lodge has no jurisdiction, but the sufferer must appeal to the courts. Bro. G. objects to this, and pertinently inquires if one mason cuts another's throat on account of "political differences," whether masonry will not consider the offense. He well says, "the origin of the strife is one thing; the wrong inflicted is another." We believe his views are correct.

By implication, he is quite severe upon Bodies that spend thousands of dollars annually for mileage, *per diem*, banquets and festivities, and yet give little or nothing in charity: he opposes parades of all kinds that have in view the admiration of outsiders, and so much speaking to the public about masonry; and favors plainer clothes for masons, and more staying at home.

In noticing the Preble Lodge case, he denies the right of the Grand Master to suspend a mason without trial by his lodge, while admitting that he may suspend an official from the functions of his office, and submits the question to our attention. In reply we would say, that the right of the Grand Master to suspend a mason is inherent in the office, as was held by the Grand Master, and apparently by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, as we noted in our review (see p. 164). But we do not put it on that ground: our Constitution expressly grants the power to the Grand Master to suspend any Brother until the meeting of the Grand Lodge, when he must report his action and his reasons therefor to the Grand Lodge for its action: this accountability prevents any

abuse of the power, and its exercise in this State in several instances has undoubtedly promoted the interests of masonry. And right here we wish to say, that in our judgment an error is frequently made in punishing a lodge by censure, or the suspension or revocation of its charter, when a more effective remedy would be to punish the individuals. It is hard to punish a whole lodge for the offense of a Master and a few Brethren who are present when the offense is committed; and if Masters and Brethren who offend should understand that *they*, and not the *lodge*, would be punished, we should have fewer of such offenses. The Preble Lodge case is in point: the offenders were defiant, and carried things with a high hand until the stroke of discipline of the Grand Lodge fell on *them*, when they soon saw their error and were ready to plead for *pardon*, instead of boldly justifying their acts. A trial by the lodge in such cases is a farce, and we believe that the power is wisely given to the Grand Master to suspend till the Grand Lodge meets, and to the Grand Lodge to have original jurisdiction and try such cases itself: at any rate, it has been in practice in Maine very many years, and no abuses of it have been known, and we believe we can claim at least the *average* of good discipline.

We regret that we had not received these Proceedings before our summary of the "SPIGHT case" was printed. Bro. GATHRIGHT admits that the point we made, that the reversal of the decision of the lodge left SPIGHT as under charges and not suspended, is correct. He says that he lost sight of this fact, and so erred in fixing SPIGHT's *status* in 1874. He says, "the real *status* of SPIGHT was that of a mason under charges for a new trial by Ripley Lodge. Seeing this error, we cannot withhold it from the Grand Lodge and from the world, but submit it, as in conscience bound." This course is in entire keeping with Bro. G.'s course throughout, seeking for the truth with no regard for other considerations, which, we have feared, affected the case.

Bro. G. wrestles with the subject of the effect, upon membership, of the reversal by the Grand Lodge of the sentence of a lodge; but finally cites the express provision of the Constitution of his Grand Lodge, which indeed *is* decisive, as ours was till last year. But does any one maintain that such a provision has the least semblance of masonry in it, unless we hold that membership is held at the pleasure of the majority or a two-thirds of the lodge?

We would be glad to notice many other things in this excellent report, prepared under very adverse circumstances; his office was burned, with many Proceedings, and thus quite an amount of labor destroyed; then a domestic affliction, "full of bitterness," fell upon him; and yet with all this, he produces a report which is exceedingly creditable to him; but with the consideration of one other subject from it, we must leave it.

The following are his observations upon the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, in reference to "Colored Masonry." The subject is one of such importance, and his discussion of it is

so calm and unimpassioned, that we need make no apology for departing from our plan, and giving it entire:

"We have received a pamphlet of forty-eight pages, issued by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, on the subject of colored masons, in general, and of the colored Grand Lodge of Ohio, in particular.

"We have little disposition to discuss this subject, and will say but little. We must say but little, but that little *must* be said, because we are just who and where we are.

"We recognize the universality of masonry; and nothing can be found in our Constitution or laws at war with that declaration. The negro occupies the same civil and political position in Ohio and Mississippi. This our Grand Lodge has not ordained, nor will it attempt to destroy or defeat. With that actuality we, as masons, have nothing to do. It is not proper to discuss the expediency, regularity, irregularity, or wisdom of the action which fixed the political status of the negro.

"Certain fundamental questions of a purely masonic character present themselves, and these must not be dodged. First: Has the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, as it has been organized for fifty-eight years, exclusive jurisdiction in this State, over the first three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry? Second: If the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has this jurisdiction over these degrees, within the borders of the State, how must all lodges, working under charters granted by other authority, be regarded, and what must be the status of all masons made in such lodges? Third: Should the Grand Lodge of Ohio divide or yield a portion of its jurisdiction over persons of a particular color or race, to another Grand Lodge, within the borders of the State of Ohio, what would be the effect upon the rights and prerogatives of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and upon Freemasonry in general, as now organized? In answer to the first question, we take the position of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, that, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has exclusive jurisdiction over the first three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, within the geographical and civil limits of the State, and has had that jurisdiction for fifty-eight years; and, Second: That any and all lodges operating in the State without the warrant or charter of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi are *clandestine*, and all masons hailing from these lodges are *clandestine*. The third question deals with more complicated relations; but, these relations are not less easily marked and defined.

"The great principle of exclusive jurisdiction is the settled law of the Craft, on this Continent; and in its integrity is committed to all of us, as we all have a common interest and a common responsibility in maintaining it inviolable. If, then, Ohio recognize the colored Grand Lodge in that State, simply by substituting 'African' for colored, the common trust committed to one Grand Lodge and to every Grand Lodge, is violated; and we, my brethren, cannot stand by without concern. Should the Grand Lodge of Ohio, however, decide to heal every colored mason in the State, by causing him to go through the prescribed course that all 'brothers and fellows' have done, in just and regularly constituted lodges, Mississippi has no right to interfere or complain. A process of healing, however, which avoids due inquiry into fitness and the secret ballot, is no healing at all. Prince Hall nor any other Prince, has a right to make innovations upon the body of masonry; and we do not intend to be led into the mazes of a discussion involving the origin, progress, and full growth of this settled question of jurisdiction, nor to review our action in recognizing the present Grand Lodge of Ohio or any other Grand Lodge with which we are in correspondence. With us these questions are settled forever. Were we disposed to examine the pamphlet before us in the light of history, facts and legitimate inferences, the conclusion would be irresistible, that every colored lodge in Ohio is a clandestine lodge, and every colored mason not initiated, passed and raised by a lodge working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, or by a lodge working under some other recognized Grand Lodge, is clandestine. We do not wish to array or bring into the con-

sideration of this question the Centennial, with its associations, antecedents or consequents. We have no desire to consider the action of Governor Andrew or anybody else, in making soldiers of negroes. These are topics upon which masons should be silent. They add to nor take from the merits of this subject. At this meridian, affections are warm, memory is dear, love of country is sacred, and the unknown occupant of the unmarked confederate grave is as dear to his people as though he slept beneath the arch of a monumental pile; still it is not proper, in considering a purely masonic question, to surround it with considerations of personal affection or material glory. We prefer not to consider any masonic questions burdened by suggestions so much calculated to obscure the object in view.

"In the event that Ohio recognizes the Colored Grand Lodge of that State, it would be incumbent upon it to extend fraternal recognition to any Grand Lodge that the half-dozen so-called Colored Masonic Lodges may establish in Mississippi, or that may be established in any other State; and out of that action might grow a disturbance that would spread over the continent.

"Freemasonry being universal, any discrimination against a *man* who has the necessary qualifications and passes the scrutiny of the secret ballot is wrong, no matter what may be his color or race. Any discrimination in favor of one man above another, merely on account of the color of his skin, is wrong. There are corollaries growing out of the general proposition of universality. No man has any claims on the institution of Freemasonry; no man has any right to demand admission into its mysteries; but his qualities of head and heart, and not the color of his skin, should commend him to the favorable consideration of the Craft. This being granted, this committee can see no propriety in establishing or recognizing Grand or Subordinate Lodges for the special benefit of any race or color of men.

"In reply to the argument of prejudice, it is only necessary to state, that masonry takes humanity as it finds it. Its landmarks are immovable, and its requirements are inflexible. Men are more or less made up of prejudices, and if divested of these, we should approach a state not dreamed of in the slumbers of our fathers. King Solomon belonged to a race of men who were the most exclusive people on the earth; and this fact is in harmony with our present idea of the institution. Masonry is not for the multitude, but should be a bond between good men and true. We do not hesitate to say, that there are thousands of white men in our lodges, whose alienation from the fraternity would work it great advantage. This, however, does not admit that selections can be based on the idea of color, but upon those internal qualifications which should recommend a man to be made a mason.

"In what has been said we trust nothing can be found to have arisen from prejudice against the negro race. He is an African, and has been sinned against, in that he has been enslaved in this country for two centuries, yet, when we look at his race in his native land, and then look at the average negro, who was here born in bondage, we feel that the sin of his transportation 'from Afric's sunny fountain,' which does not, however, lay at our door, is compensated and atoned for by his improved condition. Mississippi masons do not fear the negro, do not desire his degradation, but sincerely hope for his elevation to any attainable altitude in morals and intelligence. If his exclusion from masonry among them be desirable, the taint of bondage at his birth secures that, in respect of nearly every one, who could approach the masonic altar whilst those of us who now live conduct its ceremonies. After that, the unanimous ballot will suffice for our successors. It is believed that more of whatever damage may arise from the social equality, involved in the fraternal blending of the two races, will be felt in Ohio than in Mississippi. No temptation is offered this committee to descant upon the generally received opinion of the negro's capacity. The poor African has been the source of more bitterness and discord between two sections of this great and favored country than has all other elements combined. Upon the quarrel engendered by his presence in our country was suspended the lives of millions of brothers of a common country, and in the adjustment of that quarrel those lives were sacrificed. This old institution, so conservative in principle, so

venerable in years, so charitable in practice, is now approached by this sable question, and we regard the pamphlet under review as a shadow of coming events. To avert all calamity, we exhort masons everywhere to let negroes take their chances in masonry, as do our most favored race, and let us all contribute, in a spirit of benevolence and philanthropy, to the progress of this unhappy race.

"We think we have asserted clearly that we do not fear contact with the negro. Against that we are fortified, in the present, by the logic of facts—in the future, by the inflexible requirement of a unanimous ballot. It may be that all fortification may be rendered unnecessary, in the next generation, by the growth of the colored man, in all those qualities which shall render him a desirable companion, in social and masonic intercourse.

"We fear that the action, foreshadowed by the disposition of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, may beget strife, which shall distract our counsels, estrange our Brethren, and mar that harmony which now obtains from the Lakes to the Gulf—from ocean to ocean. Once unsettle the integrity of Grand Lodge jurisdiction, as it is now recognized in the United States, and an illiad of woes will fall upon our beloved Fraternity, that admits of no distinctions among men, from which can, legitimately, spring one particle of discord. We conclude these observations by repeating that masonry is universal and cannot and must not so divide its jurisdiction as to recognize a necessity for one lodge for a white man, another for a red man, and another for a black man. Masonry is for manhood. So let it be, and let it march along in the dignity of its glorious past, accomplishing, gradually but surely, its grand destiny, of uniting in one great common brotherhood, all the colors and races of men, and in that shape and fullness to constitute the new Temple."

GRAND LODGES NOT HEARD FROM.

We should have had the Proceedings of

Idaho, 1875,

Nebraska, 1875, and

Nevada, 1875.

At least we have always before received them, and we regret the more not receiving them, as they would have completed our list of all the American Grand Lodges.

As we have remarked in this report already, a more prompt publication of Proceedings would add very much to their interest and value. We are glad to say, however, that while some have been delayed longer than usual, the average time of their receipt for 1875 was better than heretofore. We hope 1876 will show an improvement upon 1875: if Bro. PRERSON's lead is followed, it will be so.

STATISTICS.

We give our usual table.

It will be perceived that there has been a falling off of the membership in fourteen Grand Lodges. In a few cases this is probably the result of errors in these or former returns.

TABLE.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Susp'd for non-payment of dues.	Died.	Rejected.
Alabama,.....	8,805	321	367	479	19	17	685	134	69
Arkansas,.....	9,413	361	296	399	26	34	244	117	.....
British Columbia,..	275	17	22	28	1	.....	6	6	8
California,.....	11,463	662	637	554	9	10	165	149	226
Canada,.....	15,934	1,656	499	581	1	16	267	162	.....
Colorado,.....	1,204	72	126	43	2	2	69	16	64
Connecticut,.....	15,131	558	117	141	11	8	126	164	.....
Dakota,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Delaware,.....	1,167	58	16	7	1	.....	*22	15	5
Dist. of Columbia,.	2,764	141	100	37	1	1	75	45	.....
Florida,.....	2,164	155	161	136	3	.....	*96	25	56
Georgia,.....	15,168	701	564	630	42	.....	*517	192	200
Idaho,†.....	285	29	24	21	1	13	0	1	16
Illinois,.....	40,468	2,569	1,191	1,420	86	.....	*978	468	.....
Indiana,.....	27,584	2,118	889	1,252	124	65	373	303	.....
Indian Territory,..	131	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Iowa,.....	17,214	1,414	620	921	15	13	.....	148	.....
Kansas,.....	6,146	427	433	460	13	.....	*170	59	151
Kentucky,.....	21,594	1,503	.....	854	28	.....	*938	266	.....
Louisiana,.....	6,991	259	219	253	7	12	*398	139	.....
Maine,.....	19,139	870	1,084	319	9	3	211	219	365
Manitoba,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maryland,.....	5,575	269	9	108	7	84	29	66	.....
Massachusetts,....	26,107	1,418	1,809	791	1	.....	*217	286	616
Michigan,.....	26,051	1,475	570	907	63	.....	*356	190	779
Minnesota,.....	5,967	436	178	217	2	18	205	38	.....
Mississippi,.....	11,205	477	516	510	158	22	401	196	.....
Missouri,.....	22,822	1,050	804	968	54	.....	*277	299	491
Montana,.....	656	23	21	42	0	2	16	3	14
Nebraska,†.....	2,268	275	267	151	10	.....	*42	14	107
Nevada,†.....	1,345	93	137	77	5	1	35	12	69
New Brunswick,..	2,209	175	42	54	2	.....	*55	30	.....
New Hampshire,..	7,712	256	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Jersey,.....	12,013	729	250	218	6	6	411	141	.....
New York,.....	80,701	4,135	1,374	953	44	24	3,660	926	1,403
North Carolina,...	12,069	389	162	308	23	49	502	119	165
Nova Scotia,.....	3,295	434	74	174	0	2	77	38	118
Ohio,.....	30,608	1,810	1,391	1,114	91	44	1,134	367	.....
Oregon,.....	2,071	162	122	110	8	5	72	23	62
Pennsylvania,†....	37,546	2,665	659	820	.....	.....	*736	412	.....
P. E. Island,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Quebec,.....	2,704	270	88	114	0	0	70	12	.....
Rhode Island,.....	4,069	153	9	13	0	1	0	45	69
South Carolina,...	7,435	486	.....	207	.....	.....	*289	111	21
Tennessee,.....	17,994	705	1,157	85	42	284	844	219	.....
Texas,.....	17,759	1,083	1,497	1,261	66	.....	*408	288	723
Utah,.....	365	26	28	15	1	1	9	2	19
Vermont,.....	8,396	269	86	167	2	1	194	93	105
Virginia,.....	9,301	.....	22	.....	10	.....	*173	103	.....

GRAND LODGES.	M.	R.	A. & R.	W.	E.	S.	S. for n. p. d.	D.	R.
Washington,.....	713	60	49	44	1	.....	*22	15	27
West Virginia, . . .	2,236	262	120	102	9	7	170	40	102
Wisconsin,.....	10,153	704	365	379	3	30	217	85	294
Wyoming,.....	232	33	20	8	0	0	24	3	.....
Total,.....	594,617	34,208	19,231	18,452	908	775	15,984	6,804	6,340

* Including suspensions for unmasonic conduct. † For 1874. ‡ Including 37 expelled for non-payment of dues.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	1876. Gr. Lodges.	1876. Totals.	1875. Gr. Lodges.	1875. Totals.	1874. Gr. Lodges.	1874. Totals.
Members,	50.....	594,617.....	48.....	585,269.....	48.....	575,929
Raised,	48.....	34,208.....	48.....	37,984.....	47.....	37,862
Admissions, &c.,	46.....	19,231.....	43.....	17,091.....	44.....	19,735
Dimissions,	47.....	18,475.....	45.....	18,472.....	46.....	19,436
Expulsions,	47.....	908.....	44.....	1,117.....	46.....	1,073
Suspensions,	31.....	775.....	31.....	563.....	41.....	3,854
" npt. dues,	47.....	15,984.....	44.....	12,620.....	35.....	8,971
Deaths,	48.....	6,804.....	46.....	6,357.....	47.....	6,747
Rejections,	28.....	6,340.....	31.....	8,871.....	28.....	9,383

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

This subject has assumed proportions of immense magnitude. The stringency of Grand Lodge Regulations, and the desire of lodges to escape paying Grand Lodge dues for members from whom they receive nothing, have led to a wholesale cutting off from lodge privileges, and, to a great extent, from masonic privileges, of men who have passed through our ceremonies and are nominally masons. From about 1,500 in 1864, suspensions for non-payment of dues have reached, in 1875, the enormous number of about 16,000: within eleven years over *one hundred thousand masons* have been suspended or deprived of membership: saying nothing of voluntary and permanent dimissions and making allowance for restorations and deaths, there must now be *seventy-five thousand masons* unaffiliated by suspension! *One* of every *eight* masons is suspended, dropped from the roll or in some other way deprived, for the time being, of membership!

We cannot give accurate statistics upon this subject, from the want of correct returns; in some States those suspended for non-payment of dues are classed with those suspended for unmasonic conduct; but a careful examination of the statistics for this purpose, gives the foregoing results, and if they are erroneous they are too small rather than too large.

Now all admit that mere numbers are no criterion of prosperity; and if this is a pruning of dead branches, the result of a rush of unfit material into the Institution, this cutting off process is a benefit. But the serious problem is,

whether it is in fact a pruning of useless material, or a cutting that eventually will sap the life of the tree. And we confess to many misgivings, especially when we remember the former voluntary character of masonry; and we view with much anxiety the evident tendency to make masonry a matter of dollars and cents: if we are right when we say to a candidate, "if an expectation of pecuniary advantage is your motive, you will be disappointed if you come in," should we make the payment of dues a necessary condition to good standing among us? On the other hand, if a man does not care enough about masonry to deny himself even certain luxuries to enable him to pay the small amount required as dues, has he a sufficiently exalted regard for masonry to make him of any value to it?

But we suspect that in many cases membership is lost by a feeling of inability to pay dues, which the member is too proud to make known; and in other cases, by want of opportunity to pay them; and we have noticed that an active Secretary, who attends promptly to his duty, always has a much smaller number of delinquents than one who waits for the members to come to him.

But we do not desire to discuss this question further; our object is to call attention to the startling facts shown by the Statistics, in order that the subject may be, if possible, more fully considered, and the right course adopted. It will be noticed, however, that in those jurisdictions in which the penalties for non-affiliation are severest, and in which non-affiliates have the fewest rights, the number of suspensions for non-payment of dues is much larger than in the other jurisdictions.

"COLORED MASONRY."

The Grand Masters of Ohio and Minnesota have raised the question as to the duty of masons towards those organizations of the colored people of this country, existing in almost every State of our Union, which claim to be duly constituted lodges and Grand Lodges of regular masons. We say these Grand Masters have raised the question; perhaps we should say that the parties interested have raised it *through* those Grand Masters; at any rate those parties have endeavored to bring their claims to the notice of Grand Lodges, and we cannot refuse to consider claims when made in the name of masonry. It would be contrary to our earliest teachings to shrink from the examination of any demand made upon us in the name of our institution. There should be, therefore, no shrinking from meeting this matter squarely and settling it *on principle*. If it has already been settled, let the fact be declared. But above all, we should bring to its discussion, the same calm, deliberate judgment that marks the true mason; passion and prejudice, enthusiasm and undue sympathy, should equally be laid aside. While we should be ready to do justice, though the heavens fall, we must do justice to masonry and masons, as well as to others. We make these remarks preliminary to our discussion, because

we have observed a tendency in some quarters to deal in denunciation and threats rather than argument. No threats of what may fall thereon will deter any real mason from doing what he regards to be his duty; and they should avail nothing in the settlement of this question.

As there are no organizations in Maine (or New Hampshire or Vermont) of the character in question, we might seem to have no interest in this matter; but our relations are so intimate with all the other Grand Lodges, that our interest is really scarcely less than in the States in which these organizations exist.

These organizations have been recognized by some foreign Grand Bodies; we perceive that in some quarters stress is placed upon that fact; but it is now too well settled to be disputed, that the Grand Lodges of this country will settle such questions for themselves, and they will recognize no Grand Body unless they deem it entitled to recognition, whatever may be the action of the Masonic Authorities in Europe or South America.

In 1775, probably on the sixth day of March, PRINCE HALL and thirteen other colored men received the degrees of masonry in a traveling lodge, attached to one of the regiments of the British Army, then stationed in Boston. Whether this was done to enable these men to form a lodge or not, or why it was done, does not appear. But they at once commenced meeting as a lodge, without any authority. It has been claimed that they had a dispensation, under which they worked; but no evidence of this has been produced; there is no record of such a dispensation in London, and it is very certain that the Provincial Grand Master did not grant any to them; and, moreover, *dispensations* for the organization of new lodges were not then known in this country. The charter of Portland Lodge was granted directly by the Provincial Grand Master in 1769. The terms "warrant," charter" and "deputation" were then used in this connection, but the term "dispensation" was then applied only to dispensing with the law by the Grand Master in a particular case. In 1784, an application was sent to England for a charter: in the letter of transmittal, dated March 1, 1874, PRINCE HALL says that the lodge had been founded almost eight years, but that there had been, until then, no opportunity to apply for a warrant. The Grand Lodge of England (Modern) granted a charter for African Lodge in the usual form, September 29, 1784; but it was not received, or the lodge organized under it, until 1787. Official documents show that it continued to work and make returns to the Grand Lodge until 1798, and there is little doubt that it continued to work until the death of PRINCE HALL, in 1807. In 1797, PRINCE HALL granted a dispensation for a lodge in Philadelphia, to which a charter was afterwards issued, but whether by African Lodge or PRINCE HALL, we have not ascertained. It has been claimed that PRINCE HALL was "a Deputy Grand Master, with all the powers and authority pertaining to that office" when he issued that dispensation, and that he issued it as such; but not only is

there no evidence that he was a Deputy, but the evidence is plenary that he was not; indeed, one writer bases the legality of this Pennsylvania lodge upon the right of a lodge to charter other lodges. According to a contemporaneous document, a portion of the petitioners (at least) for this dispensation were made masons in England, and one or more in Ireland. One authority (WOODLIN) supposes that African Lodge was then assuming to act as a Grand Lodge, but no other, so far as we can discover, makes any such claim. Soon after, PRINCE HALL established another lodge in Providence, Rhode Island. In 1808, African Lodge and these two lodges, established by itself, or by PRINCE HALL, organized a Grand Lodge at Boston. After 1808, there is a blank in the published history of African Lodge, and there is no doubt that it became dormant, if not actually extinct. In January, 1824, a petition was sent to England, reciting the issuing of the old charter, and stating that it authorized the conferring of only three degrees, and soliciting the "renewal of our charter," to authorize them to confer the seven degrees. This petition purports to be signed by the Master and Wardens, and attested by the Secretary. They say, "It is with regret we communicate to you, that, from the decease of our well-beloved brethren who obtained the warrant, we have not been able for several years to transmit moneys and hold a regular communication; but as we are now permanently established to work conformable to our warrant and Book of Constitutions, we will send the moneys as circumstances will admit, together with the money for a new warrant, should your Honorable Body think us worthy to receive the same." To this petition no answer was returned, as the Grand Lodge of England, at the time of the union in 1813, had dropped African Lodge from its registry, and it never afterwards restored it. In 1827, getting no answer to their petition, African Lodge published a Declaration of Independence. In this document it is stated that the original charter "appears to have been confined exclusively to the Africans and to certain conditions. Whether these conditions have been complied with by our ancestors, we are unable to say; but we can add, that in consequence of the decease of the above named Brother (PRINCE HALL), *the institution was for years unable to proceed*, for want of one to conduct its affairs agreeably to what is required in every regular and well-educated lodge of masons." Not having heard from the Grand Lodge of England, it declared itself "free and independent of any lodge from this day, and that we will not be tributary, or be governed by any lodge than that of our own." How many years after HALL's death the lodge was "unable to proceed," we cannot ascertain; it was probably till about 1824; and whether the lodge was resuscitated by its old members, or by others, does not appear. WOODLIN says, NERO PRINCE succeeded PRINCE HALL, but presided only one year; that the third Master was GEORGE MIDDLETON; the next, PETER LEWIS; and the next, SAMUEL H. MOODY; the latter signed the petition in 1824, above mentioned; he, also, according to WOODLIN, established

Harmony Lodge, No. 5, in Providence, in 1825, and Bayer Lodge, in New York, in 1826. JOHN T. HILTON, a man of much ability, succeeded MOODY, and after him five others presided before 1836, when HILTON was re-elected, and held the office of Master until 1847, when, under his lead, a National Grand Lodge was formed. Before 1847, he is sometimes styled "Master," and sometimes "Grand Master;" in 1827, in the "Declaration of Independence," he styled himself Master. From these acts of African Lodge in 1827, it seems that the Grand Lodge formed in 1808 was extinct, or had been forgotten, or that its authority was denied, and we have not ascertained when the idea of the independence of African Lodge was given up, or whether the "African Grand Lodge," of which, in 1847, HILTON appears as Grand Master, is the Grand Lodge formed in 1808, or African Lodge itself, or a new Grand Lodge. Before proceeding with the history of the National Grand Lodge, it is necessary to advert briefly to the other organizations in Massachusetts.

In 1733, a Provincial Grand Lodge was formed in Boston, which continued, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England ("Modern"), until the Revolution. In 1756, the schisms among the English masons reached America, and a lodge of "Ancient" masons was formed under the Grand Lodge of Scotland. An attempt was made to harmonize the two factions in Boston; but it failed, the two never having united, save once, when, on the occasion of the funeral of Provincial Grand Master JEREMY GRIDLEY, they forgot their animosities in their common grief. While partially recognizing each other as masons, they prohibited mutual visitation, as such. This state of things led, in 1769, to the formation of an "Ancient" Grand Lodge under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, with JOSEPH WARREN as Grand Master. WARREN was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill, in 1775; and political independence was declared July 4, 1776. The idea of *masonic* independence soon followed; and, upon formal call, the delegates of three of the four "Ancient" lodges met March 8, 1777, and formed an Independent Grand Lodge, and the fourth lodge soon gave in its adhesion. It has been doubted whether these delegates were the *authorized* representatives of the lodges. The lodges were ordered to send delegates for that special purpose; the record so states it; this is sufficient evidence, but it is not all; it was re-stated and re-affirmed, by way of recital, both in 1782 and 1785. In 1782, this Grand Lodge formally promulgated the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction. But it has been argued that, although the Grand Lodge formally announced this doctrine, it was without effect, because there then were, and continued to be, another Grand Lodge and other lodges in Massachusetts. But a decisive and complete answer to this is, that one was "Modern" and the other "Ancient," and neither recognized the other as "*regular*" masons. They maintained towards each other very much the bearing that the "Compact" Colored Grand Lodges and the "Independent" Colored Grand Lodges, in several of the States, now bear towards each other—each denouncing the other as irregular and clandestine. But in 1787, measures began to be taken

for a union, which was effected in 1792, as it was in South Carolina in 1808 and again in 1817, and in England in 1813. The union in 1792 was no more a recognition of *concurrent* jurisdiction, than was the union of the two Grand Lodges in New York in 1858. It was a *consequence* of the doctrine of *exclusive* jurisdiction, recognized by all concerned.

The doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction was substantially declared by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, June 24, 1779, and re-affirmed October 28, 1785.

On May 26, 1785, a convention of delegates of twelve of the Ancient lodges in Massachusetts met, and after consideration and discussion, adopted a declaration consisting of thirteen Articles. This meeting escaped the notice of all who have discussed the question until 1874, when its proceedings were published in the *New England Freemason* (Vol. I, pp. 465 to 473). The regularity and legality of the formation of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge were affirmed.

To return to the colored organizations. After the formation of the lodge in Philadelphia, in 1797, by PRINCE HALL, two others were formed there (we presume by African Grand Lodge at Boston), and on December 27, 1815, these three formed a Grand Lodge for Pennsylvania, under the title of "The First Independent African Grand Lodge of North America." This title indicates that the Grand Lodge at Boston was then understood to be extinct. In 1818, one of the subordinates of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, and in 1828 another, were declared rebels and were expelled. But they seem to have continued their work, for in 1833 one of them claimed to have obtained a charter from the Grand Lodge of Ohio, with authority to form enough more lodges to organize a Grand Lodge. It was claimed that \$125.00 was paid for this authorization, one-half by each lodge. Of course it was a forgery, but it is probable that the recipients of it were imposed upon, as they proceeded under it with apparently perfect confidence. Other lodges were formed, and on July 17, 1837, they organized the Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Between these two Grand Bodies there was a bitter feud until 1847, when JOHN T. HILTON conceived the idea of uniting all the organizations under a National Grand Lodge.

On June 24, 1847, the delegates of the three Grand Lodges (one in Massachusetts and two in Pennsylvania) and from Boyer Lodge in New York, met in Boston, and formed "The M. W. National Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of Color, for the United States of North America and the Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging." This Body was to meet once a year, but elect officers once in three years. It had power to grant warrants to State Grand Lodges, and no Grand Lodge could be recognized that did not hold a warrant from it.

Thereupon the two Grand Lodges in Pennsylvania consolidated: a Grand Lodge was formed in New Jersey, June 12, 1848, by four lodges, two holding under each of the lately rival Bodies in Philadelphia; also in 1848, Prince

Hall Grand Lodge was formed in Massachusetts by four lodges; the United Grand Lodge in New York by six lodges; Union Grand Lodge of Maryland by three lodges; the Grand Lodge of Ohio; and the Union Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia: there were also one lodge in Rhode Island, one in Connecticut, one in Indiana, one in Louisiana, one in Virginia, one in California and two in Delaware: these were all the lodge organizations then existing, and all under the jurisdiction of the National Grand Lodge.

But trouble soon came: in 1849, at its Annual Session, it "expelled" the Grand Lodge of New York, with three of its subordinates, and a new Grand Lodge was formed Oct. 13, 1849, with six lodges; but the old Grand Lodge continued as Independent: this was followed by a schism in Pennsylvania, and an Independent Grand Lodge was formed there: individuals and one lodge in New Jersey were also expelled.

The National Grand Lodge, after 1850, met triennially. We have seen its Proceedings for 1856, 1862, 1865 and 1874. Those for 1856 give the organization of three Grand Chapters, a Grand Encampment and a Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree. Its Constitution (1865) denounces all Colored Grand Lodges, and lodges not holding under it as spurious and clandestine. Since 1849 there has been a fierce contest between the "Nationals" and the "Independents." The former have been gradually losing ground, and although the National Grand Lodge has quite a number of subordinates, its days are numbered, unless some reaction shall set in to give it new strength.

The Grand Lodges, with character and date of organization, are as follows:

Alabama.—1, National, May 14, 1874; 2, Independent, September 27, 1870.

Arkansas.—Independent, March 28, 1873.

California.—There was a "National" Grand Lodge formed some years ago, and an "Independent" in 1871. But recently they have been consolidated; and now there is but one Grand Lodge, independent.

Connecticut.—Independent, November 3, 1873.

Delaware.—1, Hiram Grand Lodge, Independent, 1849: 2, Harmony Grand Lodge, National, 1855.

District of Columbia.—Organized as National in 1848: in 1874, seceded, and now is independent.

Florida.—1, Independent, organized in 1870; 2, we hear that a "National" has also been formed, but have no definite information.

Georgia.—1, National, June 24, 1870; 2, Independent, June 23, 1874.

Illinois.—National, February 15, 1867.

Indiana.—There have been, and at last advices continued to be, two Grand Lodges in Indiana, one originally National, but within a few years has withdrawn; the other, Independent, but not uniting with the former.

Kansas.—Independent, June 24, 1867.

Kentucky.—National, August 16, 1866. But in 1875 it withdrew from the "National Compact" and is now "Independent."

Louisiana.—Eureka Grand Lodge, 1863, Independent. Other Grand Lodges also have subordinates, and the "Supreme Council" has one.

Maryland.—1, Union Grand Lodge, National, 1848; 2, First Colored Grand Lodge, Independent.

Massachusetts.—Prince Hall Grand Lodge, originally National; it has recently withdrawn from the National Compact.

Michigan.—1, National, April 25, 1865; 2, Independent, September 23, 1872.

Mississippi.—National, 1874.

Missouri.—June 24, 1866: originally "National," but has recently withdrawn, and joined the Independents.

New Jersey.—A "National" Grand Lodge was organized in 1849: and afterwards an Independent was also formed; but in 1875, they consolidated as an Independent Grand Lodge.

New York.—As before stated, the Grand Lodge of New York was expelled, the account says, for "nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine years, nine months and nine days." A new Grand Lodge was formed October 13, 1849. Whether the old Grand Lodge continued its existence, we are unable to say. There is now an Independent Grand Lodge, which is said to have been formed in 1851. There is also a "Compact" Grand Lodge, but we have never seen any documents issued by it, and cannot give its history.

North Carolina.—National, March 1, 1870.

Ohio.—WOODLIN says it was organized in 1848; but the better authority puts it in 1851: it was originally under the "National Compact," but in 1868 it withdrew, and has been very earnest since in its efforts to procure the dissolution of the National Grand Lodge.

Ontario.—Independent, 1871.

Pennsylvania.—Soon after the formation of the National Grand Lodge, and immediately after the union of the two State Grand Lodges, there was a schism, resulting in two Grand Lodges, as above stated, which are still in existence.

Rhode Island.—There were until recently a "Compact" Grand Lodge, and an Independent Grand Lodge, formed June 24, 1874; but the two consolidated and formed a "Sovereign Grand Lodge," October 27, 1875.

South Carolina.—Compact, June, 1869.

Tennessee.—1, Independent, August 31, 1870; 2 Compact, 1872.

Texas.—Independent, August 19, 1875.

Virginia.—1, Compact, "Union Grand Lodge," February 16, 1866; 2, Independent, in 1867.

In Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin there is no Grand Lodge; the same is true of Canada, except the Province of Ontario.

From this history of these organizations, it will be seen at once that on no ground whatever can the Ohio proposition be sustained.

To recognize them as Independent Grand Lodges is the death of the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction. If Ohio recognizes the African Grand Lodge, she must repeal the ban of non-intercourse with Hamburg and the Grand Orient of France, and recognize those Bodies in New York, New Jersey and Louisiana which she has for so many years declared to be clandestine, and the planting of which was a masonic offense of so grave a character that it put the perpetrators outside the pale of masonry, in her judgment, as well as that of all her sisters.

Again, it introduces into masonry a distinction founded upon race and color, which is contrary to its fundamental principles. But it is said that a distinction founded upon *nationality* has already been introduced, and that it is no more an innovation upon masonic usage and law to grant a charter to men of color, than to grant one to Germans or Frenchmen. We have never believed it right to issue a charter with any stipulation as to the language in which the work is to be done; still, the granting of a charter to men of color, leaving them free to admit whom they please, and placing them under the same government as other lodges, is a very different thing from recognizing an *African Grand Lodge*, and thus saying, "the whites will come with us, the blacks will go with you."

No, the only terms upon which recognition can be granted is the consolidation of the two Grand Organizations into one as the supreme authority over all the subordinates. If these organizations are regular, or merely technically illegal, they should be invited to unite and fuse with the white organizations, as masonic history affords many precedents for doing.

But are they regular? Or are they merely *technically* irregular? Or are they essentially clandestine? If, in 1782, the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction was law, as now held, the first lodge, the source of all the rest, was clandestine. But admitting that African Lodge was a regular lodge, was there a single other *regular* lodge established? The first was formed in 1797 by PRINCE HALL, who had no other or greater authority than that of Master of a lodge. It is true that anciently lodges were formed without any warrant or charter; but in 1797, it had been the law of the Grand Lodge, under which African Lodge then held its charter and worked, for three-quarters of a century, that "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 or deeds" (Eighth Old Regulation). The lodge in Providence was formed in the same manner. These two, with African Lodge, formed a Grand Lodge in 1808. Under the Old Regulation, to which we have referred, these lodges and their Grand Lodge were clandestine; they were clandestine not merely under the masonic law as it now exists, but under the law as it then existed, and had existed nearly a century. Upon a most thorough and careful examination, with an anxiety to arrive at the truth, but with an earnest

wish, which we do not hesitate to avow, that the irregularities in these organizations might be found to be of so purely technical a character that they might be healed by legislation, and the universality of masonry demonstrated in a signal manner, we can come to no other conclusion than that they are irregular and must be held to be clandestine.

But it is said that they maintain the same principles, have the same forms and ceremonies, and practice the same masonry that we practice, and in the same manner in which we practice it; and why not then heal them, as has been done in other cases, in which the parties healed were held to be equally clandestine? To this (if it is true) one answer is, that *they are not ready*. Should we heal the "Nationals" or the "Independents"? Although there may be some States in which this question does not arise, yet no policy must be adopted in this matter which is not a general one, and while there are two rival organizations they are not ready to present this question.

But beyond this there is another difficulty, which another generation will remove: many of the members of the colored lodges are not *free born*. It is true that in 1813, the Grand Lodge of England struck out "*free born*" and inserted "*free man*." But in America, it is a landmark, that no one can be made a mason unless he is *free born*: there may be no reason whatever why a *free man*, though not *free born*, may not be made a mason; but that does not signify, as long as the law is otherwise, and we cannot see how this difficulty can be removed save by time.

We cannot see, therefore, that the masons of to-day can do anything of the character proposed by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, or that they are called upon to recognize, or that they *can* recognize, without a violation of the landmarks of masonry, the organizations to which the resolutions of that Grand Lodge relate. But one thing can be done: the question can be discussed *masonically*, if it is discussed at all. We regret very much to have seen already the words "falsehood" and "fanatics" used in a discussion of this matter. The time has gone by when an argument can be answered by denunciation, or men can be scared by the fear of being called "fanatics": recourse to such terms implies a want of materials for argument, or a want of ability to use materials.

CONCLUSION.

Our Report has again swelled to dimensions beyond our expectations and intentions: but hoping that it contains information to some, instruction for others, and at least "food for thought" for all, it is

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, *for the Committee.*

A letter from Past Grand Master JOSEPH C. STEVENS, expressed his regret at being prevented by illness from

attending this session of the Grand Lodge, and his fraternal sympathies and best wishes towards the Institution and the Brethren.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, on behalf of the special committee to which the several matters connected with Preble Lodge were referred, presented Reports as follows :

The special committee, to which were referred the various memorials in relation to the restoration of the charter of Preble Lodge, have fully heard the parties and considered the matters, and ask leave to report :

That the Grand Lodge, at its last Annual Communication, revoked the charter of Preble Lodge, in consequence of the conduct of the lodge, and for the same reason, when the charter was restored to certain members not implicated, located the lodge at Sanford Corner.

Other members of the lodge, not implicated in the irregularities which caused the revocation of the charter, as well as some who were thus implicated, now ask that the charter may be restored to all the members (except those expelled or suspended) and the lodge located at Springvale, as formerly.

Your committee find that it would be folly to restore the charter to all the former members not implicated, on account of an intense division of feeling which has sprung up among them from outside causes : there would not only be an utter want of harmony, but an actual antagonism among them.

The question thus came between no restoration of the charter at all, or a substantial confirmation of the action last year : and your committee see no sufficient reason for reversing that action, but would recommend certain modifications thereof, making a full disposition of the matter without throwing the responsibility upon our M. W. Grand Master.

The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolutions.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
W. R. G. ESTES,	

Resolved, That the charter of Preble Lodge, its records, funds and all its property of every kind, with the right to collect all unpaid dues, be restored to the petitioners for the charter at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, viz : MOSES W. EMERY, GEORGE E. ALLEN, EDWIN S. WRIGHT, CHRISTOPHER H. CRAM, JOHN B. BODWELL, GILBERT G. LITTLEFIELD, WILLIAM A. ALLEN, JONAS R. DORMAN, GEORGE W. GOWEN, WILLIAM A. STACKPOLE, JOSEPH TRAVIS, WILLIAM TRAVIS, GEORGE WHITHEAD, WILLIAM WHITHEAD, WILLIAM H. HOBBS, MOSES S. HUSTON, HENRY HANSON, RICHARD

H. GOODWIN, WILLIAM H. MILLER, JAMES SUTCLIFF, HIRAM H. FORD, JOHN HARRIS and WILLIAM H. WALKER, and that the lodge be located at Sanford Corner.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolution be endorsed on said charter by the Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Preble Lodge be re-organized by the election and installation of officers, under the immediate supervision of the Deputy Grand Master for the District, who is hereby authorized to act in the premises.

Resolved, That the charter be restored to the petitioners, upon the express understanding that the present property of the lodge (except the furniture) shall not be used in building or furnishing a Hall, but shall be kept as a Charity Fund. And none of the property, except the charter and records, shall be delivered to said lodge, except on the certificate of the District Deputy, that the lodge has been re-organized and the officers installed; upon the production of which certificate, the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are authorized to deliver the property and the funds to the proper officers of the lodge.

Which report was accepted and the several resolutions were adopted.

The special committee appointed to inquire into the *status* of HOWARD FROST, ask leave to report:

That said HOWARD FROST was rejected in Fraternal Lodge.

That he afterwards, and while still residing in the jurisdiction of Fraternal Lodge, petitioned for and received the degrees in Ossipee Valley Lodge, in New Hampshire, without the consent of Fraternal Lodge.

That thereupon, such proceedings were had, that Grand Master MURRAY issued his edict, forbidding his reception or recognition in Maine until otherwise ordered.

That on the second day of September, 1870, Grand Master LYNDE issued the following permission to Preble Lodge:

"Preble Lodge, No. 143, is authorized to receive and recognize HOWARD FROST, provided he receives the unanimous consent of the Lodge, upon petition made in the usual manner, taking the usual course."

That it does not appear *by the record* that *any* action whatever was taken by the lodge, and it is certain that the action contemplated by Grand Master LYNDE was *not* taken, as in *twenty days* from the date of his order, HOWARD FROST visited Preble Lodge, and is recorded as visiting it from that date forward, till 1873, when he filed his dimit, and at the next stated meeting was elected a member of the lodge. The record does not show that he petitioned for membership, or that the matter was referred to the Committee of Inquiry.

The condition of the permission granted by Grand Master LYNDE was not complied with, and Preble Lodge had no right to receive him as a visitor, or to receive and entertain an application for membership, until he had petitioned

for recognition, the petition been referred to the Committee of Inquiry, reported upon by them, and been granted by a unanimous ballot.

But considering that HOWARD FROST, at the time of his rejection, resided within the jurisdiction which afterwards appertained to Preble Lodge, and was afterwards admitted by ballot a member of Preble Lodge, and acted as such for two years, without objection so far as is made known, we recommend that he be recognized as an unaffiliated mason in good standing.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
W. R. G. ESTES,	

Report accepted, and recommendation adopted.

The special committee to which was referred the petition of those members of Preble Lodge who were suspended at the last session of the Grand Lodge, have heard the parties and ask leave to report:

The offense of overriding the ballot, under any circumstances, is one of great magnitude and exceedingly dangerous to masonry, and calls for severe punishment: it is the more dangerous because often, when a candidate is rejected, the black-ball is ascribed to unworthy motives, when in many, and undoubtedly in almost all cases, there is a valid reason for it. In a case disposed of at this session, we learn that the rejection of a candidate was universally held and believed by all the members, save one, to have been wrong: and yet it now appears that the same candidate had been *twice* rejected by another lodge in this State.

But the offense of the parties in this case seems to have been committed, in part at least, in ignorance of the law: and they are *now* conscious of their error, and sorry for it. We believe that they may now be pardoned without injury to the interests of masonry: we therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution. Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
W. R. G. ESTES,	

Resolved, That ALVAN W. DAM, BENJAMIN BEAL, EBEN S. HILTON, EDWIN J. REED, JESSE GILES, ISAIAH B. STILES and THOMAS J. HAM, heretofore suspended by this Grand Lodge, be hereby restored to all the rights and benefits of masonry.

Which report was accepted, and the resolution adopted.

M. W. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND was called to the East, and installed the Grand Officers elect in ample form, Bro. F. LORING TALBOT acting as Grand Marshal.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following appointments :

R. W.	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Bath.
"	HENRY F. COLLINS,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Houlton.
"	E. HOWARD VOSE,	" 2d	Calais.
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	" 3d	Machias.
"	JAMES T. CUSHMAN,	" 4th	Ellsworth.
"	DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR.,	" 5th	Dexter.
"	MANLY G. TRASK,	" 6th	Bangor.
"	JOHN H. GORDON,	" 7th	Brooks.
"	WILLIAM A. PENDLETON,	" 8th	Northport.
"	CLARK D. SMALLEY,	" 9th	Rockland.
"	ALMORE KENNEDY,	" 10th	Waldoboro.
"	GEORGE P. HASKELL,	" 11th	Augusta.
"		" 12th	
"	SIMON S. BROWN,	" 13th	Fairfield.
"	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	" 14th	Sabattus.
"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	" 15th	Lewiston.
"	DIMAN B. PERRY,	" 16th	Mechanic Falls.
"	GEORGE E. TAYLOR,	" 17th	Portland.
"	SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	" 18th	Denmark.
"	JOHN S. DERBY,	" 19th	Saco.
W. & Rev.	C. C. MASON,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Kent's Hill.
"	CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "	Kennebunk.
"	WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "	Portland.
"	J. R. BOWLER,	" "	Rockland.
"	L. P. FRENCH,	" "	Solon.
"	CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "	Augusta.
W.	BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Portland.
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon,</i>	Portland.
"	ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
"	ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Camden.
"	S. J. CHADBOURNE,	" "	East Dixmont.
"	AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "	East Machias.
"	CHARLES E. WELD,	" "	West Buxton.
"	H. H. BURBANK,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Alfred.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>G. Standard Bearer,</i>	Portland.
"	WM. R. G. ESTES,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Skowhegan.
"	LEVI W. SMITH,	" "	Vinalhaven.
"	TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	<i>Grand Lecturer,</i>	Portland.
"	C. O. FILES,	<i>Grand Organist,</i>	Portland.
Bro.	WARREN PHILLIPS,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

The remaining Grand Officers present were in due succession presented for installation, installed in ample form by Past Grand Master DRUMMOND, and due proclamation was made by the Grand Marshal.

On motion,

Voted, That all Grand Officers, not now installed, present themselves for installation to one of the first four officers of the Grand Lodge, to a District Deputy Grand Master, or in their respective lodges, and cause certificates of such installation to be transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to notify each of the Grand Officers, who have not been installed, of his appointment, and of the vote of the Grand Lodge providing for his installation.

The following Standing Committees were appointed :

On Foreign Correspondence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, STEPHEN BERRY.

On Publication.

IRA BERRY, STEPHEN J. YOUNG, S. J. CHADBOURNE.

On the History of Masonry in Maine.

ROTHEUS E. PAINE, GEORGE E. TAYLOR, F. T. FAULKNER.

On Masonic Jurisprudence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, WILLIAM P. PREBLE, HENRY H. DICKEY.

On Returns.

IRA BERRY, JOSEPH A. LOCKE, WARREN PHILLIPS.

On Credentials.

LEANDER W. FOBES, STEPHEN BERRY, GEORGE L. BAILEY.

On Amendments to Constitution.

DAVID CARGILL, HIRAM CHASE, EDWARD P. BURNHAM.

On Grievances and Appeals.

JOSEPH M. HAYES, ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, F. LORING TALBOT.

On Dispensations and Charters.

HORACE H. BURBANK, W. R. G. ESTES, MILTON M. STONE.

Which appointments were confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

BROS. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND and IRA BERRY were continued with the Grand Master, as the Library Committee.

BROS. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, TIMOTHY J. MURRAY and EDWARD P. BURNHAM were re-appointed as the special committee to examine into the alleged attempt to influence jurors by alluding to masonry—in accordance with their report made at this communication. (*See page 32*).

The Grand Secretary reported that the Trustees of the Charity Fund had appropriated the sum of nine hundred and thirty-eight dollars, to be applied to the relief of fifty-six cases of need, according to a schedule prepared ; that they had examined the securities of the invested fund and found them correct ; and had approved the bond presented by the Grand Treasurer.

BRO. E. H. BANKS, for the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that they found nothing requiring further action of the Grand Lodge at this time : which report was accepted.

The minutes of this Communication were read by the Assistant Grand Secretary, and approved by the Grand Lodge.

Prayer was offered by W. and Rev. WILLIAM E. GIBBS, Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge of Maine was closed in ample form.

Attest,

Ira Berry,

Grand Secretary.



REPORTS

OF

District Deputy Grand Masters.

FIRST DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith present my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District.

I have visited all the lodges in this District once, at least, and some of them several times, and have found them harmonious, efficient, and striving as a whole to perform their duties faithfully, according to the light possessed.

The increase is small in each lodge, but, in the aggregate, is as large as could be reasonably expected in these times of financial troubles and embarrassments. I have found no flagging in the interest of the lodges in consequence, but, on the contrary, have found an increased desire to be perfect in the work, the leisure thereby occasioned giving more time to devote to that purpose.

My intercourse with the officers and members of the different lodges has been exceptionally pleasant on all occasions, and for the courtesy they have extended to me as a representative of the Grand Lodge, and their readiness to receive and profit by any suggestions I found necessary to make, I return my cordial thanks.

It gives me much pleasure to report that the troubles and dissensions which have so long impaired the usefulness of Pioneer Lodge, and threatened to rend it in pieces, have all been healed, and the brethren united again.

There are eight lodges in this District, and the following is an abstract of the returns from seven, one lodge not having sent in its return in a proper form:

Katahdin, No. 98, Patten,	68 Members.
Trinity, No. 130, Presque Isle,	69 "
Pioneer, No. 72, Ashland,	50 "
Caribou, No. 170, Lyndon,	41 "
Molunkus, No. 165, Sherman Mills,	29 "
Monument, No. 96, Houlton,	121 "
Eastern Frontier, No. 112, Fort Fairfield,	71 "
Total,	<u>449</u> "
Initiates, 14.	
Amount of initiation fees,	\$34.00
Amount of annual dues,	<u>67.35</u>
	\$101.35

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. COLLINS,

Houlton, April 13, 1876.

D. D. G. M. 1st Masonic District.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Seed time and harvest, marking the revolutions of another year, and in obedience to the laws of the Grand Lodge of Maine, I hand you my fourth annual report, as your representative in the Second Masonic District, and renew to the Grand Lodge the fraternal salutations which greet us from all parts of our country, inspiring gratitude for the continued favors in this, our nation's centennial year, as seen in the growth, expansion and productiveness of masonic principles. The light of masonry stands higher, and shines brighter, than it did in 1776; its influence is seen and felt far and wide, and its character is becoming more known and extensive, so that the world is induced to think there is some good in masonry. "Can there be any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Can there be any good thing come out of Masonry? Come and see.

The antiquated idea, that masonry was the work of darkness and demons, is not so prevalent as it was in the last century; these facts should prompt the fraternity in coming years to greater vigilance, to double their diligence to advance its progress, to rejoice and be glad, to keep our "eye upon the point within the circle." So mote it be.

I have to report that I officially installed the officers of Washington Lodge,

No. 37, Lubec, January 5th. I was assisted on this occasion by Bro. OAKES, acting as Grand Marshal. The charter of this lodge is dated June 16, 1822; stated meeting first Wednesday in the month; annual election at stated meeting in December; returns 88 members; 2 dimitted, 8 deprived of membership for non-payment of dues. Grand Lodge dues, \$13.20.

January 8th, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Crescent Lodge, No. 78, Pembroke, in connection with the officers of Crescent Royal Arch Chapter, installed by Past Deputy Grand High Priest, H. R. TAYLOR, of Machias. This occasion was a very pleasant and cheerful one; the Pembroke Band escorted the lodge from their Hall to Washington Hall, which was more than well filled by the citizens of Pembroke. After the ceremonies of installation, Bro. N. B. NUTT, of Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport, gave an address, which was pronounced by all to be very "clever." The lodge paid my expenses. Charter dated July 10, 1856; stated meeting first Wednesday in the month; annual election December, St. John's day; returns 156 members; dimitted 5; died 3; expelled 1; deprived of membership for non-payment of dues 8; initiated 5; annual fees, \$23.40. Grand Lodge dues, \$33.40.

I visited St. Croix Lodge, No. 46, Calais, March 6th; witnessed the E. A. degree conferred by W. M. VOSE in an acceptable manner. Charter renewed May 29, 1845; stated meeting first Wednesday in the month; annual election St. John's Day, December; returns 196 members; dimitted 4, died 4, initiated 9; initiation fees \$18; Grand Lodge fees \$29.40; Grand Lodge dues \$47.40.

It was my purpose to have visited Lewy's Island Lodge, No. 138, Princeton, March 7. I had notified the Brethren to that effect, but I found the sleighing so poor, and the snow going off so fast, that I was obliged to return home. In this I was disappointed, as I had looked forward to a pleasant sitting with the Brethren in their new hall, and witnessing their improvements.

I secured the services of Bro. VOSE, W. M. of St. Croix Lodge, No. 46, Calais. "He visited Lewy's Island Lodge, April 5th; expected to see work, but the candidate was not able to be present. The attendance was good, business well done and in good style; records well kept in every way, and give evidence of being in a good, healthy, harmonious and prosperous condition." Charter dated May 8, 1867; stated meeting first Wednesday in the month; annual election, St. John's Day, December; returns 82 members, died 1, suspended 1, initiated 5; initiation fees \$10.00; Grand Lodge fees \$12.30; Grand Lodge dues \$22.30.

I intended to have visited Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport, during last month, March, but I learned there was no work on hand, and that the lodge did not meet during the month. The lodge, as usual, I have no doubt, is in good working order. Charter dated June 8, 1801; stated meeting first Monday in the month; annual election December 27; returns 200 members; dimitted 8, died 2, suspended 1, initiated 6; initiation fees \$12.00; Grand Lodge fees 30.00; Grand Lodge dues \$42.00.

The following is a succinct statement of the lodges in the Second Masonic District:

Number of lodges,	5
" " members,	722
" " initiated,	25
Initiation fees,	\$50.00
Amount of annual fees,	108.30
Grand Lodge dues,	158.30

Which I have paid to the Grand Treasurer.

Thanking you, M. W., for the commission which I received from your hands, I return the jewel of my office, and respectfully ask you to accept my resignation.

Respectfully submitted,

Lubec, April 8, 1876. WILLIAM H. HUNTER, *D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.*

THIRD DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

As D. D. G. M. of the Third Masonic District, I herewith submit the following report:

The Third District comprises six lodges. During the year I have visited but three of them.

Business engagements have prevented me from giving that attention to the duties of my office which its importance demands, but I am persuaded that no injury has resulted to the craft in consequence of my seeming neglect; for so far as I can learn, the lodges of this District are in a good working condition, harmony prevailing throughout them all.

February 8th, I installed the officers of Narraguagus Lodge, at Cherryfield. The officers of this lodge are all young, but enthusiastic masons, and have had but little experience in their several stations; but they seem disposed to be satisfied with nothing short of perfection, and at the present time they only need work to bring out their abilities. I have witnessed work in the several degrees, which was done in a very creditable manner.

February 14th, I publicly installed the officers of Pleiades Lodge, at Mill-bridge; after which the members of the lodge with their ladies, and quite a number of the Brethren of Narraguagus Lodge, repaired to the banquet hall, where they were served with a bountiful collation. I found them very correct in the opening and closing ceremonies, but time would not permit an exemplification of the work. The records were correctly and neatly kept.

February 17th, by invitation, I visited Harwood Lodge, at Machias, and installed their officers; after which I witnessed work in the F. C. degree, which was done in a most satisfactory manner. The laws of masonry are well observed in this lodge, and the officers attentive and active in their duties. The records I found correct, and neatly kept, and the arrangement of them is such that any matter can be readily turned to.

Warren, Tuscan and Lookout Lodges, which I have not had the privilege or pleasure of visiting (and which I regret exceedingly), I have every reason to believe are in a healthy and prosperous condition.

I desire to express my grateful acknowledgments to the Brethren of the several lodges, which it has been my pleasure to visit, for their kindness and courtesy shown me in my official and private capacity.

I regret very much that I cannot render a better account of my stewardship, and hope some more worthy Brother, who can more faithfully attend to the duties of the office, will be appointed in my stead for the ensuing year.

The following is an abstract of the returns as made to me:

Total number of members,	652	
“ “ “ initiates,	29	
Amount of initiation fees,		\$56.00
“ “ annual dues,		97.80
Total of dues to Grand Lodge,		\$ 153.80

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL N. CAMPBELL, *D. D. G. M. 3d M. D.*

Cherryfield, April 29, 1876.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The following report from the Fourth Masonic District is herewith submitted:

This District is composed of ten chartered lodges, and one under dispensation—Hersey Lodge, at Penobscot, which I have had the pleasure of visiting twice, and the last time witnessing splendid work. The brethren of this lodge (at the coming session of the Grand Lodge) will apply for a charter, and I see no reason why their prayer should not be granted, and I cheerfully recommend that they be constituted into a regular lodge.

November 12, 1875, visited Eggemoggin Lodge, No. 128, at Sedgwick, and, by request, assisted in the burial of our lamented brother, GEORGE G. BART-

LETT, P. M. The day was very pleasant. Naskeag Lodge and many friends were present, and all exhibited their feelings of sympathy for the bereaved family, and regrets that one so young and worthy should be called so soon.

December 17, 1875, installed the officers of Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, of Ellsworth, assisted by P. M. A. W. CUSHMAN, as Grand Marshal.

January 15, 1876, visited Mount Desert Lodge, No. 140, at Mount Desert. Examined records; found them neat and well kept. Installed the officers, who are determined not to be excelled in doing good work. This lodge is in a good condition.

January 27, 1876, visited Tremont Lodge, No. 70, at Tremont. Installed their officers, and witnessed work on first degree, which was well and neatly done. Records well kept. Full lectures given the candidate.

March 7th, visited Marine Lodge, No. 122, at Deer Isle. Witnessed work on second and third degree, which was well done, and with a few exceptions correct; records correct and well kept. The Brethren of this lodge are anxiously looking forward to a time when they can be able to re-furnish their hall; they will then have a capital home.

March 8th, visited Hersey Lodge, at Penobscot, N. D.; witnessed work on first degree. This lodge is taking great pride in doing good and correct work, and is well worthy a charter.

March 9th, visited Hancock Lodge, No. 4, at Castine; witnessed exemplification of work on second degree, which was neatly done. I felt to especially compliment the S. D., Bro. JOHN F. REA, who did his work in a superior manner. Records very neatly and correctly kept. Being unable to visit Felicity and Rising Sun Lodges, I requested R. W. J. M. NEVENS to do so for me. He has done so, and reports them in a flourishing condition.

I was also unable to visit Naskeag Lodge, No. 171, at Brooklin. P. M. BENJ. NUTTER kindly consented to do so for me, also to witness work (officially) in Eggmoggin Lodge, and he reports them in a good condition, the only contention being "that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work, and best agree," and that they are determined to give the lectures of each degree, whether time permits or not.

To Lygonia and Esoteric Lodges (both holden in Ellsworth), I have been an almost constant visitor, and am happy to say that they are going along hand in hand, as one. The work of both lodges is as near perfection as it is possible for work to be. They follow the practice of opening lodges for instruction, which are well attended and very interesting. Their records are well and neatly kept.

I have noticed in some lodges a degree of impatience with delinquent members. I have suggested that they be firmly, yet in some cases charitably dealt with. I have made suggestions in some lodges in regard to levity with candidates, both in and out of the lodge, which have been kindly received and heartily endorsed by the Brethren generally.

I have been pleased to learn that most lodges are well attended by Past Masters, which shows that they are not inclined (after having passed the chair) to let the lodge take care of itself, and which I think speaks well for their zeal and interest in the order.

I feel to apologize to the Brethren, in some cases where events have prevented me from meeting my appointments. I assure them that our disappointments were mutual. I also feel to thank them for the kind and courteous manner in which I have been received and treated by them while attending to my official duties.

For the confidence you have reposed in me, Most Worshipful, in conferring upon me this appointment, you have my heartfelt thanks.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

Ellsworth, April 17, 1876.

J. T. CUSHMAN, D. D. G. M., 4th M. D.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I beg leave to submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Fifth Masonic District.

This District includes eleven chartered lodges, all of which I have visited except Piscataquis, at Milo.

October 13th, visited Pacific Lodge, at Exeter, and witnessed work on the first degree. This lodge has improved very much since I first visited it, some three years since.

October 18th, visited Doric Lodge, at Monson, and witnessed work on the second degree, which was well rendered. The Brethren of this lodge propose to erect a building, in which will be a hall for them to work in.

November 9th, visited Cambridge Lodge, at Cambridge, and witnessed work on the third degree. This lodge is prospering.

November 11th, visited Mosaic Lodge, at Foxcroft, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was well rendered. This is the largest, in point of numbers, of any lodge in this District. Their records are neatly and correctly kept.

December 18th, visited Mt. Kineo Lodge, at Abbott, and found the lodge in a prosperous condition.

December 27th, installed the officers of Cambridge Lodge, at Cambridge. The officers being installed, the Brethren, with their ladies, partook of a bountiful collation prepared for the occasion.

December 28th, visited Pleasant River Lodge at Brownville, and witnessed

work on the F. C. degree. This lodge has got a neat and commodious lodge room.

March 9, 1876, visited Composite Lodge, at Lagrange, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was done in a creditable manner.

March 10th, visited Olive Branch Lodge, at Charleston, and witnessed an exemplification of work on the first degree. This lodge is in good hands.

Penobscot Lodge has procured and furnished one of the best lodge rooms in the State, which they propose to dedicate June 24th, next.

Whole number of members,	936
“ “ “ initiates,	60
Amount of initiation fees,	\$120.00
“ “ annual dues,	140.40
Total amount of dues to Grand Lodge,	<u>\$260.40</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Dexter, April 25, 1876.

DANIEL DOLLOFF, *D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.*

SIXTH DISTRICT.

TO THE M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit the following report as D. D. G. M. of the Sixth District, for the year just closing:

I have visited all the lodges in this District during the year, except Mystic Lodge, of Hampden. I find the affairs of the order in good condition throughout the District.

There are now thirteen lodges within this jurisdiction, and I am not aware that any disturbing element has manifested itself in any of them this year. I think at least an average degree of prosperity has attended most of them.

I have installed the officers in several lodges, and witnessed work in nearly all that I have visited. I am pleased to observe that the lodges generally are in charge of skilled and competent workmen. I found the work, in most instances, quite correct, and in all the lodges a strong desire evinced to have it conform as nearly of possible to the requirements of the Grand Lodge; and this disposition has relieved of any unpleasantness, the duty of calling attention to deviations.

The Brethren have received me with marked courtesy, and all my official intercourse with the lodges has been of the most pleasant character.

Respectfully submitted,

JESSE PRENTISS, *D. D. G. M. 6th M. D.*

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I again present my annual report of the condition of the lodges in the Seventh Masonic District.

The past year has been one of great depression in all business circles, and masonic lodges have not escaped the depressing influence, so far as receiving addition to their numbers, and yet I have to report a great improvement in the most of the lodges in this District. I have visited every lodge in the District, and some of them more than once, but I have not witnessed the work in all of them.

There has been a change in the jurisdiction of Liberty Lodge, by the lodge room being set off from Montville to Liberty, by authority of the Legislature of Maine.

Plymouth Lodge has made a most decided and marked improvement, both in work and lectures, during the past year. I witnessed the work in the third degree, at the time of my visit, and it was done in a very thorough manner. The records of the lodge are still kept by Bro. BUTMAN, and it is done, like all his work, in a neat and tasty manner.

Trojan Lodge, at Troy, is getting along in a harmonious manner, and their work and lecturing show that the brethren still maintain their interest in the business and prosperity of their lodge. Their records are well kept.

Star in the West Lodge, at Unity, have well maintained their interest for the past year, and are striving for the attainment of those principles which should distinguish all members of the Fraternity, of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Bro. HAMILTON still makes the record of the lodge, and does it in a correct and tasty manner.

At my visit to Central Lodge, at China, I witnessed the work in the third degree. It was done in a most impressive manner, and in a way that must leave a lasting impression upon the mind of the candidate. The records are well kept by Bro. WASHBURN. It is shown to all who visit this lodge, that the members have not only *learned* masonry, but *live* it. The oldest members of the lodge participate in its workings, and set examples worthy to be followed by its younger members.

I visited Quantabacook Lodge, at the annual installation of its officers, which ceremony was performed by the R. W. Senior Grand Warden, assisted by Past Master HANEY of Belfast. I have not witnessed the work in this lodge the present year; but under the management of their efficient Master, F. S. WALLS, I have no doubt the work will be according to the requirements of the Grand Lodge.

Liberty Lodge, at Liberty (formerly Montville), have well maintained their interest, and are well posted in the lectures. Both officers and members are

working hard to make it an efficient lodge, and are striving for that unity which is so essential to prosperity. Its records are well kept.

There has been a great improvement in Unity Lodge, at Freedom, and there is much more interest now than one year ago. The jurisdiction of this lodge has been very limited; but by Liberty Lodge being set off from Montville to Liberty, their jurisdiction has been considerably increased, which will probably give a new impetus to this lodge.

Sebasticook Lodge, at Clinton, has well maintained its reputation as to its work and lectures. Brotherly love and kindness distinguish its members both in and out of the lodge room. I visited and installed its officers this year.

With Marsh River Lodge I have met at about all its meetings for the past year. They are getting along prosperously, and are striving for improvement in both work and lectures, as well as the principles of the fraternity. At the annual installation of its officers we were favored with a most interesting and able address from R. W. Wm. O. Poon, Senior Grand Warden.

In closing this report, and bidding adieu to the official position which I have held for the past two years, I desire to return my thanks to the lodges for their uniform kindness and hospitality. My official visits to you, Brethren, will ever remain as bright spots in my life. May the brotherly love which you have ever shown to me, distinguish you in your intercourse with the whole fraternity, and may the teachings of the order be as well exemplified in all your acts as they have been in your intercourse with me.

Number of lodges in District,	9
“ “ members,	786
“ “ initiates,	30
Amount of annual dues,	\$117.90
“ “ initiation fees,	60.00
Amount of Grand Lodge dues,	\$177.90

Brooks, April 1, 1876.

JOHN H. GORDON, *D. D. G. M. 7th M. D.*

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I respectfully submit the following report, as District Deputy of the Eighth Masonic District:

This District comprises eight chartered lodges, all of which I have visited, with two exceptions, Phœnix and Timothy Chase Lodges, at Belfast. I hoped to have visited every lodge in this District during the year; but absence from home during the winter, and a press of business while at home, are my

excuses for not doing so. By my request, Bro. H. L. KILGORE visited Timothy Chase Lodge, and he reports them in excellent condition; their records well and faithfully kept, and in every way healthy, harmonious and prosperous. And so far as I can learn by inquiry, the same may be said of Phoenix; and I feel it would not be too much for me to report them as among the best working lodges in the State.

In September, I visited King David's Lodge, at Lincolnville; witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was performed in a correct and creditable manner; examined the records, which I found neatly and correctly kept.

I also visited them December 14th, by special invitation, and publicly installed their officers, assisted by Bro. ANSEL WADSWORTH as Grand Marshal; after which we listened to some remarks from R. W. Bro. POOR, Senior Grand Warden, and Rev. C. M. RHOADES, in the interest of masonry.

A large attendance, a bountiful collation, and excellent music, both vocal and instrumental, made this occasion one of great pleasure and interest to all present.

November 16th, I visited Mariners' Lodge, at Searsport; found a goodly number in attendance, although the night was very dark and stormy. Witnessed work on the M. M. degree, and from the manner in which each officer performed his part, I do not hesitate to report this lodge as one of the best in the District. The records I did not see, but I had the assurance they were in good hands, and I do not doubt but they are well and correctly kept.

November 19th, I visited Howard Lodge, at Winterport. There were but few of the brethren present; they had no work at that time, and I did not deem it advisable to have the work exemplified. The evening was passed in lecturing and social intercourse. I examined the records, and witnessed their manner of opening and closing the lodge, all of which was very satisfactory. I also learned that a good degree of harmony prevailed in this lodge.

December 9th, I visited Island Lodge, at Islesboro. This was their stated meeting, and I was happy to see a full attendance, showing a good degree of interest in the cause of masonry. Having no work on hand, the evening was spent in lecturing by the officers and Brethren. The records are well kept and harmony prevails among the members.

December 15th, I visited Pownal Lodge, at Stockton. I examined the records and found them neat and correct. From the interest the Brethren of this lodge manifest, and from what I have been able to learn from them since it was consecrated, I believe it to be their intention that none but good reports shall hereafter go to the Grand Lodge.

Excelsior Lodge, at Northport, I attend regularly when at home. I can only say that the officers appear much interested in the work, endeavoring to bring it as near the standard as possible. Portions of the Grand Lodge Proceedings are often read in open lodge; the records here are very well kept.

December 16th, I publicly installed the officers of this lodge in the presence

of a large number of Brethren, their wives and daughters. At the conclusion of the exercises we were called to partake of a bountiful repast provided by the ladies, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a very pleasant as well as profitable manner.

Our Brethren of Belfast suffered quite a loss last May, the fixtures of the several Masonic Bodies being totally destroyed by fire. Since that time they have purchased one of the most desirable lots in the city, and intend erecting thereon, a building which will be an ornament to the city and a credit to the fraternity, finishing for themselves such a hall as they have long needed. May their efforts in this direction be crowned with the success such an enterprise merits.

In conclusion, M. W., allow me to thank you for the appointment which I received at your hand, and for the courtesy and kindness with which I have been treated on all occasions by the Brethren of this District, I desire through you to express my sincere thanks.

The following is an abstract of returns :

Lodges.	Number.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.	Initiation Fees.	Annual Fees.	Total Dues.
Phoenix,	24	Belfast,	206	4	\$8.00	\$30.90	\$38.90
King David's,	62	Lincolntonville,	102	1	2.00	15.30	17.30
Mariners',	68	Searsport,	171	6	12.00	25.65	37.65
Howard,	69	Winterport,	108	6	12.00	16.20	28.20
Island,	89	Isleboro',	72	2	4.00	10.80	14.80
Pownal,	119	Stockton,	43	4	8.00	6.45	14.45
Timothy Chase,	126	Belfast,	128	9	18.00	19.20	37.20
Excelsior,	151	Northport,	36	2	4.00	5.40	9.40
			866	34	68.00	129.90	197.90

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM A. PENDLETON, D. D. G. M. 8th M. D.

Northport, April 22, 1876.

NINTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER :—Having accepted the honorable appointment of District Deputy Grand Master for the Ninth Masonic District, I have endeavored to discharge the duties of the office with fidelity, and to the extent

of my ability. In compliance with the Constitutions of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, I herewith submit my third annual report, relating to the condition and prospects of the lodges composing the Ninth Masonic District, for the year ending March 1, 1876.

I have, during the year, visited every lodge officially, once, and most of them unofficially many times, to witness their work. I have been received courteously, and with the respect eminently due the representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge. It gives me great pleasure to notice that the generous and entire confidence, felt by the Brethren in the direction of the affairs of the Grand Lodge by your predecessor, still continues to be clearly manifested by them in the able management of the present administration.

The growing custom of interchanging visits among the officers and active members of the lodges, especially on the occasion of the official visit of the District Deputy, has had a good effect in increasing the accuracy and uniformity of work, as well as promoting better acquaintance and fraternal feeling. This custom I have especially encouraged, by the practice of notifying all the lodges in the District, of the time set for the official visit to each, and urging as many as possible to attend. The invitations have been very generally accepted, and I have been accompanied in nearly every visit by a full suite, so that the entire routine of official visitation, I am happy and proud to say, has been a complete ovation, and in this wealth of fraternal love and friendship I have passed the rounds of duty with a light and happy heart. I have found the charters in good condition and safely guarded, the by-laws all properly approved by the Grand Lodge, and attested by the R. W. Grand Secretary, the records not only well kept, but remarkably full and complete, seemingly nothing omitted that could claim a place in their histories. It was evident that nearly every Secretary had striven to do his best, and there are two or three instances which can hardly be excelled in elegance of execution and completeness of detail. The work throughout the District is substantially correct, while in some lodges it is of a very high order. It has been my practice to witness an entire degree from reception to charges, watching, with critical eye and ear, for any deviation or innovations, and therefore I *know* whereof I speak. The officers evince a desire to perfect themselves in the ritual, and, in connection with the Brethren, to carry out those excellent principles which are inculcated in the lectures and charges of our Institution.

The amount of work done the past year is less than that of the previous year, yet the lodges are steadily increasing in numbers, and I find the Brethren in every lodge imbued with the genuine principles of our Order, and devoted to its best interests.

The attendance of the brethren at the stated meetings of the lodges has been very good, and all my visitations have been largely attended, and my remarks received with attention, and apparently with approbation.

The following table will show the number of members, initiates and rejections for the years 1874 and 1875.

Lodges.	Members.		Initiates.		Rejections.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
Amity,	128	132	2	3	1	0
Orient,	157	158	2	6	5	0
St. George,	81	84	7	2	6	0
Union,	100	104	2	4	0	0
Aurora,	425	445	15	19	8	5
Mount Hope,	32	33	0	1	0	0
Rockland,	365	372	20	12	10	3
St. Paul's,	118	121	7	4	4	3
Eureka,	119	128	20	7	10	7
Moses Webster,	137	147	13	11	16	13
Total,	1,662	1,724	88	69	60	31

The above exhibit shows an increase of sixty-two members, a decrease of nineteen in the number of initiates, and a decrease of twenty-nine in the number of rejections.

I have issued Past Master's diplomas, during the past year, to the following named brethren:

Names.	Lodges.	Date.
Isaac H. Cunningham,	Union Lodge,	November 11, 1875.
Charles B. Vinal,	Moses Webster Lodge,	December 28, 1875.
William E. Crawford,	Orient Lodge,	January 5, 1876.
James Teague,	St. George Lodge,	March 28, 1876.
Thaddeus Hastings,	Mt. Hope Lodge,	April 12, 1876.
Abijah M. Crabtree,	Mt. Hope Lodge,	April 12, 1876.

My first official duty was to install the officers of Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, Vinalhaven, on September 28, 1875. The installation was public. Rev. Bro. NASH, of Rockland, delivered an able masonic address, followed by short speeches by several of the Brethren, interspersed with fine music by the Vinalhaven Band, after which followed an elegant banquet. All who accepted the invitation to be present, were well repaid for attending.

Tuesday, October 5, 1875, I visited Orient Lodge, No. 15, Thomaston, and witnessed work on the third degree of a high character. Their elegant and commodious lodge room bears the best testimony to the good taste and substantial interest in masonry of the Brethren who have provided it, and will tend to give a new impetus to the usefulness of the fraternity in the community where it is located. W. Masters CROCKER of Eureka Lodge, WATTS of St. George Lodge, and P. M. LONG of Eureka Lodge, were present, and added much to the interest of the occasion. The records are well and correctly kept, and officers and Brethren manifest an earnest desire to advance and

excel in their work. There were present, at my official visit, thirty-nine members.

Thursday, October 14, 1875, I visited Eureka Lodge, No. 84, St. George, which I found in a prosperous condition. The work, that of the third degree, although not perfect in all of its details, was very good. The officers deserve high commendation for their zeal and earnestness, and the lodge for the interest manifested for the highest good of masonry. My visit was made the more pleasant by the presence of W. M. SMALLEY and S. W. RAWSON of Rockland Lodge. Bro. SMALLEY's kind assistance and appropriate remarks to the lodge will be remembered by me with much pleasure and gratitude. I was pleased to learn that a committee was collecting a complete file of the Grand Lodge Proceedings for the use of the lodge, and sincerely hope other lodges will follow their example. Number of members present, thirty-four.

Thursday, November 11, 1875, I visited Union Lodge, No. 31, Union. No candidate being present, an exemplification of the third degree was given in a manner highly creditable to the lodge and its officers. The records are in good hands and are correctly kept. It added to my happiness to meet here my friend and last District Deputy, R. W. Bro. S. W. JONES. At my visit there were forty-six members present.

Friday, November 12, 1875, I visited Amity Lodge, No. 6, Camden. This is the oldest lodge in this District, having received its charter in 1801, and continues to deserve the excellent reputation it has heretofore enjoyed. The work of the third degree was finely rendered, and (what is not always the case) those filling the least important positions had evidently perfected themselves in their duties, as carefully and conscientiously as though they were of greater consequence, and the result was a presentation of the degree that was in *all* respects satisfactory and even admirable. The charter is carefully preserved, and the records neatly and correctly kept. The number in attendance was very large, sixty-one members being present. An elegant entertainment was provided at the close of the exercises, which seemed to be thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Tuesday, November 23, 1875, I visited Rockland Lodge, No. 79, Rockland. The order of the lodge, the work and everything pertaining to it, are of a high character, and afford full evidence that the officers were selected with reference to their ability and merit. The third degree was conferred upon two candidates, and was given with such impressiveness that it showed a systematic study of the degree on the part of each officer. It well repaid me for my visit, and I wish that every working officer of the lodges could see the work of this lodge. The records are kept in a manner which I deem as near perfection as possible. The good old custom of entering the names of members and visitors is kept up, and a full record made of all that takes place in the lodge. This lodge and Aurora meet in the same hall—the finest in the District—and members of each lodge are always present at each other's meet-

ings, showing the perfect harmony that exists between them. It was pleasantly said to me, when I first visited Rockland, that Rockland Lodge was Young America, and Aurora, Old Fogy; but I found no lack of vigor in Aurora, and I wish all lodges were as conservative as I found Rockland Lodge. I am under many obligations to members of both lodges for favors and assistance during the year. The number of members present at the annual visitation was forty-one.

Wednesday, December 22, 1875, I visited officially Aurora Lodge, No. 50, Rockland. Without doing injustice to other lodges, I may be permitted to remark, that of the many masonic degrees I have seen conferred, I have never witnessed one conferred so perfectly, with so much grace and effect, and with such perfect attention to the utmost detail of the work, as was the third degree in this lodge, on the occasion of my annual visitation. It was witnessed by nearly or quite one hundred and fifty Brethren, most, if not all of whom, I doubt not, will concur with me in the opinion, that the high compliment bestowed upon the lodge and its officers, by the District Deputy Grand Master officially, at the close of the ceremonies, was fully deserved. The matter is alluded to in this connection, not for the purpose of further complimenting the lodge, but to enable me to repeat in substance what I said upon this subject in my last annual report, and to again express the hope that all our lodges throughout the entire jurisdiction may be deeply impressed with the importance of a strict attention to every detail of the work, and thus emulate each other in their endeavors to give the greatest possible effect to every degree conferred, so that the Brethren who witness, as well as the candidate who receives, may have the full benefit of the lessons these degrees are intended to teach.

Tuesday, December 28, 1875, I visited Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, Vinalhaven, where I was received in a most cordial and hospitable manner. This lodge is composed of excellent material, and is deserving of the high reputation it has heretofore enjoyed. The influence which it is exerting in its vicinity is very salutary and beneficial. In the list of members we find the name of that true-hearted masonic brother, Hon. MOSES WEBSTER, who has endeared himself to every mason by his genial disposition, and who, by his many acts of kindness and great liberality, has become eminently conspicuous among his brethren. The work of the third degree was rendered nearly in accordance with the Grand Lodge Ritual, and with good effect. A feature of the exercises was the singing of a very fine quartette, whose performances added much to the effect of the ceremonies. Over fifty visiting brethren were present, besides a large attendance of members. The charter is carefully preserved and the records well kept. This lodge is making commendable progress, and is well officered.

Monday, January 3, 1876, I visited St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, Rockport. At the time of my visit, the third degree was conferred in an able and impressive

manner, by W. Bro. COLE, the retiring Master. Its apartments are finished and furnished in excellent taste; everything being in keeping with the requirements of the Order. Proficient in their work, careful in the selection of candidates, and possessing social qualities of the highest order, the members of this lodge may congratulate themselves upon occupying an honorable position in the Ninth District. Nearly one hundred and twenty-five members were present, also the W. M's of Aurora, Rockland, and Amity Lodges, with numerous visiting brethren. Special arrangements were made of a social and festive character, not only to welcome me with a warm, fraternal greeting, but to make the occasion one of pleasure that will be long remembered.

Monday, January 17, 1876, it was my privilege, privately, to install the officers of St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, Rockport. All of the officers are earnest in the work, and give promise of good results for the ensuing year. Under the Mastership of Bro. MORTON, so thoroughly devoted to the interests of the fraternity, and withal so modest and unassuming, this lodge cannot recede from the true masonic standard.

Monday, February 28, 1876, I made my annual visit to St. George Lodge, No. 16, Warren. Like all my former visits, this also was a pleasant one. After the usual examinations, I witnessed work on the third degree, which it is but justice to say, was substantially that of the Grand Lodge, and was both eloquent and impressive. The lodge is in a healthy and prosperous condition; its officers are courteous and obliging, and I am sure are admirably fitted for their respective positions. Large delegations were present from the neighboring lodges, including the W. M's of Aurora, Rockland, Union and Mount Hope Lodges, who expressed themselves highly satisfied with the work. The number of members and visitors present was over seventy-five. A bountiful collation was provided, to which ample justice was done.

My official visits for the year were concluded by a visit to Mount Hope Lodge, No. 59, South Hope, on Wednesday, April 12, 1876. This lodge is not increasing in numbers as fast, perhaps, as is desirable. I trust that the year upon which it has now entered will witness, in this respect, an improvement. I witnessed an exemplification of the third degree, which was given in a manner highly creditable to the lodge and its officers. The records are well kept; the charter and Grand Lodge Proceedings carefully preserved.

The following is an abstract of the returns as made to me, viz:

Number of lodges,	10
“ admitted,	89
“ re-instated,	0
“ dimitted,	9
“ died,	17
“ suspended,	0
“ expelled,	1
“ deprived of membership,	0
“ rejected,	31

Number of initiates,	69
“ members,	1724
Amount of initiation fees,	\$188.00
“ “ annual fees,	258.70
Total amount of dues to Grand Lodge,	<u>\$396.70</u>

I am under great obligations to the Brethren who have accompanied me on my several visitations. Most of them were older and more experienced masons than myself, having occupied high official positions in the fraternity; but at great inconvenience to themselves at times, and with a kindness which I shall ever remember, they cheerfully aided me with their counsel, and by their presence encouraged the Brethren. I return to each of them my most hearty and sincere thanks.

Having for the past three years shared such a proportion alike of the honors and labors of the office, as may properly fall to the lot of one member of the fraternity, I now gratefully resign the authority thus held.

Very respectfully and fraternally yours,

Camden, April 12, 1876.

R. E. PAINE, *D. D. G. M. 9th M. D.*

TENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my report as D. D. G. Master Tenth Masonic District.

I have visited seven of the nine chartered lodges in this district once, and some of them twice. The two lodges I did not visit are King Solomon's, at Waldoboro, and Seaside, at Boothbay.

I am happy to report, that so far as I know, the lodges in this District are all in a prosperous condition and doing good work. I have received returns from all the lodges in this District. In all the lodges which I have visited the work has been well done and the records well kept.

The following is an abstract of the returns:

Whole number of members,	842
“ “ “ initiates,	31
Amount of initiation fees,	\$ 62.00
“ “ annual fees,	126.30
	<u>\$188.30</u>

Respectfully submitted,

D. A. CAMPBELL, *D. D. G. M. 10th M. D.*

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In compliance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, herewith please accept the Annual Report from the Eleventh Masonic District, composed of nine chartered lodges, all of which I am gratified in being able to report in a harmonious and flourishing condition.

Although the accessions to membership have been somewhat less than in former years, yet there has been apparent throughout the jurisdiction a desire for improvement, not only among the officers but the membership generally. Consequently it is with pleasure that I am able to report in every instance the lodges in good working condition, the most of which exhibit work skillfully done, not only in the impressiveness of the ceremonies but in the rendering of the ritual.

The finances of the different lodges seem to be well cared for. The records are well and correctly kept; several of the Secretaries exhibit accuracy, neatness and method truly commendable.

I desire through you, Most Worshipful, to tender my grateful acknowledgments to the Officers and Brethren of my jurisdiction for the courtesy shown me on all occasions. Permit me to add, that my business engagements are such that I am compelled to decline a re-appointment to this responsible position.

The following is an abstract of returns made to me :

Total number of members,	1064
" " " initiates,	37
Amount of initiation fees,	\$78.00
" " annual dues,	159.00
Total dues to Grand Lodge,	\$237.00
Fraternally submitted,	

AUSTIN D. KNIGHT, *D. D. G. M. 11th M. D.*

Hallowell, April 22, 1876.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

As D. D. G. Master of the Twelfth Masonic District, I would respectfully submit my second annual report.

I have visited each of the nine chartered lodges comprising this District,

and the condition of the several lodges are so near like what they were at my visits last year, that I deem it unnecessary to report each lodge separately.

As far as I know, the best of harmony and good feeling prevail throughout the District.

The returns, which have been promptly made by all the lodges, show quite a falling off in the number of initiates from preceding years. Asylum Lodge, at Wayne, the smallest in the District in point of numbers, has done no work the past year; several of the other lodges have had but one or two initiates, which, no doubt, accounts for a slight falling off in interest from what they manifested last year. Too many of the lodges get the idea that in order to have interesting meetings there must be a candidate for every meeting.

I endeavored to impress upon the minds of such the importance of constantly attending, if possible, the stated meetings of their respective lodges, for time might be well and profitably employed in passing lectures, or hearing read the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, both of which I fear are greatly neglected throughout the District. I hope that Masters of lodges who have been negligent in this regard will in the future pay more attention to this Grand Lodge requirement, for valuable information is furnished lodges in this way by the Grand Lodge, which can be obtained from no other source. Brethren take notice, and govern yourselves accordingly.

The records of all the lodges are well arranged, neatly kept, and generally correct.

The halls throughout the District are about the same as last year, with one exception. Waterville Lodge now occupy their new hall, which is the best in the District, and, in my opinion, second to but few in the State. As I had not the privilege of witnessing work in this lodge last year, I will speak of it now.

On the evening of my visit, December 20th, I witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was done in a very interesting and impressive manner, fully sustaining the excellent reputation accorded them by former Deputies. Although the evening was one of the coldest of the winter, yet there were a large number present, which goes to show that the Brethren of Waterville Lodge appreciate their new and splendid accommodations. The only wonder is, how any member can stay away from so pleasant and inviting a lodge room, when it is possible for them to attend. Long may they enjoy their present prosperity.

It has been my privilege to be present at most all the meetings of Vassalboro' Lodge, being a member of the same. This lodge has done the largest amount of work the past year of any in the District, and I am most happy in saying that I never saw it done any better. An explanation of the lectures is given in full in all the degrees, in a clear, correct and interesting manner. The meetings are better attended than last year, and still there is room.

In closing my labors as District Deputy, I desire to return my sincere thanks to you for the honor conferred, and also through you to all the lodges in the

District for the kind and cordial manner with which I have been received by them during the past two years.

I respectfully decline a re-appointment.

Whole number of members,	780
“ “ “ initiates,	22
Amount of annual dues,	\$117.00
“ “ initiation fees,	44.00
	<hr/>
	\$161.00

Respectfully submitted,

PETER WILLIAMS, D. D. G. M., 12th M. D.

North Vassalboro', April 27, 1876.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

As required by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, I have the honor to submit my sixth annual report as D. D. G. Master of the Thirteenth Masonic District.

Although I have made official visits to all the lodges but two, comprising this District, I regret to say I have witnessed the exemplification of but little work. When I made visitations it was in most cases to install officers or assist in the ceremonies. Official visits have been made to the following lodges: Siloam, Northern Star, Keystone, Meridian, Lebanon, Carrabassett and Somerset. It gives me great pleasure to report that the records in all are well and neatly kept.

Owing to circumstances beyond my control, I was unable to visit Franklin Lodge, at New Sharon, and Corinthian, at Hartland. There has been, on the part of some of the Brethren in Corinthian Lodge, a growing interest in the order, and they have used their best endeavors to promote harmony and bring the lodge to a new life. With others there is such a lack of interest that they are seldom, if ever, seen in the lodge room. The lodge exists with them as it would without them. And this may be said of all our lodges. A few take enough interest to confer the degrees and give the lectures in a passable manner, but beyond that masonry is a dead letter. I would not be understood as classing all under this head. There are some honorable exceptions always, still the fault is too general.

It is my duty to call to your attention the fact that some of our lodges, here nameless, have not been represented in the Grand Lodge as they ought to have been, nor as the law requires. As an instance, I would state that one

lodge in this District has not been represented by an officer, whose duty it was to be there, in any session of the Grand Lodge since 1871. For the years 1872, '73 and '74, "not represented." In 1875 by proxy. Unless the proper officers have sufficient interest to attend the sessions of the Grand Lodge, as required by the Constitution, we can hardly expect others to attend the meetings of their own lodge.

Permit me to bring to your attention the great want of a digest of decisions of our Grand Masters. Many Masters and Wardens would be glad to become familiar with those decisions so as to apply them, but are unable to do so, not knowing when they were made nor where to find them. Lodges chartered since some decisions were made have not the proceedings at hand, hence the officers are ignorant of them. A properly prepared Digest will enable officers and Brethren to act intelligently and rule correctly in most cases that may arise, while without it they are obliged to grope in darkness, unless they have a disposition to do what only a few will—read all the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge in search of light.

Having served the Grand Lodge as D. D. G. Master for six years in succession, I feel that the appointment belongs to some one else who can fill the position more acceptably; and while I am sincerely grateful for the confidence reposed in me, I respectfully ask to be relieved from further duty.

Fraternally submitted,

Skowhegan, April 24, 1876.

W. R. G. ESTES, *D. D. G. M. 13th M. D.*

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

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

The duties belonging to my office have been discharged as faithfully as circumstances and my abilities would allow. With one exception all the lodges in the District have been visited by me one or more times, their records examined and work carefully inspected.

December 7, 1875, I visited Acacia Lodge, Durham, and saw the M. M. degree exemplified in a satisfactory manner.

December 15th, I publicly installed the officers of Webster Lodge, in the Free Baptist Church, at Sabattus, the installation being followed by an excellent address by Rev. Mr. WHITE. The Brethren and ladies then repaired to

the lodge room, where a nice supper, music, &c., completed the exercises of the evening.

February 3, 1876, I visited Acacia Lodge and publicly installed its officers; also conferred the P. M. degree on the new Master.

February 16th, I visited Village Lodge, Bowdoinham, and saw the M. M. degree exemplified. The work was nicely done, but parts of the lecture were omitted.

February 21st, I visited Richmond Lodge, Richmond, where the E. A. degree was worked and the M. M. degree exemplified. The officers performed the work in an excellent manner, and this lodge bids fair to become one of the best in the District.

March 6th, I visited United Lodge, Brunswick. The work and lecture were good, and nearer the Grand Lodge standard than they were last year.

March 8th, I visited Polar Star Lodge, Bath. This being the annual meeting, a large amount of business was transacted, and I only saw the work and lecture in part. Bro. DUNCAN, the Master elect, will undoubtedly maintain the hitherto good reputation of Polar Star.

March 27th, I visited Solar Lodge, Bath. The work and lecture of the M. M. degree were rendered in full, in most excellent style.

Inclemency of the weather having several times prevented my visiting Ancient York Lodge, at Lisbon Falls, I authorized Past Master STONE to act in my stead, and he reports the affairs of the lodge to be in good condition.

At my visits to lodges last year, I was sometimes compelled to insist that the Grand Lodge standard of work should be more nearly complied with. While mere "ritualism" in lodges is not to be cultivated to the exclusion of more important things, yet observation shows that those lodges which conform most closely to the ritual are in other respects also most healthy and vigorous. I am glad to report that at my visitations this year, I found great improvement in that respect. The records of all the lodges have been found neatly and accurately kept.

I wish to return my thanks to the Brethren throughout the District, for the unvarying kindness and respect with which they have treated me, as your representative, and for the *patience* with which they have endured my often detaining them in the lodge until an hour which might not be considered temperate.

Whole number of initiates,	47
" " " members,	934
Amount received for initiations,	\$ 94.00
" " " dues,	140.10
Total amount Grand Lodge dues,	<u>\$234.10</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Sabbath, April 20, 1876.

F. E. SLEEPER, D. D. G. M. 14th M. D.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I respectfully submit my report.

There are eleven chartered lodges and one U. D. in this District, all of which I have visited, and have witnessed work on one or more of the degrees in each.

I find that all of the lodges have had work during the year, and are prosperous. I also find that all, with one exception, have convenient, and in several places beautiful halls, and on every visit a large attendance.

June 28, 1875, I publicly installed the officers of Evening Star Lodge, at Buckfield, R. W. F. T. FAULKNER, P. D. D. G. Master, acting as Grand Marshal. A social hour followed, with conversation and refreshments. I have to thank Past Master WHITTEN for kindness extended me at that time.

August 14, 1875, I publicly installed the officers of Nezinscot Lodge, at Turner, Bro. PHILO CLARK acting as Grand Marshal; after which came refreshments, remarks and sociality.

September 28, 1875, I publicly installed in the afternoon, at one of the churches, the officers of Oriental Star Lodge, at Livermore, Past Deputy FAULKNER acting as Grand Marshal; previous to which, Rev. C. C. MASON gave one of his interesting and entertaining addresses. There was a large attendance, and a pleasant occasion. I have also installed in private the officers of Ashlar and Rabboni Lodges, at Lewiston.

January 31, 1876, I visited Wilton Lodge, at Wilton, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was acceptably done. The attendance showed much interest in the lodge.

February 1, 1876, I visited Mystic Tie Lodge, at Weld, and witnessed work on the E. A. degree, which was very correctly and distinctly rendered. This lodge, which is twelve miles from everywhere, seems to have a zealous board of officers.

February 2, 1876, after five hours' drive in getting twelve miles through drifting snow, in a blinding storm, I arrived at Phillips, with both ears white, and was glad to find that the W. M. had postponed the meeting of Blue Mountain Lodge until the next afternoon, at which time I witnessed work on the third degree, which was done in a very creditable manner, and I am satisfied with the material used on that occasion, for a candidate who will come in such intense weather, eight miles—the last three, by compulsion, on foot—and at the expense of a frozen face, has zeal sufficient for a whole lodge of masons.

In the evening I installed their officers, after which the lodge gave a supper at Bro. FARMER's Hotel to its friends, and afterwards an hour or two of social intercourse, interspersed with excellent music. I am indebted to Bro. FARMER for kind attention.

February 7, 1876, I visited Maine Lodge, at Farmington, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was done with commendable accuracy. I wish to also commend the thorough instruction their candidates receive previous to the second and third degrees.

February 16, 1876, I visited Rabboni Lodge, at Lewiston, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was done in a very creditable and prompt manner, and the lecture has not been excelled by any one. Their records not being present, I did not examine, but presume they are neatly kept.

March 6, 1876, I visited Evening Star Lodge, at Buckfield, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was done in a manner quite satisfactory. There were quite a number from Nezinscot Lodge present, and, with refreshments and conversation, a social hour was spent after work, closing with remarks by several Brethren.

March 7, 1876, I visited Oriental Star Lodge, at Livermore, in the afternoon, and witnessed an exemplification of the work on the third degree, which was rendered in a manner that will admit of considerable improvement; but they being in inconvenient and temporary quarters, and the W. M. being almost sick, was some excuse. For hospitality on this and my former visit, I am indebted to Past Grand Master WASHBURN, whose love for masonry still burns brightly.

March 7, 1876, I visited Whitney Lodge, at Canton, and witnessed work on the E. A. degree, which was fairly done.

March 9, 1876, I visited Ancient Brothers' Lodge, v. n., at Auburn, and witnessed work on the E. A. degree.

March 14, 1876, I visited Nezinscot Lodge, at Turner, and witnessed an exemplification of work on the third degree, which was performed in a manner second to none in the District. As ritualists, the Masters of Ashlar and Nezinscot Lodges are at the head. A fine collation was served, and a pleasant and profitable evening was spent.

March 20, 1876, I visited Ashlar Lodge, at Lewiston, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was exceedingly well done. The records of Bro. WINN are a model of neatness.

March 22, 1876, I visited Tranquil Lodge, at Auburn, and witnessed work on the third degree, which, up to the lecture, was well done. The records are well kept.

March 28, 1876, I visited Ancient Brothers' Lodge, v. n., at Auburn, and witnessed work on the third degree. The Brethren of this lodge will ask for a charter at the next Grand Lodge, and knowing the zeal and masonic knowledge of many of its members, I would recommend that a charter be granted.

February 15, 1876, the Brethren at Livermore Falls sent me a petition for a dispensation for a new lodge at Livermore Falls, East Livermore, recommended by Oriental Star, Livermore, Whitney Lodge, Canton, and Wilton

Lodge, Wilton, which I approved and signed, since which time I have informed them that you would refer it to the next Grand Lodge.

I wish to return my thanks to all the lodges, for the fraternal kindness which I have in every case received on my visits, and the respect shown for such advice as I have thought proper to give.

The returns from all the lodges are as follows:

Names of Lodges.	Where Located.	Names of Masters.	Members.	Initiates.	Initiation Fees.	Annual Fees.	Total Dues.
Maine,	Farmington,	George B. Cragin,	98	7	\$14	\$14.70	\$28.70
Oriental Star,	Livermore,	Cornelius M. Holland,	130	3	6	19.50	25.50
Tranquil,	Auburn,	George C. Wing,	204	12	24	30.60	54.60
Blue Mountain,	Phillips,	Mason W. Dutton,	50	2	4	7.50	11.50
Nezinscot,	Turner,	Sumner S. Merrill,	84	1	2	12.60	14.60
Ashlar,	Lewiston,	Webster W. Sanborn,	172	7	14	25.80	39.80
Evening Star,	Buckfield,	Henry C. Ricker,	60	6	12	9.00	21.00
Rabboni,	Lewiston,	George G. Hartwell,	111	7	14	16.65	30.65
Mystic Tie,	Weld,	Daniel M. Teague,	37	2	4	5.55	9.55
Wilton,	Wilton,	John D. Hardy,	75	4	8	11.25	19.25
Whitney,	Canton,	Otis Hayford,	44	4	8	6.60	14.60
			1065	55	110	159.75	269.75

Fraternally submitted,

FESSENDEN I. DAY, *D. D. G. M., 15th M. D.*

Lewiston, April 10, 1876.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixteenth Masonic District, respectfully submits his annual report.

There are nine chartered lodges in this District, all of which I have visited during the past year.

September 14th, I made an official visit to Jefferson Lodge, No. 100. Witnessed work on the M. M. degree. The work was very well done. A few errors, however, appeared in the work, to which I called their attention. The records were well kept.

November 3d, I publicly installed the officers of Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30. After the installation ceremonies were over, we listened to a very interesting masonic address, delivered by Rev. Bro. HERRICK, of Canton.

December 14th, I made an official visit to King Hiram Lodge, No. 57. I expected to see some work in this lodge in the afternoon; but as there were two funerals in the place, the lodge was unable to do any work. I publicly installed the officers of this lodge in the evening, after which we partook of some refreshments which had been prepared for the occasion, when we again assembled in the lodge room, and the officers proceeded to exemplify the work in the Master's degree. As it was quite late, I only let them work part of the degree, which was very correctly done. Examined the records and found them correctly kept.

January 10th, I visited Oxford Lodge, No. 18, at Norway. I found this lodge in good hands and in a very flourishing condition. I witnessed the work on the F. C. degree, which was very nicely done. They have the very best officers in this lodge, who appear to be doing all they can for the interest of the lodge. The records are correctly kept.

January 11th, I made an official visit to Paris Lodge, No. 94, and installed its officers. I witnessed the work in the F. C. degree. I am sorry to say there appears to be almost an entire lack of interest manifested by the brethren of this lodge—not more than enough present to do the work; and the records showed a very small attendance for some time past. I urged upon the officers to make every effort to get up an interest among the brethren. Examined the records and found them well kept.

January 12th, I made an official visit to Tyrian Lodge, No. 73, at Mechanic Falls. I publicly installed the officers of this lodge, Past Master D. B. PERRY acting as Grand Marshal. Bro. PERRY is one of the finest acting Marshals I ever saw. After the installation ceremonies were over, we listened to some very interesting remarks by some of the brethren; when we were invited to partake of some refreshments which had been provided for the occasion, and of which *all* appeared to feel the need. The records I examined, and found them perfect models of order and neatness.

January 13th, I visited Crooked River Lodge, No. 152, at Bolster's Mills. I publicly installed the officers of this lodge. There was no work here, and, as I was feeling quite sick, I did not ask for an exemplification of it. However, I am satisfied this lodge is composed of the very best men, and those who have the best interests of the fraternity at heart. The records were neatly and systematically kept.

January 14th, I made an official visit to Mt. Tire'm Lodge, No. 132, at Waterford. I installed the officers of this lodge; after which, witnessed work on the E. A. degree. The Master of this lodge—Bro. A. S. KIMBALL, who served as District Deputy Grand Master of this District three years ago—was away. The lodge, however, worked the degree in a very able and impressive manner, which could not fail to make a favorable impression on the mind of the candidate. I made a few suggestions to the Secretary in relation to the records, which were kindly received by him.

January 22d, I publicly installed the officers of Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, assisted by Past Master EZRA JEWELL as Grand Marshal. A bountiful supper was then partaken of, and all went away contented and happy.

February 3d, I publicly installed the officers of Bethel Lodge, No. 97, at Bethel Hill, assisted by Past Master G. R. WILEY as Grand Marshal. I made an official visit to this lodge February 10th, and witnessed an exemplification of the work on the F. C. degree. The work was not what I would like to have seen. The records are very nicely kept by Bro. L. T. BARKER.

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, at Rumford Centre, I am a member of, and have attended most of the meetings during the past year. I am well aware we usually think *our own* is as good as anybody's, but I feel I am safe to say the Officers and Brethren of this lodge strive very hard to fulfill their masonic obligations. The Worshipful Master, Bro. PETTINGILL, has had three years' experience presiding in this lodge, and is very highly esteemed by its members for his many virtues. The following is an abstract of returns from the nine lodges in this District:

Names of Lodges.	Where Located.	Names of Masters.	Members.	Initiates.	Initiation Fees.	Annual Fees.	Total Dues.
Mount Tire'm,	Waterford,	Alfred S. Kimball,	85	6	\$12	\$12.45	\$24.45
Oxford,	Norway,	A. Oscar Noyes,	128	7	14	19.20	33.20
Crooked River,	Bolster's Mills,	Isaac S. Skillings,	64	0	0	9.60	9.60
Jefferson,	Bryant's Pond,	Rufus K. Dunham,	75	5	10	11.25	21.25
King Hiram,	Dixfield,	Frank Stanley,	64	11	22	9.60	31.60
Bethel,	Bethel Hill,	Eben S. Kilburn,	126	5	10	18.90	28.90
Tyrian,	Mechanic Falls,	John Richardson,	167	4	8	25.05	33.05
Paris,	South Paris,	Geo. A. Wilson,	105	3	6	15.75	21.75
Blazing Star,	Rumford Centre,	Waldo Pettingill,	91	8	16	13.65	29.65
			905	49	98	135.45	233.45

Respectfully submitted,

EDGAR H. POWERS, *D. D. G. M. 16th M. D.*

Hanover, April 21, 1876.

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Seventeenth Masonic District, for the year which has just closed.

There are ten chartered lodges in this District, and one under dispensation. I have made official visits to all except one; of that one I am well informed, and am happy to report them all harmonious.

I have visited Hiram Lodge, under dispensation, a number of times, and it affords me great pleasure to say that they have a very convenient and beautiful hall; also, that I have not witnessed better work in any lodge in the District. Their returns show a large amount of work, viz: twenty-eight initiates. I cheerfully recommend that a charter be granted them.

Harmony Lodge, at Gorham, have just finished a fine hall, which is nearly ready for occupancy.

I have found the records and by-laws generally correctly and well kept. Some of them are models of excellence and neatness.

In conclusion, permit me to say, that I have been uniformly received with courtesy and kindness in my official visits.

Number of members returned,	1,844
" " " initiated,	79
Amount of initiation fees,	\$158.00
Annual dues,	209.90
Total dues to Grand Lodge,	<u>\$427.90</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Portland, April, 1876.

GEO. E. TAYLOR, *D. D. G. M. 17th M. D.*

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I beg leave to submit my report from the Eighteenth District.

There are ten chartered lodges in this District, all of which I have visited with one exception, Adoniram, at Limington.

November 12, 1875, visited and installed the officers of Oriental Lodge, at Bridgton. I have met with this lodge often, seen work done in all degrees, which is well done; lectures passed with all degrees conferred. Records in excellent order, and still in the hands of Bro. B. T. CHASE.

December 12, 1875, visited Pythagorean Lodge, at Fryeburg, and installed the officers. Work in Master's degree very well done. A goodly number present, it being the annual meeting. Records are again returned to Bro. FIFE's keeping and will be found correct.

January 13, 1876, I visited Delta Lodge, at Lovell, and installed the officers. There was no work on hand to be done, and the Brethren, with their friends,

repaired to the Hotel, where a bountiful supper was in readiness, which proved to be very acceptable, which occasion will long be remembered.

This lodge objects to the proceeding of Pythagorean Lodge in regard to one of their initiates, and the case is to be brought before the Grand Lodge. I am very sorry any trouble should be made for the Grand Lodge from this District, and there ought not to have been, neither was there any call for it, had matters been settled as I was informed they would be; but it is too late to mend the case now, and it must take the usual course under such circumstances. I forward to you, by request of Delta Lodge, the charge they make against Pythagorean Lodge. The records are in excellent condition.

February 2, 1876, went to Limerick to visit Freedom Lodge, but there was no meeting held, it being a very blustering cold night. The Secretary was away from home, and my letter was not taken from the office until after I reached the place. I examined the records and found them correct.

February 3d, I intended a visit for Day Spring Lodge, but was disappointed on account of the weather: the mails were not received in time to give notice of meeting. I was very kindly provided for by Bro. ADAMS, during my stay. Bro. ADAMS has been Secretary of this lodge from the first meeting of the lodge to the present time, and the records show that care has been taken of them. Bro. ADAMS informs me the lodge is in a healthy condition.

February 4th, visited Drummond Lodge, in the afternoon, at North Parsonsfield. There was no work to be done, the time was therefore spent in reciting the lectures in the Master's degree. A snow storm commenced about noon which kept many away, and but few were present; the Secretary was absent, also the records.

In the evening I visited Greenleaf Lodge, at Cornish; but few present; there was no work. This lodge worked last year very nicely, and have the same Master the present year, and I have no doubt are in excellent order for work when occasion calls. The records are kept by Bro. SMITH, who was sick at the time of my visit; but his records were on his desk, made out in full, and very nicely too. Bro. SMITH informs me he has served ten years as Secretary, and now proposes to withdraw from the office; but I hope he will do no such thing, as he is the right man in the right place.

February 5th, visited Shepherd's River Lodge, at Brownfield, in the afternoon. This lodge has not had a candidate for the past year. Work was exemplified in the Master's degree, and, under the circumstances, very well done. Attendance full; records correct.

In the evening I visited Mount Moriah Lodge, at Denmark. Work exemplified in the E. A. degree, and lectures passed by the new officers, which was correctly and nicely done. This lodge has not had a candidate the past year, but they work some degree at every meeting of the lodge, and will be ready when work comes.

BRO. TARBOX again has charge of the records; and they are as usual when under his care, correct.

My report is late, on account of not receiving the lodge returns.

Whole number of members,	777
" " " initiates,	34
Amount of initiation fees,	\$ 68.00
" " annual dues,	116.70
Total Grand Lodge dues,	\$184.70

Fraternally submitted,

North Bridgton, April 15, 1876. I. S. WEBB, *D. D. G. M. 18th M. D.*

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

As D. D. G. M. of the Nineteenth Masonic District, I respectfully report, that during the last masonic year I have personally visited and inspected the "by-laws, records and mode of working" of six of the chartered lodges in this District, viz: Buxton of Buxton, Fraternal of Alfred, St. John's of South Berwick, Dunlap and Palestine of Biddeford, and York of Kennebunk. These lodges all seem to be in a prosperous condition, having efficient officers and well instructed and interested members. In each of them work was rendered in a very correct, interesting and superior manner. I cannot too highly commend these lodges, for their strict adherence to the "letter and spirit" of the provisions in Section 104 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. This is more especially noticeable in Palestine Lodge. The plan of thorough instruction in the work and lectures of each degree cannot fail to produce beneficial results.

I also visited Negutiquit Lodge, U. D., at North Berwick, January 21st, and witnessed work in the third degree, which was well done. The Brethren there seem much interested, and the officers, though they commenced their work without much previous experience, have taken unusual pains to perfect themselves in their duties, and have succeeded well, rendering the work as correctly, thoroughly and understandingly as usually done in old lodges. I understand that the Brethren there will ask for a charter at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

In consequence of other engagements, being unable to visit the remaining lodges in this District within the time required, I appointed suitable and com-

petent brethren to perform that duty. From the reports received, I am satisfied of the healthy condition of these lodges. Saco Lodge is reported to be "in a very flourishing condition, officered by brethren who take an unusual interest in the order." Work in the third degree was well done.

In Arundel Lodge, of Kennebunkport, work in the third degree was creditably performed, and exhibited "a marked improvement in the mode of work within the past year."

Work in the second degree, by the brethren of Ocean Lodge, was very satisfactory. "This lodge is to have a new hall, which is much needed."

On the occasion of the visit to Arion Lodge, Lyman, the extremely bad traveling prevented the usual attendance of "so many of the working officers" that an exemplification of work was not insisted on. The records show that the "meetings during the year were attended with remarkable fullness for a lodge covering so wide and sparse a territory."

The by-laws of the lodges in the District have been found generally correct, though in two or three some slight changes may be necessary to bring them into strict conformity with the late amendments of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

There has been a manifest increase of interest in masonry among the brethren in this District, and the meetings of the lodges have been well sustained. The records exhibit unusual neatness and accuracy.

I wish to renew the expression of my appreciation of the kindness and cordial treatment invariably received from the brethren of the District through the whole of my official service.

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

Number of initiates in chartered lodges,	72
Number of members of chartered lodges,	1,020

GRAND LODGE DUES.

Initiation fees of chartered lodges,	\$144.00
Annual fees of chartered lodges,	153.00
Total,	<u>\$297.00</u>

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. WELD, *D. D. G. M. 19th M. D.*

West Buxton, April 7, 1876.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Trustees of the Charity Fund.

The Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine met at Masonic Hall, in Portland, on Tuesday, the second day of May, A. D. 1876, at five o'clock in the afternoon.

Present—Bro. ALBERT MOORE,

“ EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

“ CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,

“ DAVID CARGILL,

“ JOSEPH M. HAYES,

“ WM. R. G. ESTES,

“ WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD,

“ IRA BERRY.

The Grand Treasurer reported as follows :

PORTLAND, May 2, 1876.

To the Trustees of Charity Fund :

The receipts of the Treasurer the last year were	\$5,092.00
The disbursements the last year, were	5,171.09
The balance now in the Treasury is	808.70
The amount of interest from invested fund in May, 1876,	1,331.45
The amount appropriated, expended in charity and reserved is	1,128.00
The balance unexpended is	521.07
The dividends from banks,	884.88
The interest on \$6,800.00 U. S. 5-20 Bonds,	463.18
The interest on \$700.00 Masonic Trustees Bonds,	56.00
	\$1,409.06

The sum of five hundred dollars has been added to the Charity Fund by deposit in the Maine Savings Bank.

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

The Grand Secretary laid before the Trustees the applications for relief received by him, and a schedule of the same.

On motion of Bro. CARGILL,

Voted, That the applications and the schedule be committed to Bros. ESTES and CRAWFORD for examination, and that they report thereon at an adjourned meeting of the Trustees.

Adjourned to meet at eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, May 3, 1876.

The Board of Trustees met agreeably to adjournment.

Present — Bros. ALBERT MOORE, EDWARD P. BURNHAM, CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, MARQUIS F. KING, W. R. G. ESTES, WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD and IRA BERRY.

The committee to which the applications were referred, reported them back, having examined the same, and marked them on the schedule by numbers, to designate their urgency, proportionally.

The report was accepted.

The securities for the invested Fund were examined, and found correct.

The Board adjourned until seven o'clock P. M.

May 3, 1876. Evening.

The Trustees met at seven o'clock, as per adjournment.

Present — Bros. ALBERT MOORE, EDWARD P. BURNHAM, CHAS. I. COLLAMORE, JOSEPH M. HAYES, MARQUIS F. KING, WM. R. G. ESTES, WM. E. CRAWFORD and IRA BERRY.

On motion of Bro. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Voted, That such unappropriated money belonging to the Charity Fund as may be in the Treasury, be invested in municipal bonds of the City of Portland.

Voted, That the Bond presented by the Grand Treasurer be approved.

Voted, That such applications as the committee have disallowed for informality, be referred to a committee, with authority to act on the same, when put in satisfactory form by the lodges applying.

BROS. MARQUIS F. KING and IRA BERRY were appointed said committee.

On motion,

Voted, That figure one, in the marking of the schedule, represent the sum of six dollars.

Voted, That the schedule be approved; and that the Grand Treasurer be directed to make payments according thereto.

Voted, That one hundred dollars be reserved for emergent cases; and to be used for the relief of such, should they arise during the year, at the discretion of the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

Voted, That the sum of fifty dollars be left subject to the order of the Grand Master and Bro. MARQUIS F. KING, and that they be empowered to assist the Masonic Board of Relief in Portland to that amount, if they judge it advisable.

Voted, That the Board of Trustees now adjourn.

And in accordance with said vote, the Trustees adjourned without day.

Attest,

IRA BERRY, *Secretary*.

Regulations of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

ARTICLE 1.

This 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.

ARTICLE IV.

If the applicant reside out of the Masonic District in which the Grand Lodge is holden, the application and certificate aforesaid, together with the merits of the case, shall be examined and approved by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the applicant resides; or by one of the permanent members of the Grand Lodge.

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.

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 and Grand Secretary, or a majority of them.

A true copy from the Record of Regulations and Votes.

Attest:

IRA BERRY, *Sec'y of Board of Trustees.*

LIST OF LODGES BY DISTRICTS.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 72 Pioneer, <i>Dalton.</i> | 130 Trinity, <i>Presque Isle.</i> |
| 96 Monument, <i>Houlton.</i> | 165 Molunkus, <i>Sherman.</i> |
| 98 Katahdin, <i>Patten.</i> | 170 Caribou, <i>Lyndon.</i> |
| 112 Eastern Frontier, <i>Fort Fairfield.</i> | 175 Baskahegan, <i>Danforth.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 2.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 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.

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 Warren, <i>East Machias.</i> | 106 Tuscan, <i>Addison Point.</i> |
| 88 Narraguagus, <i>Cherryfield.</i> | 131 Lookout, <i>Cutler.</i> |
| 91 Harwood, <i>Machias.</i> | 173 Pleiades, <i>Millbridge.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 4.

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| 4 Hancock, <i>Castine.</i> | 128 Eggemoggin, <i>Sedgwick.</i> |
| 19 Felicity, <i>Bucksport.</i> | 140 Mount Desert, <i>Mount Desert.</i> |
| 40 Lygonia, <i>Ellsworth.</i> | 159 Esoteric, <i>Ellsworth.</i> |
| 71 Rising Sun, <i>Orland.</i> | 171 Naskeag, <i>Brooklin.</i> |
| 77 Tremont, <i>Tremont.</i> | 177 Rising Star, <i>Penobscot.</i> |
| 122 Marine, <i>Deer Isle.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 5.

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| 39 Penobscot, <i>Dexter.</i> | 149 Doric, <i>Monson.</i> |
| 44 Piscataquis, <i>Milo.</i> | 157 Cambridge, <i>Cambridge.</i> |
| 52 Mosaic, <i>Foxcroft.</i> | 160 Parian, <i>Corinna.</i> |
| 64 Pacific, <i>Exeter.</i> | 163 Pleasant River, <i>Brownville.</i> |
| 109 Mount Kineo, <i>Abbot.</i> | 168 Composite, <i>La Grange.</i> |
| 124 Olive Branch, <i>Charleston.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 6.

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10 Rising Virtue, <i>Bangor.</i> | 93 Horeb, <i>Lincoln.</i> |
| 49 Meridian Splendor, <i>Newport.</i> | 137 Kenduskeag, <i>Kenduskeag.</i> |
| 60 Star in the East, <i>Oldtown.</i> | 139 Archon, <i>East Dixmont.</i> |
| 65 Mystic, <i>Hampden.</i> | 148 Forest, <i>Springfield.</i> |
| 66 Mechanics', <i>Orono.</i> | 172 Pine Tree, <i>Mattawamkeag.</i> |
| 83 St. Andrew's, <i>Bangor.</i> | 174 Lynde, <i>Hermon.</i> |
| 87 Benevolent, <i>Carmel.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 7.

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 45 Central, <i>China.</i> | 111 Liberty, <i>Liberty.</i> |
| 58 Unity, <i>Freedom.</i> | 129 Quantabacook, <i>Searsmont.</i> |
| 75 Plymouth, <i>Plymouth.</i> | 134 Trojan, <i>Troy.</i> |
| 85 Star in the West, <i>Unity.</i> | 146 Sebasticook, <i>Clinton.</i> |
| 102 Marsh River, <i>Brooks.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 8.

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| 24 Phoenix, <i>Belfast.</i> | 89 Island, <i>Islesboro.</i> |
| 62 King David's, <i>Lincolntonville.</i> | 119 Pownal, <i>Stockton.</i> |
| 68 Mariners', <i>Searsport.</i> | 126 Timothy Chase, <i>Belfast.</i> |
| 69 Howard, <i>Winterport.</i> | 151 Excelsior, <i>Northport.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 9.

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 6 Amity, <i>Camden.</i> | 59 Mount Hope, <i>Hope.</i> |
| 15 Orient, <i>Thomaston.</i> | 79 Rockland, <i>Rockland.</i> |
| 16 St. George, <i>Warren.</i> | 82 St. Paul's, <i>Rockport.</i> |
| 31 Union, <i>Union.</i> | 84 Eureka, <i>St. George.</i> |
| 50 Aurora, <i>Rockland.</i> | 145 Moses Webster, <i>Vinalhaven.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 10.

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3 Lincoln, <i>Wiscasset.</i> | 120 Meduncook, <i>Friendship.</i> |
| 43 Alna, <i>Damariscotta.</i> | 135 Riverside, <i>Jefferson.</i> |
| 61 King Solomon's, <i>Waldoboro.</i> | 144 Seaside, <i>Boothbay.</i> |
| 74 Bristol, <i>Bristol.</i> | 158 Anchor, <i>South Bristol.</i> |
| 103 Dresden, <i>Dresden.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 11.

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5 Kennebec, <i>Hallowell.</i> | 104 Dirigo, <i>South China.</i> |
| 25 Temple, <i>Winthrop.</i> | 110 Monmouth, <i>North Monmouth.</i> |
| 32 Hermon, <i>Gardiner.</i> | 136 Ionic, <i>Gardiner.</i> |
| 35 Bethlehem, <i>Augusta.</i> | 141 Augusta, <i>Augusta.</i> |
| 41 Morning Star, <i>Litchfield.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 12.

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|---|---|
| 33 Waterville, <i>Waterville.</i> | 108 Relief, <i>Belgrade.</i> |
| 48 Lafayette, <i>Readfield.</i> | 113 Messalonskee, <i>West Waterville.</i> |
| 53 Rural, <i>Sidney.</i> | 133 Asylum, <i>Wayne.</i> |
| 64 Vassalboro', <i>North Vassalboro'.</i> | 116 Neguemkeag, <i>Vassalboro'.</i> |
| 99 Vernon Valley, <i>Mt. Vernon.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 13.

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 28 Northern Star, <i>North Anson.</i> | 116 Lebanon, <i>Norridgewock.</i> |
| 34 Somerset, <i>Skowhegan.</i> | 123 Franklin, <i>New Sharon.</i> |
| 80 Keystone, <i>Solon.</i> | 125 Meridian, <i>Pittsfield.</i> |
| 92 Siloam, <i>Fairfield.</i> | 161 Carrabassett, <i>Canaan.</i> |
| 95 Corinthian, <i>Hartland.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 14.

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| 8 United, <i>Brunswick.</i> | 114 Polar Star, <i>Bath.</i> |
| 14 Solar, <i>Bath.</i> | 121 Acacia, <i>Durham.</i> |
| 26 Village, <i>Bowdoinham.</i> | 155 Ancient York, <i>Lisbon Falls.</i> |
| 63 Richmond, <i>Richmond.</i> | 164 Webster, <i>Webster.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 15.

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| 20 Maine, <i>Farmington.</i> | 150 Rabboni, <i>Lewiston.</i> |
| 21 Oriental Star, <i>Livermore.</i> | 154 Mystic Tie, <i>Weld.</i> |
| 29 Tranquil, <i>Auburn.</i> | 156 Wilton, <i>Wilton.</i> |
| 67 Blue Mountain, <i>Phillips.</i> | 167 Whitney, <i>Canton.</i> |
| 101 Nezinscot, <i>Turner.</i> | 178 Ancient Brothers', <i>Auburn.</i> |
| 105 Ashlar, <i>Lewiston.</i> | U. D., Reuel Washburn, <i>Livermore Falls.</i> |
| 147 Evening Star, <i>Buckfield.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 16.

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 18 Oxford, <i>Norway.</i> | 97 Bethel, <i>Bethel.</i> |
| 30 Blazing Star, <i>Rumford.</i> | 100 Jefferson, <i>Bryant's Pond.</i> |
| 57 King Hiram, <i>Dixfield.</i> | 132 Mount Tire'm, <i>Waterford.</i> |
| 73 Tyrian, <i>Mechanic Falls.</i> | 152 Crooked River, <i>Otisfield.</i> |
| 94 Paris, <i>South Paris.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 17.

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|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Portland, <i>Portland.</i> | 70 Standish, <i>Standish.</i> |
| 12 Cumberland, <i>New Gloucester.</i> | 81 Atlantic, <i>Portland.</i> |
| 17 Ancient Land-Mark, <i>Portland.</i> | 86 Temple, <i>Saccarappa.</i> |
| 23 Freeport, <i>Freeport.</i> | 127 Presumpscot, <i>Windham.</i> |
| 36 Casco, <i>Yarmouth.</i> | 180 Hiram, <i>Cape Elizabeth.</i> |
| 38 Harmony, <i>Gorham.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 18.

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|----------------------------------|--|
| 11 Pythagorean, <i>Fryeburg.</i> | 107 Day Spring, <i>Newfield.</i> |
| 13 Oriental, <i>Bridgton.</i> | 117 Greenleaf, <i>Cornish.</i> |
| 27 Adoniram, <i>Linington.</i> | 118 Drummond, <i>Parsonsfield.</i> |
| 42 Freedom, <i>Limerick.</i> | 153 Delta, <i>Lovell.</i> |
| 56 Mount Moriah, <i>Denmark.</i> | 169 Shepherd's River, <i>Brownfield.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 19.

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 9 Saco, <i>Saco.</i> | 115 Buxton, <i>Buxton.</i> |
| 22 York, <i>Kennebunk.</i> | 142 Ocean, <i>Wells.</i> |
| 47 Dunlap, <i>Biddeford.</i> | 143 Preble, <i>Sanford.</i> |
| 51 St. John's, <i>South Berwick.</i> | 162 Arion, <i>Lyman.</i> |
| 55 Fraternal, <i>Alfred.</i> | 176 Palestine, <i>Biddeford.</i> |
| 76 Arundel, <i>Kennebunkport.</i> | 179 Yorkshire, <i>North Berwick.</i> |



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge,

1876.

ALBERT MOORE, G. M.	Ex Officio.
EDWARD P. BURNHAM, D. G. M.	"
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, S. G. W.	"
ALDEN M. WETHERBEE, J. G. W.	" "
IRA BERRY, R. G. S.	"
JOSEPH M. HAYES,	elected May 5, 1874, for three years.
MARQUIS F. KING,	" " " "
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	" May 4, 1875, "
DAVID CARGILL,	" " " "
WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,	" May 2, 1876, "
WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD,	" " " "

ADDRESSES.

ALBERT MOORE, <i>Grand Master</i> ,.....	NORTH ANSON, ME.
IRA BERRY, <i>Grand Secretary</i> ,.....	PORTLAND, ME.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, <i>Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence</i> ,	PORTLAND, ME.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE, 1876.

M. W.	ALBERT MOORE,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	North Anson.
R. W.	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Saco.
"	CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Bangor.
"	A. M. WETHERBEE,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Warren.
"	MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland.
"	IRA BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
"	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Bath.
"	HENRY F. COLLINS,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Houlton.
"	E. HOWARD VOSE,	" 2d "	Calais.
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	" 3d "	Machias.
"	JAMES T. CUSHMAN,	" 4th "	Ellsworth.
"	DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR.,	" 5th "	Dexter.
"	MANLY G. TRASK,	" 6th "	Bangor.
"	JOHN H. GORDON,	" 7th "	Brooks.
"	WILLIAM A. PENDLETON,	" 8th "	Northport.
"	CLARK D. SMALLY,	" 9th "	Rockland.
"	ALMORE KENNEDY,	" 10th "	Waldoboro'.
"	GEORGE P. HASKELL,	" 11th "	Augusta.
"		" 12th "	
"	SIMON S. BROWN,	" 13th "	Fairfield.
"	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	" 14th "	Sabattus.
"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	" 15th "	Lewiston.
"	DIMAN B. PERRY,	" 16th "	Mechanic Falls.
"	GEORGE E. TAYLOR,	" 17th "	Portland.
"	SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	" 18th "	Denmark.
"	JOHN S. DERBY,	" 19th "	Saco.
W. & Rev.	C. C. MASON,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Kent's Hill.
"	CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "	Kennebunk.
"	WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "	Portland.
"	J. R. BOWLER,	" "	Rockland.
"	L. P. FRENCH,	" "	Solon.
"	CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "	Augusta.
W.	BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Portland.
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon,</i>	Portland.
"	ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
"	ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Camden.
"	S. J. CHADBOURNE,	" "	East Dixmont.
"	AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "	East Machias.
"	CHARLES E. WELD,	" "	West Buxton.
"	H. H. BURBANK,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Alfred.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>G. Standard Bearer,</i>	Portland.
"	WM. R. G. ESTES,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Skowhegan.
"	LEVI W. SMITH,	" "	Vinalhaven.
"	TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	<i>Grand Lecturer,</i>	Portland.
"	C. O. FILES,	<i>Grand Organist,</i>	Portland.
Bro.	WARREN PHILLIPS,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

LIST OF SUBORDINATE LODGES, WITH THEIR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS,

As Returned March 1, 1876.

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- Acacia, 121, Durham. Charles W. Harding, m; Elbridge O. Tyler, sw; Joseph H. Davis, jw; Alfred Lunt, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December, chartered May 7, 1863. 14
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. Henry Hasty, m; Willard P. Boothby, sw; Ira Berry, jw; James B. Tufts, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered September 10, 1818. 18
- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. Charles W. Stetson, m; C. W. Hatch, sw; H. A. Day, jw; J. F. Sumner, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered January 21, 1823. 10
- Amity, 6, Camden. Cornelius T. Hosmer, m; Nathan P. Beverage, sw; Thomas C. Atwic, jw; Fred. M. Richards, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon each month; election, January; chartered March 10, 1801. 9
- Anchor, 158, South Bristol. Everett Burnham, m; Stephen H. Farrow, sw; Charles Foster, jw; George C. Farrar, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 4, 1870. 10
- Ancient Brothers', v. d., [178] Auburn. Samuel O. Wood, m; Albert M. Penley, sw; Marcellus B. Preble, jw; Edwin T. Stevens, s. Meeting first Thursday of each month; date of dispensation, June 21, 1875. 15
- Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. Warren O. Carney, m; Henry F. Perry, sw; Samuel F. Bearce, jw; George L. Swett, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, December; chartered June 10, 1806. 17
- Ancient York, 155, Lisbon Falls. George W. Coombs, m; Samuel J. White, sw; William S. Cotton, Jr., jw; George B. Shorey, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 4, 1870. 14
- Archon, 139, East Dixmont. George R. Thurlough, m; Benjamin F. Porter, sw; Samuel F. Mansur, jw; Amos Whitney, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 8, 1867. 6
- Arion, 162, Goodwin's Mills. Francis N. Clark, m; Leonard C. Walker, sw; James W. Smith, jw; Samuel C. Gilpatric, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered May 9, 1872. 19
- Arundel, 76, Kennebunkport. Orlando Drown, m; Charles H. Goodwin, sw; Horace L. Goodwin, jw; Seth E. Bryant, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered June 26, 1854. 19

- Ashlar, 105, Lewiston. Webster W. Sanborn, m; George H. Benson, sw; Fred. B. Sands, jw; John Winn, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered November 5, 1860. 15
- Asylum, 133, Wayne. Hamilton J. Ridley, m; Charles E. Wing, sw; Albert W. Riggs, jw; Chandler F. Cobb, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, September; chartered May 9, 1867. 12
- Atlantic, 81, Portland. George R. Shaw, m; Richard K. Gatley, sw; Algernon D. Pearson, jw; Alpheus G. Rogers, s. Meeting third Wednesday in every month; election, December; chartered May 3, 1855. 17
- Augusta, 141, Augusta. Clement P. Richards, m; Willard F. Spaulding, sw; Edwin C. Dudley, jw; Elisha F. Blackman, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, January; chartered March 21, 1867. 11
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. Caleb G. Moffitt, m; Cyrus B. Averill, sw; Erastus P. Rollins, jw; Enoch Davies, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, January; chartered July 18, 1826. 9
- Baskahegan, 175, Danforth. Henry H. Putnam, m; John H. McGraw, sw; Wellington A. Gerow, jw; Joel Foss, s. Meeting Thursday next before full moon; instituted December 3, 1874. 1
- Benevolent, 87, Carmel. Benjamin G. Murch, m; Enoch Boynton, sw; Charles F. Kimball, jw; Israel W. Johnson, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1857. 6
- Bethel, 97, Bethel. Eben S. Kilborn, m; Albert W. Grover, sw; Jarvis C. Billings, jw; Leander T. Barker, s. Meeting second Thursday in each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1860. 16
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Milton M. Stone, m; Edward F. Beals, sw; John Ellis, jw; C. H. Brick, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, November; chartered 1821. 11
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford Centre. Waldo Pettingill, m; Florus H. Bartlett, sw; Winfield S. Howe, jw; Cyrus P. Eaton, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 11, 1819. 16
- Blue Mountain, 67, Phillips. Mason W. Dutton, m; Bart. T. Parker, sw; Willard M. Chandler, jw; James Morrison, Jr., s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, November; chartered July 20, 1850. 15
- Bristol, 74, Bristol. James H. Varney, m; Henry C. Huston, sw; Samuel W. Johnson, jw; Wait K. Weston, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered March 1, 1853. 10
- Buxton, 115, West Buxton. Cyril P. Harmon, m; Wm. H. Smith, sw; Willis Crockett, jw; James Meserve, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, January; chartered March 18, 1863. 19
- Cambridge, 157, Cambridge. F. D. R. Morrell, m; Nathan L. Meands, sw; Horace Ham, jw; George Mitchell, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1870. 5
- Caribou, 170, Lyndon. Calvin B. Roberts, m; George M. Emery, sw; Robert McCubrey, jw; Alonzo W. Boynton, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon in each month; election, December; chartered July 27, 1872. 1
- Carrabassett, 161, Canaan. Sewall Brown, m; George W. Johnson, sw; Noah Ricker, jw; Henry Ricker, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Tuesday in October; chartered March 2, 1871. 13
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Albert Gooding, m; Lorenzo L. Shaw, jw; Thomas L. Curtis, sw; Josiah M. Walker, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered October 14, 1821. 17

- Central, 45, China. Allen P. Varney, m; Lynn W. Rollins, sw; Reuel W. Shorey, jw; Willis W. Washburn, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before each full moon; election, September; chartered April 8, 1824. 7
- Composite, 168, LaGrange. Cyrus C. Durgin, m; Marcellus Nason, sw; Frank G. Perkins, jw; Osmer Kenney, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 9, 1872. 5
- Corinthian, 95, Hartland. George L. Nelson, m; Thomas Walker, sw; John O. Rowell, jw; Joseph P. Folsom, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 15, 1859. 13
- Crescent, 78, Pembroke. John Mincher, m; J. N. Whitman, sw; D. McIntosh, jw; J. Marshall Hawkes, s. Meeting first Wednesday in the month; election, December; chartered July 10, 1856. 2
- Crooked River, 152, Bolster's Mills. Isaac S. Skillings, m; Oscar V. Edwards, sw; William H. Tenney, jw; Alpheus B. Lovewell, s. Meeting Thursday on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered April 15, 1869. 16
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Albert W. Larrabee, m; Ozias M. Goff, sw; Francis R. Rounds, jw; George H. Goding, s. Meeting Saturday before full moon; election, November; chartered June 13, 1803. 17
- Day Spring, 107, West Newfield. Charles F. Goodwin, m; Frank Chellis, sw; George H. Straw, jw; Stephen Adams, s. Meeting on or before the full moon; election, September; chartered May 9, 1861. 18
- Delta, 153, Lovell. Charles H. Brown, m; Augustus N. French, sw; James E. Farrington, jw; Marshall Walker, s. Meeting second Thursday of each month; election, December; chartered May 5, 1869. 18
- Dirigo, 104, Week's Mills. D. P. Bolster, m; O. F. Rowe, sw; H. S. Gray, jw; O. F. Sproul, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 12, 1800. 11
- Doric, 149, Monson. A. F. Jackson, m; C. A. Packard, sw; Eben Bray, jw; Fred C. Coan, s. Meeting Monday on or after full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1868. 5
- Dresden, 103, Dresden. Oscar Mayers, m; Woodbury F. Mayers, sw; Washington F. Tilly, jw; Edward H. Barker, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 9, 1861. 10
- Drummond, 118, North Parsonsfield. Almon O. Smart, m; Ruthven Dearborn, sw; John Neal, jw; W. Scott Young, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered May 7, 1863. 18
- Dunlap, 47, Biddeford. Edwin A. Coffin, m; Edwin Stone, sw; Anson L. Keyes, jw; Tristram Hanson, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered January 13, 1826. 19
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. William H. Clark, m; Elias S. Kenney, sw; Henry H. Wadsworth, jw; Noel B. Nutt, s. Meeting first Monday in the month; election, December 27th; chartered June 8, 1801. 2
- Eastern Frontier, 112, Fort Fairfield. Samuel E. Jewett, m; Charles W. Johnston, sw; Enoch Ginn, jw; Jerre F. Hacker, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1863. 1
- Eggmoggin, 128, Sedgwick. Hiram B. Harding, m; Freeman G. Higgins, sw; James P. Byard, jw; Eben B. Smith, s. Meeting second Monday of each month; election, January; chartered March 1, 1865. 4
- Esoteric, 159, Ellsworth. James A. McGown, m; Arthur W. Greely, sw; William F. Emerson, jw; Edward F. Robinson, s. Meeting first Friday of each month; election December; chartered September 3, 1870. 4

- Eureka, 84, St. George. Whitney Long, m; Patrick P. Robinson, sw; Enoch R. Clark, jw; Horace F. Marshall, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 2, 1855. 9
- Evening Star, 147, Buckfield. H. C. Ricker, m; J. H. DeCoster, sw; A. C. Tubbs, jw; C. R. Whitten, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 7, 1868. 15
- Excelsior, 151, Northport. Freeman Crockett, m; Thos. J. Drinkwater, sw; Albert H. Knowlton, jw; Joseph L. Witherly, s. Meeting Wednesday before full moon; election, December; chartered March 1, 1869. 8
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Arthur D. F. Snowman, m; Guy W. McAlister, sw; Elias Bowden, jw; Silas B. Warren, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered March 14, 1809. 4
- Fisher [now Parian], 160, Corinna. C. A. Dorman, m; Fred E. Sprague, sw; Frank E. Knowles, jw; Jonathan S. Burrill, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered September 9, 1870. 5
- Forest, 148, Springfield. Lloyd W. Drake, m; Abel A. Blanchard, sw; Wm. H. Murdock, jw; J. A. Larrabee, s. Meeting Saturday on or before the full moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1868. 6
- Franklin, 123, New Sharon. John Fletcher, m; George H. Stinchfield, sw; Frank S. Berry, jw; J. L. Harding, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 3, 1865. 13
- Fraternal, 55, Alfred. Alonzo Leavitt, m; Marcus W. Towne, sw; Levi Hobbs, jw; Silas Derby, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered January 10, 1828. 19
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. Edwin Hsley, m; Moses R. Brackett, sw; John M. Purinton, sw; Fred W. Libby, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered January 11, 1823. 18
- Freeport, 23, Freeport. John Burr, m; O. H. Briggs, sw; C. Fred Koopman, jw; G. P. Soule, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1845. 17
- Greenleaf, 117, Cornish. John Bradley, m; Preston Durgin, sw; Charles C. O'Brien, jw; Roscoe G. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 4, 1863. 18
- Hancock, 4, Castine. George A. Wheeler, m; Edward F. Davies, sw; John Collins, jw; Isaiah L. Shepherd, s. Meeting first Thursday in each month; election, December; chartered June 9, 1794. 4
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. Kimball Eastman, m; L. C. Harmon, sw; W. F. Clements, jw; John G. Watson, s. Meeting Wednesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered January 22, 1822. 17
- Harwood, 91, Machias. Leander H. Crane, m; George A. Parlin, sw; Melville J. Allen, jw; Eliphalet S. Means, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered April 8, 1858. 3
- Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Sanford W. Siphers, m; Chas. H. Dunton, sw; Chas. H. Small, jw; Henry S. Webster, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, January; chartered June 23, 1820. 11
- Hersey, U. D. [now Rising Star, No. 177], Penobscot. B. H. Cushman, m; E. R. Bowden, sw; F. M. Clement, jw; L. P. Grindal, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; dispensation dated June 17, 1875. 4
- Hiram, U. D. [180], Cape Elizabeth. Gordon R. Garden, m; Eben N. Perry, sw; Andrew S. Sawyer, jw; William Atwood, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November; date of dispensation, November 1, 1875. 17

- Horeb, 93, Lincoln. Luna B. Batchelder, m; Ira F. Haynes, sw; Charles L. Pickering, jw; Frederick E. Nute, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 5, 1858. 6
- Howard, 69, Winterport. John L. Norton, m; James Freeman, sw; Henry G. Morgan, jw; Luther D. Curtis, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May, 1852. 8
- Ionic, 136, Gardiner. Benj. S. Smith, m; Philip H. Winslow, sw; Weston Lewis, jw; Barrett A. Cox, s. Meeting first Monday of each month; election, January; chartered May 9, 1867. 11
- Island, 89, Islesboro'. Otis F. Coombs, m; James F. Grindle, sw; Edwin Coombs, jw; Daniel A. Hatch, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered November 5, 1857. 8
- Jefferson, 100, Bryant's Pond. Rufus K. Dunham, m; Horace C. Berry, sw; Orlando C. Houghton, jw; Albert C. Bolster, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 8, 1860. 16
- Katahdin, 98, Patten. Charles R. Brown, m; Charles C. Elwell, sw; William B. Mitchell, jw; Daniel Scribner, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered August 24, 1859. 1
- Kenduskeag, 137, Kenduskeag. Llewellyn J. Blanchard, m; Charles H. Sleeper, sw; William L. Lewis, jw; Crosby Clements, s. Meeting Wednesday on or after the full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866. 6
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. John D. Hodgdon, m; H. L. Grindell, sw; Chas. H. Williams, jw; C. E. Parlin, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered March 17, 1796. 11
- Keystone, 80, Solon. John L. Pierce, m; Alonzo Moore, sw; Luther P. French, jw; Turner Buswell, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 4, 1855. 13
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. John R. Hurd, m; Joseph Gould, sw; Robert W. Perry, jw; David Howe, s. Meeting Tuesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered January 13, 1850. 8
- King Hiram, 57, Dixfield. Frank Stanley, m; Stephen E. Griffith, sw; Lamont C. Willoughby, jw; John F. Stanley, s. Meeting Tuesday on or after full moon; election, October; chartered April 10, 1828. 16
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro'. Almore Kennedy, m; S. Everett Weeks, sw; John E. White, jw; Henry Farrington, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered Feb. 5, 1855. 10
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. J. Eugene Lewis, m; George A. Russell, sw; Fred F. Graves, jw; Fred E. Beane, s. Meeting first Saturday in each month; election, February; chartered May 20, 1850. 12
- Lebanon, 116, Norridgewock. John H. Webster, m; Seth H. Willard, sw; Plummer H. Butler, jw; Edward C. Hale, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered April 30, 1863. 13
- Lewy's Island, 138, Princeton. Joseph S. Farrar, m; Andrew J. Deuphria, sw; Reuben J. Craft, jw; Charles A. Rolf, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, December, St. John's Day; chartered May 8, 1867. 2
- Liberty, 111, Liberty. James Leeman, m; Gustavus H. Cargill, sw; Hanson T. Gove, jw; Ambrose P. Cargill, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon, and second Monday following; election at first stated meeting in October; chartered May 8, 1862. 7
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Edwin Farnham, m; James W. Savage, sw; Joseph W. Taggart, jw; Frederick W. Sewall, s. Meeting Thursday evening on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 19, 1792. 10

- Lookout, 131, Cutler. Alex. D. Ross, m; Silas E. Turner, sw; Otis Ackley, jr; Alden Z. Cates, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1866. 3
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. John B. Redman, m; Carlton McGown, sw; Edmund McFarland, jr; Levi B. Wyman, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, January; chartered April 11, 1822. 4
- Lynde, 174, Hermon. Jonathan Hunt, m; Stephen S. Hewes, sw; C. H. Patten, jr; F. H. Jewell, s. Meeting Saturday before the full moon each month; election, December; chartered, May 7, 1874. 6
- Maine, 20, Farmington. George B. Cragin, m; Roliston Woodbury, sw; S. Clifford Belcher, jr; David H. Knowlton, s. Meeting Monday in week of full moon; election, October; chartered June 13, 1808. 15
- Marine, 122, Deer Isle. Samuel Smith, m; Frederic A. Gross, sw; John W. Green, jr; Martin V. B. Green, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 3, 1865. 4
- Mariners', 68, Searsport. Daniel S. Simpson, m; Alvah M. Dutch, sw; Joseph A. Clement, jr; Edward A. Perkins, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 10, 1853. 8
- Marsh River, 102, Brooks. David Brackett, m; Jeremiah Webb, sw; William C. Rowe, jr; Marcellus J. Dow, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before the full moon each month; election, December; chartered May 9, 1861. 7
- Mechanics', 66, Orono. Albert White, m; Henry C. Powers, sw; William C. Taylor, jr; Albert J. Durgin, s. Meeting first Wednesday each month; election, December 27; chartered May 12, 1851. 6
- Meduncook, 120, Friendship. Albion Murphy, m; Frank A. Geyer, sw; Addison O. Wallace, jr; Warren R. Beckett, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered February 6, 1864. 10
- Meridian, 125, Pittsfield. Pliny E. Dinsmore, m; Charles E. Vickery, sw; George H. Hunter, jr; Warren Starks, s. Meeting Friday evening on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1865. 13
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Nelson C. Smith, m; Jeremiah S. Sargent, sw; Kingman Gurney, jr; Hollis J. Rowe, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 13, 1826. 6
- Messalonskee, 113, West Waterville. John W. Gilman, m; George W. Goulding, sw; B. H. Mitchell, jr; Louis Belanger, s. Meeting on the first Saturday of each month; election, December; chartered May 16, 1862. 12
- Molunkus, 165, Sherman Mills. Edward A. Cushman, m; Alfred Cushman, Jr., sw; Randal Gallison, jr; John Gosnell, s. Meeting Tuesday on or last preceding full moon of each month; election, October; chartered August 26, 1871. 1
- Monmouth, 110, North Monmouth. Nahum Spear, m; H. S. Gordon, sw; Benjamin Ellis, jr; John W. Foss, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, September; chartered May 21, 1861. 11
- Monument, 96, Houlton. Sabine F. Berry, m; H. B. Black, sw; John Watson, jr; John H. Bradford, s. Meeting second Wednesday of each month; election, March; chartered May 5, 1859. 1
- Morning Star, 41, Litchfield Corner. Cyrus Kendrick, m; Thomas Holmes, sw; Gardiner Roberts, Jr., jr; J. W. Starbird, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered July 11, 1822. 11

- Mosaic, 52, Foxcroft. Jas. T. Roberts, m; Wm. T. Elliott, sw; Thomas P. Elliott, jw; Elihu B. Averill, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 16, 1827. 5
- Moses Webster, 145, Vinalhaven. Levi W. Smith, m; John F. Talbot, sw; Thad. C. Creed, jw; Charles J. Jay, s. Meeting second Tuesday each month; election, September; chartered Jan. 13, 1868. 9
- Mount Desert, 140, Mount Desert. Thaddeus S. Somes, m; Wallace W. Richardson, sw; Edwin C. Parker, jw; Lyman H. Somes, s. Meeting Saturday eve on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered May 8, 1867. 4
- Mount Hope, 59, South Hope. Robert A. Martin, m; Asa P. StClair, sw; Abijah Crabtree, jw; Thaddeus Hastings, s; Meeting Wednesday before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1848. 9
- Mount Kineo, 109, Abbot. C. N. Rand, m; J. A. Monroe, sw; M. L. Hussey, jw; W. W. Delano, s. Meeting Saturday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 8, 1862. 5
- Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. Samuel D. McKusick, m; David P. Lord, sw; Albert F. Trumbull, jw; Dominicus G. Tarbox, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered January 23, 1828. 18
- Mount Tire'm, 132, Waterford. Alfred S. Kimball, m; Chas. L. Wilson, sw; David P. Bisbee, jw; Sylvanus W. Cobb, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before the full of the moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866. 16
- Mystic, 65, Hampden. George Joss, m; Geo. N. Holland, sw; Harrison Greeley, jw; H. L. Hopkins, s. Meeting third Saturday of every month; election, December; chartered May 12, 1851. 6
- Mystic Tie, 154, Weld. Daniel M. Teague, m; Samuel E. Perkins, sw; Abel D. Russell, jw; Edwin B. Lufkin, s. Meeting Tuesday of the week of full moon; election, December; chartered June 8, 1869. 15
- Narraguagus, 88, Cherryfield. E. C. Wakefield, m; E. R. Wingate, sw; Lycurgus Wasgatt, jw; Geo. A. Herrick, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered May 28, 1857. 3
- Naskeag, 171, Brooklin. Warren Wells, m; George B. Flye, sw; Isaac Mayo, jw; George R. Allen, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, January; chartered May 8, 1873. 4
- Neguemkeag, 166, Vassalboro'. Caleb F. Graves, m; Benj. F. Clark, sw; Henry H. Robbins, jw; Arioeh Wentworth, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered December 22, 1871. 12
- Negutiquit, v. d. [now Yorkshire, 179], North Berwick. Benjamin P. Parker, m; C. H. Getchell, sw; W. H. Littlefield, jw; C. W. Greenleaf, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; dispensation dated Sept. 18, 1875. 19
- Nezinscot, 101, Turner. Sumner S. Merrill, m; Charles Blake, sw; John E. Ashe, jw; S. D. Andrews, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 3, 1860. 15
- Northern Star, 28, North Anson. Ben. Moore, m; Benjamin Adams, sw; Benjamin Mantor, jw; Columbus S. Mantor, s. Meeting Tuesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered December 15, 1818. 13
- Ocean, 142, Wells. Chas. H. West, m; Owen M. Davis, sw; Josiah L. Parsons, jw; Geo. G. Hatch, s. Meeting Wednesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered March 22, 1867. 19

- Olive Branch, 124, Charleston. J. Hovey Leason, m; G. W. Dunning, sw; Jos. Ellis, jw; O. L. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1865. 5
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. Wm. E. Crawford, m; Levi Morse, sw; H. G. Copeland, jw; A. O. Robinson, s. Meeting first Tuesday in each month; election, January; chartered September 10, 1805. 9
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. Millard M. Caswell, m; A. F. Richardson, sw; William H. Gray, jw; Benj. T. Chase, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 12, 1804. 18
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Cornelius M. Holland, m; Frank Garcelon, sw; Everett L. Philoon, jw; Augustus H. Strickland, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered June 11, 1811. 15
- Oxford, 18, Norway. A. Oscar Noyes, m; Freeland Howe, sw; John Garey, jw; James O. Crooker, s. Meeting Monday on or next before full moon; election, September; chartered September 14, 1807. 16
- Pacific, 64, Exeter. Chas. E. Merriam, m; Justus H. Jackman, sw; Joseph A. Clark, jw; John Whitney, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon in each month; election, January; chartered May 12, 1851. 5
- Parian, [See Fisher.]
- Paris, 94, South Paris. George A. Wilson, m; Geo. W. Hammond, sw; Charles B. Benson, jw; J. Ferdinand King, s. Meeting Tuesday on or preceding full moon; election, December, St. John's Day; chartered May 5, 1859. 16
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Joseph H. Fitzgerald, m; Alton P. Fassett, sw; Warren H. Carr, jw; Newell H. Bates, s. Meeting Monday on or next before each full moon; election, December; chartered January 24, 1822. 5
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Chas. T. Richards, m; Everett S. Carter, sw; J. C. Cates, Jr., jw; Russell G. Dyer, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered February 9, 1816. 8
- Pine Tree, 172, Mattawamkeag. Thomas M. Blakemore, m; Alexander McClain, sw; Danville S. Chadbourne, jw; George W. Smith, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1874. 6
- Pioneer, 72, Dalton. Silas S. Gilman, m; Leroy C. Dorman, sw; Angus Young, jw; Ebn R. McKay, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, March; chartered May 5, 1854. 1
- Piscataquis, 44, Milo. Wm. H. Owen, m; Nathan J. Dunphey, sw; James M. Palmer, jw; George B. Crane, s. Meeting Friday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered October 23, 1823. 5
- Pleasant River, 163, Brownville. Edward P. Fifield, m; Walter G. Sherburne, sw; Oliver K. Nason, jw; Walter G. Morrill, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, November; chartered July 28, 1871. 5
- Pleiades, 173, Millbridge. Lincoln H. Leighton, m; Vinal D. Wass, sw; Leverett Strout, jw; Jasper Wyman, s. Meeting Monday; election, January; chartered May 6, 1874. 3
- Plymouth, 75, Plymouth. Orin Thorn, m; G. Mansur, sw; W. H. Conant, jw; C. Butman, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 5, 1854. 7
- Polar Star, 114, Bath. Wm. C. Duncan, m; Edwin M. Fuller, sw; George F. Stacy, jw; Frank Brown, s. Meeting second Wednesday of each month election, March; chartered March 7, 1863. 14

- Portland, 1, Portland. George L. Bailey, m; John H. Hall, sw; William N. Prince, jw; Convers O. Leach, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, November; chartered March 20, 1762. 17
- Pownal, 119, Stockton. Samuel H. West, m; Edward Partridge, sw; Simon B. Littlefield, jw; Warren E. Griffin, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, January; chartered July 4, 1863. 8
- Preble, 143, Sanford. Charter restored this session. 19
- Presumpscot, 127, Windham. E. A. Plummer, m; Calvin Morrell, sw; Lorenzo D. King, jw; Cornelius N. Morrell, s. Meeting Saturday evening on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866. 17
- Pythagorean, 11, Fryeburg. William C. Towle, m; Wyman H. Jones, sw; B. Walker McKeen, jw; Seth W. Fife, s. Meeting Monday on or after full moon; election, December; chartered June 13, 1803. 18
- Quantabacook, 129, Searsmont. Fred. S. Walls, m; Loima C. Poor, sw; John E. Woodcock, jw; Levi M. Poor, s. Meeting first Saturday in each month; election, October; chartered May 3, 1866. 7
- Rabboni, 150, Lewiston. George G. Hartwell, m; Erwin V. Daley, sw; Oscar G. Douglass, jw; Hernando F. Emery, s. Meeting Wednesday succeeding full moon; election, September; chartered December 28, 1868. 15
- Relief, 108, Belgrade. Charles A. Yeaton, m; B. L. Woodward, sw; Asa W. Robinson, jw; James C. Mosher, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 8, 1862. 12
- Richmond, 63, Richmond. Geo. B. Randlette, m; Albion J. Drew, sw; S. A. Williams, jw; Ambrose P. Jewett, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, October; chartered May 10, 1850. 14
- Rising Sun, 71, Orland. Asa Conary, m; Hudson Saunders, sw; Aaron G. Page, jw; James C. Saunders, s. Meeting first Tuesday in each month; election, December; chartered October 18, 1852. 4
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Clarence L. Dakin, m; William H. Thompson, sw; Charles York, jw; Charles I. Collamore, s. Meeting last Tuesday in each month; election, December; chartered September 16, 1802. 6
- Riverside, 135, Jefferson. S. J. Bond, m; L. M. Staples, sw; J. J. Bond, jw; S. A. Richardson, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered March 13, 1866. 10
- Rockland, 79, Rockland. Edwin T. G. Rawson, m; Henry E. Hutchinson, sw; Joseph Ham, jw; Edgar A. Burpee, s. Meeting first Tuesday eve of each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1855. 9
- Rural, 53, Sidney. Adelbert H. Bailey, m; Charles T. Hamlen, sw; James F. Warren, jw; Ambrose Sawtelle, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered July 25, 1827. 12
- Saco, 9, Saco. George F. Owen, m; Stephen G. Dorman, sw; Winfield S. Hasty, jw; George A. Emery, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, June; chartered June 16, 1802. 19
- St. Andrew's, 83, Bangor. Frank H. Drummond, m; George Lansil, sw; Lycurgus W. Wentworth, jw; Arlington B. Marston, s. Meeting last Friday in each month; election, December; chartered February 6, 1856. 6
- St. Croix, 46, Calais. Edwin H. Vose, m; Alexander Milligan, sw; Charles A. McCollough, jw; Stephen D. Morrell, s. Meeting first Monday each month; election, December, St. John's day; chartered May 29, 1845. 2
- St. George, 16, Warren. Hilliard W. Robinson, m; John R. Andrews, sw; William F. Teague, jw; Alvin V. Hinkley, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 10, 1806. 9

- St. John's, 51, South Berwick. George H. Wakefield, m; Charles T. Ferguson, sw; A. Grafton Nealley, jw; George H. Muzzey, s. Meeting Monday on before full moon; election, May; chartered February 13, 1827. 19
- St. Paul's, 82, Rockport. Joseph F. Morton, m; Andrew J. Morton, sw; William F. Hopkins, jw; John S. Fuller, s. Meeting Monday evening on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 2, 1856. 9
- Sea Side, 144, Boothbay. William I. Adams, m; James D. Richards, sw; James F. Dunton, jw; E. C. McClintock, s. Meeting Friday before the full moon; election, December; chartered October 7, 1867. 10
- Sebasticook, 146, Clinton. J. P. Billings, m; David S. Wardwell, sw; Isaac Bingham, jw; Alpheus Rowell, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered February 3, 1868. 7
- Shepherd's River, 169, Brownfield. Charles H. Fogg, m; L. A. Wadsworth, sw; Andrew Martin, jw; S. B. Bean, s. Meeting Saturday of each month on or before full moon; election, June; chartered July 1, 1872. 18
- Siloam, 92, Fairfield. Josiah F. Foye, m; Thomas B. Brown, sw; Charles E. Ward, jw; W. P. Farnsworth, s. Meeting Thursday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered March 8, 1858. 13
- Solar, 14, Bath. Turner McCarty, m; W. Scott Shorey, sw; John H. Stantial, jw; J. Lufkin Douglas, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered September 10, 1804. 14
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. George W. Nash, m; Warren F. Bacon, sw; Charles F. Haynes, jw; Charles M. Lambert, s. Meeting Monday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered Jan. 11, 1821. 13
- Standish, 70, Standish. Alanson M. Rich, m; Orville S. Sanborn, sw; Cyrus H. Rich, jw; John D. Higgins, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 5, 1858. 17
- Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. John A. Snell, m; George L. Prescott, sw; Edgar B. Weeks, jw; Charles A. Bailey, s. Meeting Monday on or next preceding full of the moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1848. 6
- Star in the West, 85, Unity. Augustus Fogg, m; Aaron P. Perkins, sw; Reuel S. Ward, jw; Gorham Hamilton, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 24, 1856. 7
- Temple, 25, Winthrop. Elliott Wood, m; Wm. E. Whitman, sw; C. S. Kimball, jw; Erastus O. Kelley, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered October 6, 1817. 11
- Temple, 86, Saccarappa. William L. Longley, m; Alonzo Libby, sw; William L. Warren, jw; H. P. Murch, s. Meeting Wednesday evening of the week in which the moon is full; election, December; chartered May 6, 1856. 17
- Timothy Chase, 126, Belfast. George A. Quimby, m; Andrew E. Clark, sw; Joseph C. Townsend, jw; Robert P. Chase, s. Meeting first Thursday each month; election, January; chartered May 3, 1865. 8
- Tranquill, 29, Auburn. George C. Wing, m; John B. Jordan, sw; John D. Donovan, jw; James F. Atwood, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 20, 1847. 15
- Tremont, 77, Tremont. Danforth P. Marcyes, m; William Stanley, sw; James F. Ross, jw; John T. R. Freeman, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1856. 4
- Trinity, 130, Presque Isle. John F. Dyer, m; Arthur E. Wight, sw; James E. Barto, jw; Asahel H. DeWitt, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 17, 1865. 1

- Trojan, 134, Troy. Charles R. Merrick, m; Joseph P. Sturgis, sw; William F. Mitchell, jw; William E. Dorman, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered February 19, 1866. 7
- Tuscan, 106, Addison Point. Christopher Curtis, m; Benj. F. Cleaves, sw; William A. Sawyer, jw; Edward A. Austin, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 9, 1861. 3
- Tyrian, 73, Mechanic Falls. John Richardson, m; Edward F. Stevens, sw; Charles E. Stoddard, jw; Hollis C. Bray, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, October; chartered May 10, 1853. 16
- Union, 31, Union. Josiah H. Shepard, m; William E. Hill, sw; William A. Albee, jw; Joseph O. Cobb, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered April 8, 1820. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. Daniel E. Fuller, m; James W. Curtis, sw; Charles J. Gilman, jw; L. H. Stover, s. Meeting third Tuesday of each month; election, December; chartered December 14, 1801. 14
- Unity, 58, Freedom. Joseph C. Whitney, m; Addison B. Sparrow, sw; William Z. Busher, jw; Wm. F. White, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 6, 1863. 7
- Vassalboro', 54, North Vassalboro'. Warren A. Evans, m; W. P. Thompson, sw; George H. Cates, jw; D. C. Perkins, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 31, 1827. 12
- Vernon Valley, 99, Mount Vernon. Charles H. Severy, m; Augustus F. Smart, sw; George McGaffey, jw; Silas Burbank, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered May 3, 1860. 12
- Village, 26, Bowdoinham. Samuel Donnell, m; Andrew Curtis, sw; William H. Wood, jw; Benj. L. Higgins, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered June 9, 1817. 14
- Warren, 2, East Machias. Austin F. Kingsley, m; George D. Cosseboom, sw; William Rushton, jw; Lewis S. Carey, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered September 10, 1778. 3
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. R. W. Dunn, m; R. T. Beazley, sw; Frank Walker, jw; Levi A. Dow, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 20, 1820. 12
- Washington, 37, Lubec. Alfred Small, m; Emilus W. Brown, sw; George Morrison, jw; John Thayer, Jr., s. Meeting first Wednesday in the month; election, December; chartered June 16, 1822. 2
- Webster, 164, Webster. Edwin H. Johnson, m; James F. Heney, sw; Retiah D. Jones, jw; Stetson L. Hill, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered July 28, 1871. 14
- Whitney, 167, Canton. Otis Hayford, m; James Ripley, sw; Alpheus Packard, jw; John G. Pierce, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 9, 1872. 15
- Wilton, 156, Wilton. John D. Hardy, m; Justus Webster, sw; George R. Fernald, jw; Alonzo B. Adams, s. Meeting Wednesday of the full of the moon; election, September; chartered May 4, 1870. 15
- York, 22, Kennebunk. Francis C. Simonds, m; Robert A. Kimball, sw; Joseph H. Hill, jw; Edward W. Morton, fs. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered March 19, 1813. 10

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M.W. REUEL WASHBURN,	Livermore,	P. G. M.
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	Lancaster, Mass.,	"
" HIRAM CHASE,	Belfast,	"
" JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	Portland,	"
" WILLIAM P. PREBLE,	Portland,	"
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	Portland,	"
" DAVID CARGILL,	Augusta,	"
R.W. PELEG SPRAUGE,	Boston,	P. D. G. M.
" AMOS NOURSE,	Bath,	"
" JOHN J. BELL,	Exeter, N. H.,	"
" EZRA B. FRENCH,	Washington, D. C.,	P. S. G. W.
" ISAAC DOWNING,	Kennebunk,	"
" GUSTAVUS F. SARGENT,	Boston,	"
" DAVID BUGBEE,	Bangor,	"
" EDMUND B. HINKLEY,	Thomaston,	"
" FRANCIS L. TALBOT,	East Machias,	"
" THADDEUS R. SIMONTON,	Camden,	"
" WILLIAM O. POOR,	Belfast,	"
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	Ellsworth,	P. J. G. W.
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	Wiscasset,	"
" STEPHEN B. DOCKHAM,	Massachusetts,	"
" OLIVER GERRISH,	Portland,	"
" FRANCIS J. DAY,	Hallowell,	"
" JOHN W. BALLOU,	Bath,	"
" HENRY H. DICKEY,	Lewiston,	"

GRAND OFFICERS DECEASED.

M. W. WILLIAM KING,	P. G. M.	R.W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	P. D. G. M.
" SIMON GREENLEAF,	"	" JAMES L. CHILD,	"
" WILLIAM SWAN,	"	" ELISHA HARDING,	"
" CHARLES FOX,	"	" SAM'L L. VALENTINE,	"
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	"	" DAVID C. MAGOUN,	"
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	"	" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	P. S. G. W.
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	"	" GEORGE THACHER,	"
" HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	"	" JOEL MILLER,	"
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	"	" WILLIAM ALLEN,	"
" ALEX'R H. PUTNEY,	"	" J. W. MITCHELL,	P. J. G. W.
" JOHN MILLER,	"	" REUBEN NASON,	"
" JOHN T. PAINE,	"	" FRYE HALL,	"
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	"	" JOSEPH COVELL,	"
" JABEZ TRUE,	"	" T. K. OSGOOD,	"
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,	"	" WILLIAM KIMBALL,	"
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	"	" JOHN WILLIAMS,	"
" JOHN H. LYNDE,	"	" STEPHEN WEBBER,	"
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	"		

Brethren Died during the Year,

From March 1, 1875, to March 1, 1876.

Portland Lodge—Frederick Oliver, May 7, aged 60 yrs. 6 mos.; Thomas J. Sanborn, June 9, aged 70 years, Honorary member; Green Walden, August 29, aged 78 years; Moses B. Nickerson, Sept. 24, aged 63 yrs. 10 mos.; Joshua F. Weeks, Oct. 13, aged 81 yrs. 10 mos., Honorary member; Joseph Harrod, Oct. 29, aged 91 yrs. 6 mos., Honorary member; Nathan J. Davis, Oct. 30; Emmons Chapman, Nov. 22, aged 35 years, Wor. Master; Joseph Fowler, Nov. 24, aged 74 years; George Hill, Jan. 1, aged 53 years; Joseph H. York, Jan. 3, aged 35 yrs. 8 mos.

Warren—Peter Talbot, July, aged 92 yrs. 4 mo.; Francis Sprague, June, in the West Indies, remains brought home and interred with masonic honors.

Lincoln—Joshua Young, April; Samuel P. Baker, May; Joseph C. Sherlock, July, at Para, South America.

Hancock—William Conly, April; Horatio E. Hodsdon, June 29; Frank S. Joruis, Sept. 8, lost at sea.

Eastern—Thomas Brown, died at sea; Thomas Haycock, June 5.

United—John Fitzgerald.

Saco—James M. Burbank, April 27.

Rising Virtue—William H. Dorr, March 3, at Veazie, Me.; William A. Berry, March 7, at Ballardvale, Mass.

Oriental—William B. Winsor, Sept. 6; Nathaniel B. Martin, Oct. 25—a zealous and faithful mason.

Solar—Stephen Osborn, March 20, killed on railroad; Andrew Hewey, April 29—Past Master.

Orient—George W. Swett; Oscar J. Mero, lost at sea.

Ancient Land-Mark—Edwin Churchill; Thomas G. Young; Samuel C. Frost.

Oriental Star—Rev. Walter Foss, April 12; Gustavus F. Boothby, September; Rev. George Bates, Jan. 24. Masonic funerals.

Phoenix—John R. Robbins, April 17; Lorenzo D. Cunningham, July 24; John Toothaker, Dec. 6; John L. Locke, Feb. 18.

Temple (No. 25)—David Stanley, May.

Village—Harrison P. Millay, March 22; Byram Whitmore, May 11; Nathan Varnum, Sept. 16. Masonic Funerals.

Adoniram—Caleb Hodsdon, June 11.

- Northern Star—Parker M. Paine, March 1. Bro. Paine has held some office in Northern Star Lodge the greater part of the time for the last twenty years, and was a proficient and punctual member.
- Tranquil—John Robinson, June 30, (1874); Daniel E. Hall, Sept. 5; Josiah Penley, Feb. 8.
- Blazing Star—William D. Abbott, July 22; Charles P. Edmonds; Moses Kimball, Feb. 4.
- Union—George E. Cummings, Jan. 13; Jabez Henderson, lost overboard at sea, about Feb. 22; Charles F. Blake, Feb. 26.
- Hermion—John H. Holt, March 9; Edmund A. Chadwick, April 20, Past Master; John Brown, August 28; Charles E. Gove, Sept. 18; M. S. Wadsworth, Nov. 29; James A. Cox, December 1; George F. Cox, January 3; Reuben Colburn, February 17.
- Somerset—William W. Gould, May 30; Abner C. Emery, August 1; Nathaniel Owen, September 22; George W. Williams.
- Casco—George Holyoke, May 8; Nathaniel Gooch, May 12; Reuben Merrill, June 17.
- Lygonia—Joseph Thomas, lost at sea in autumn of 1875.
- Morning Star—William E. True, July 18; William O. Grant, away from home—date of death not known.
- Freedom—George Roberts, November 10.
- Piscataquis—Russell Kittredge, March,—Past Master, member since 1855; Isaac Leonard, officer and member since July, 1855.
- Central—Samuel T. Cookson, July 13,—killed by the explosion of a boiler in California, aged 38 years.
- St. Croix—George A. Burnham, April 22; Church E. Gates, May 13; Thomas W. Horton, December 29; Seth Townsend, February 17.
- Lafayette—Asahel Brainard, April 26.
- Meridian Splendor—John Johnston, September 20; George E. Norton, Nov. 5.
- Aurora—Albert T. Sayward, March 16, aged 50 years 9 months; Moses Shaw, March 17; Samuel H. Marston, May 6, aged 83 years; Thomas F. Stewart, December 15,—lost overboard from Barkentine Josephine, on the passage from Philadelphia to Europe; William N. Armitage, April 7,—a member of St. John's Lodge, Greenock, Scotland.
- St. John's—Charles W. Swain, April 14.
- Mosaic—Ivory H. Jordan, May 24; Joel L. Barrows, Dec. 27; James H. Rowell, Feb. 1; Edwin Coburn, Feb. 10; George F. Holmes, Feb. 19. All buried with masonic services.
- Rural—Calvin E. Sawtelle, Feb. 18, of heart disease, has resided for several years in Fitchburg, Mass.
- Vassalborough—Dr. R. R. Williams, March; Richard W. Mullen, March; Burnham W. Hinds, March; Alfonso Bowman, died in Minnesota, date unknown; A. H. Goodspeed, supposed to be dead.
- Mount Moriah—Joshua H. Warren, April; Dr. Joseph B. Gray, Jan. 21; died at Rumford—buried at Denmark by Mount Moriah Lodge, Jan. 25.
- King Solomon's—Charles W. Little, died at sea; David M. Stahl, April 1; Thomas W. Farnsworth, August, in Boston; Reuben Hoffses—not been heard from for more than seven years.
- Richmond—John B. Umberhind, May 6; James C. Boynton, July 26; H. Melvin Denslow, Jan. 5.
- Pacific—Nathan Moor, Jr.—date unknown.

Mechanics'—Charles C. Banks.

Mariners'—Capt. Joseph C. Field, drowned in Sidney, Australia, May, 1875; Edmund C. Mathews, July 20; Augustus Lampher, Aug. 16—charter member; Edward Y. Gilmore, Sept. 16.

Howard—William R. Elliott, May 2, in Brewer; Jasper A. Roberts, Nov. 20, in Bangor—run over by cars; Samuel Wells, Dec. 5, in Winterport; Israel R. Grant, Dec. 13, in Monroe—buried by the lodge; Timothy M. Parker, in Havana.

Rising Sun—Ambrose S. Page, June, in Chico, California, of consumption; Charles W. Brewster, Aug. 13, at Key West, of yellow fever.

Pioneer—Joseph Walker, Sept. 17.

Tyrian—Edward S. Sanderson, date not known; Joseph S. Verrill, Jan. 25; Alvin Turner, Jr., Feb. 9.

Bristol—Joseph W. Tukey, May 1, of consumption,—buried with masonic honors; Joseph R. Pedley and Charles Wheldon, lost at sea, Oct. 28.

Plymouth—George W. Getchell, Jan. 24.

Tremont—Andrew Tarr, May 4, honorary member; John Rich, August 15, honorary member; Franklin B. Roberts, Sept. 4; Udolph Milliken, Dec. 18, lost at sea.

Crescent—John B. Bowman, April 24; Elias H. Knowlton, April 1, at Insane Asylum, Augusta; Henry Welch, Feb. 3, at Kingston, Jamaica, of Yellow Fever.

Rockland—J. A. Crowley, Dec., 1875; David Cross, 1875; Charles T. Fales, 1875, lost overboard; Charles Trowbridge, 1875; Samuel B. Perry, Feb., 1876; N. E. Stanton, Feb., 1876.

Keystone—Samuel H. Felker, April 2; Moses W. Burnham, in South Carolina, date unknown.

Atlantic—Samuel H. Brackett, April 9,—masonic burial; Frank Carter, July; Joshua S. Clark, July 11; Charles N. Gilkey, August 5,—buried with masonic rites.

St. Paul's—Edwin H. Loring, lost at sea; Samuel E. McLaughlin, lost at sea,—non-affiliated.

St. Andrew's—Warren L. Alden, May 21,—charter member.

Temple (86)—George G. Murch, June 14.

Benevolent—Edwin G. Southard, July 16.

Narraguagus—J. C. Harnden.

Siloam—Alvin V. Pinkham, May 7; Jacob J. Dunbar, July 16, aged 83 years; Joseph F. Nye, Feb. 8.

Horeb—Alvin Haynes, September 17, in Winn, buried by Horeb Lodge,—one of the charter members.

Paris—Servetus B. Porter, March 11,—buried with masonic rites.

Corinthian—Nathan Elliot, October 1.

Bethel—Cyrus Wormell, January 4.

Katahdin—James S. Mitchell, October 22.

Vernon Valley—Gilbert Taggart, March 16.

Jefferson—Nathaniel F. Jacobs, January 2.

Nezinscot—James A. Cary, March 12; Rob. Lindsey, January 3.

Marsh River—Gilman G. Boyd, July 1,—buried with masonic honors; Eben Page, February 19.

Dirigo—A. W. Hall, June 15; E. D. Clark, July 21.

Tuscan—Zemra D. Norton, March 10.

Day Spring—Charles Hurd, August 6.

Mount Kineo—Jesse Nutting.

Monmouth—Grafton Norris, 1875.

Liberty—Shepherd S. Edmonds, April, in Lewiston.

Eastern Frontier—J. Laforest Springer, November 25.

Polar Star—Walter F. Bisbee, March 4, at Waltham, Mass.; John B. Tull, April 4.

Buxton—A. K. P. Bradbury, June 23, in California, of consumption; Frank Palmer, October 29, in Boston, Mass., of consumption.

Lebanon—Alphonso M. Corson, August 25,—buried by the Fraternity; S. D. Marshall Gould, September 28, at Boca, California,—buried by Truckee Lodge; Jophanon H. Pattee; John Piper, December 10,—buried by the Fraternity December 12.

Franklin—James V. Greateon.

Timothy Chase—Timothy Chase, March 6; Albert J. McKeen, Sept. 8, at sea; William H. McCarty, Oct. 6.

Presumpscot—William Nason, Jan. 7.

Eggmoggin—George G. Bartlett, Nov. 9—Past Master—a true and faithful Brother—masonic burial.

Quantabacook—Peter W. Robbins, Sept. 11, in Carson City, Nevada.

Lookout—George S. Ross, Feb. 15—ship master.

Mount Tire'm—Jeremiah Foster, Jr., Dec. 11.

Asylum—Ezra Gage, April 2.

Riverside—E. S. Young, Oct. 15.

Kenduskeag—Perley M. Mudgett, May 20; Charles C. Cole, Dec. 25; Edville E. Clements, Dec., 1875—lost at sea.

Lewy's Island—William Sargent, Sept. 25—Treasurer for seven years.

Archon—John C. Whitney, Dec. 4.

Augusta—William E. Lynn, Sept. 4.

Ocean—A. J. Eaton, March 18; Frank B. Mildram, September.

Seaside—Lyman Hodgdon, March 8; Edward Thayer, March 11—masonic funerals.

Moses Webster—Linnaus Calderwood, Oct. 1, of typhoid fever, aged 25 years, 8 months—a worthy Brother. Buried with masonic rites.

Sebasticook—John Horn, March 8.

Evening Star—O. F. Gardner, April 24.

Forest—Frank H. Douglass, Dec. 1, in Trickey, Nevada.

Excelsior, Joel Prescott.

Fisher—Arthur Given, Jan. 25.

Neguemkeag—Cyrus A. Estes, March 11.

Shepherd's River—William W. Warren, Nov. 8.

Naskeag—Frederick A. Allen, Dec. 15. He was a charter member in the formation of Eggmoggin Lodge at Sedgwick, and also of Naskeag Lodge—the oldest mason in the town.

Hiram—Robert M. York, April 25, buried with masonic honors, April 27.

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

Stephen Webber,

PAST JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF MAINE.

DIED IN GARDINER, APRIL 13, 1876.

An old man, and a mason of long standing, having been Junior
Grand Warden in 1849.

Finis coronat opus.

REPRESENTATIVES

of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Maine.

JOSEPH C. STEVENS, Lancaster, Mass.,—Minnesota.

WILLIAM P. PREBLE, Portland,—New York, Oregon.

EZEKIEL ROBINSON, Readfield,—Iowa.

IRA BERRY, Portland,—Missouri, Maryland.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland,—New Jersey, Nova Scotia, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, Texas, Florida, Tennessee, Kansas and Kentucky.

DENISON E. SEYMOUR, Calais,—New Brunswick.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, Saco,—Nebraska.

TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, Portland,—Colorado.

STEPHEN BERRY, Portland,—District of Columbia.

JOHN W. BALLOU, Bath,—Arkansas.

HENRY H. DICKEY, Lewiston,—California.

ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, Bangor,—Montana.

ALBERT MOORE, North Anson,—North Carolina.

CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, Bangor,—Mississippi.

JOSEPH W. CLAPP, Augusta,—Idaho.

CHARLES M. RICE, Portland,—Michigan.

STEPHEN J. YOUNG, Brunswick,—New Hampshire.

AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, Bangor,—Delaware.

F. LORING TALBOT, East Machias,—Nevada.

EDWIN F. DILLINGHAM, Bangor,—Indiana.

SILAS ALDEN, Bangor,—South Carolina.

AUSTIN D. KNIGHT, Hallowell,—Connecticut.

MARQUIS F. KING, Portland,—Wisconsin.

WILLIAM R. G. ESTES, Skowhegan,—West Virginia.

REPRESENTATIVES

of the Grand Lodge of Maine near other Grand Lodges.

-
- Alabama*—JAMES B. LUCKIE, Montgomery.
Arkansas—OLIVER C. GRAY, Little Rock.
California—ALEXANDER G. ABELL, San Francisco.
Colorado—EDWARD C. PARMELEE, Georgetown.
Connecticut—ALBERT H. CARGILL, Fairhaven.
Delaware—J. THOMAS BUDD, Middletown.
District of Columbia—EZRA B. FRENCH, Washington.
Florida—DEWITT C. DAWKINS, Jacksonville.
Georgia—G. W. MAXSON, Talbotton.
Illinois—DANIEL WADSWORTH, Auburn, Sangamon County.
Indiana—WILLIAM HACKER, Shelbyville.
Iowa—SAMUEL WELCH, Iowa City.
Kansas—JOHN H. BROWN, Leavenworth.
Kentucky—H. M. FAIRLEIGH, M. D., Hopkinsville.
Louisiana—CLIFFORD BELCHER, New Orleans.
Michigan—REV. D. B. TRACY, Detroit.
Minnesota—A. T. C. PIERSON, St. Paul.
Mississippi—JOHN F. McCORMICK, Shubuta.
Missouri—XENOPHON RYLAND, Lexington.
Montana—CORNELIUS HEDGES, Helena City.
Nebraska—N. S. HARDING, Nebraska City.
Nevada—GEORGE ROBINSON, Washoe City.
New Brunswick—DAVID BROWN, St. Stephens.
New Hampshire—ALEXANDER M. WINN, Portsmouth.
New Jersey—JAMES G. AITKIN, Trenton.
New York—JOSEPH D. EVANS, New York City.
North Carolina—LEWIS S. WILLIAMS, Charlotte.
Nova Scotia—NEWELL SNOW, Sherbrooke.
Ohio—THEODORE ROSS, Cleveland.
Oregon—JOSIAH MYRICK, Oregon City.
Quebec—JOHN HELDER ISAACSON, Montreal.
Rhode Island—NATHAN H. GOULD, Newport.
Tennessee—D. R. GRAFTON, Chattanooga.
Vermont—PARK DAVIS, St. Albans.
Washington Territory—T. F. McELROY, Olympia.
West Virginia—HUGH STERLING,
Wisconsin—MELVIN S. YOUNG, Milwaukee.

STANDING REGULATIONS.

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) attend during the session, ten cents per mile (one way) from the Lodge Hall to the Grand Lodge Hall, when the delegate is a member of the lodge he represents, the distance in all cases to be computed by the usually traveled route. [1865, p. 98.]

2. *Resolved*, That after all the lodges shall have furnished their histories to the present time, it shall be their duty once in ten years, commencing in 1870, to furnish their history for the preceding decade, or so much as shall be lacking. [1866, p. 165.]

3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will not remit Grand Lodge dues to subordinate lodges on account of loss by fire of property not insured. [1866, p. 192.]

4. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Maine disapproves of the public use of masonic emblems, especially that ostentatious display calculated to lead the world to suppose that we are still an operative fraternity and endeavoring to receive more wages. [1867, p. 113.]

5. *Resolved*, That every lodge, after adopting or revising by-laws, shall send a transcript of such by-laws or revision immediately to the Grand Secretary for examination, and await the approval of the Grand Master before recording or printing. [1868, p. 225.]

6. *Resolved*, That Masters of lodges be required to report to the Grand Master all invasions of the jurisdiction of this Grand

Lodge by lodges of other jurisdictions, with all the circumstances attending, so far as they may be able—to be by the Grand Master reported at each annual communication. [1869, p. 406.]

7. *Resolved*, That no action shall be had in any lodge under this jurisdiction, upon a petition for degrees, or for an election of an officer or officers of a lodge, under a dispensation from the Grand Master, until the expiration of *forty-eight* hours from the time the notices calling the meeting for action have been issued and delivered. Notices calling the meeting in either case, shall be delivered either in person, or left at the last and usual place of abode of every member within a distance of one mile of the lodge room. Notices to other members may be sent by *mail*. [1871, p. 346.]

8. *Resolved*, That no person shall be examined for the purpose of visiting lodges in this jurisdiction until he presents satisfactory written evidence under seal that he was made in a regular lodge, and shall be allowed to visit only after examination, or being legally vouched for. [1873, p. 184.]

9. *Resolved*, That whenever a lodge, after being constituted, requests a Grand Officer to visit them and install their officers, or dedicate a hall, the expenses attending such visit must be paid by the lodge requesting the services, and not by the Grand Lodge. [1874, p. 308.]

10. *Resolved*, That no Brother charged with unmasonic conduct, and on trial before any lodge, or this Grand Lodge, should be refused a right to testify in his own behalf. [1876, p. 44.]

Grand Lodges and

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND MASTERS.
Alabama,	Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile.
Arkansas,	M. L. Bell, Pine Bluff.
British Columbia,	Frederick Williams, Esquimalt.
California,	John Mills Brown, San Francisco.
Canada,	James K. Kerr, Toronto.
Colorado,	Webster D. Anthony, Denver.
Connecticut,	Edward B. Rowe, New London.
Dakota,	Thomas H. Brown, Sioux Falls.
Delaware,	George W. Chaytor, Wilmington.
District of Columbia,	Isaac L. Johnson, Washington.
Florida,	Enos Wasgate, Jacksonville.
Georgia,	David E. Butler, Macon.
Idaho,	L. P. Mikkelsen, Silver City.
Illinois,	George E. Lounsbury, Cairo.
Indiana,	Lucien A. Foote, Crawfordsville.
Indian Territory,	G. McPherson, Caddo, Choctaw Nation.
Iowa,	Henry W. Rothert, Keokuk.
Kansas,	Isaac B. Sharpe, Wyandotte.
Kentucky,	John H. Leathers, Louisville.
Louisiana,	John G. Fleming, New Orleans.
Maine,	Albert Moore, North Anson.
Manitoba,	W. C. Clarke, Winnipeg.
Maryland,	John H. B. Latrobe, Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	Percival L. Everett, Boston.
Michigan,	Mathew H. Maynard, Marquette.
Minnesota,	James C. Braden, —
Mississippi,	A. H. Barkley, Crawfordsville.
Missouri,	James E. Cadle, Chillicothe.
Montana,	Harry R. Comley, Helena.
Nebraska,	Frank Welch, Norfolk.
Nevada,	Robert W. Bollen, Carson City.
New Brunswick,	Robert F. Clinch, St. John.
New Hampshire,	William Barrett, Nashua.
New Jersey,	Marshall B. Smith, Passaic.
New York,	Elwood E. Thorne, New York.
North Carolina,	George W. Blount, Wilson.
Nova Scotia,	J. W. Lawrie, Halifax.
Ohio,	Charles A. Woodward, Cleveland.
Oregon,	J. B. Congle, Portland.
Pennsylvania,	Alfred R. Potter, Philadelphia.
Prince Edward Island,	John Yeo, —
Quebec,	James Dunbar, Quebec.
Rhode Island,	Nicholas Van Slyck, Providence.
South Carolina,	Wilmot G. De Saussure, Charleston.
Tennessee,	J. C. Cawood, Dandridge.
Texas,	Joseph D. Sayers, Bastrop.
Utah,	Edmund P. Johnson, Corinne.
Vermont,	Nathan P. Bowman, St. Johnsbury.
Virginia,	William B. Taliaferro, Gloucester, C. H.
Washington,	Thomas Taylor Minor, Port Townsend.
West Virginia,	Kephart D. Walker, Fairmount.
Wisconsin,	Jed. P. C. Cottrell, Milwaukee.
Wyoming,	Edgar P. Snow, Cheyenne.

Addresses of Grand Officers.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

Daniel Sayre, Montgomery.
 Luke E. Barber, Little Rock.
 Coote M. Chambers, Victòria.
 Alexander G. Abell, San Francisco.
 J. J. Mason, Hamilton.
 Edward C. Parmelee, Georgetown.
 Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford.
 Mark W. Bailey, Canton.
 William F. Hayes, Wilmington.
 William R. Singleton, Washington.
 DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.
 J. Emmett Blackshear, M. D., Macon.
 O. H. Purdy, Silver City.
 John E. Burrill, Springfield.
 John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis.
 R. P. Jones, Caddo, Choctaw Nation.
 Theodore S. Parvin, Iowa City.
 John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
 John M. Todd, Louisville.
 Jas. C. Batchelor, M. D., New Orleans.
 Ira Berry, Portland.
 John H. Bell, Winnipeg.
 Jacob H. Medaury, Baltimore.
 Charles H. Titus, Boston.
 E. I. Garfield, Detroit.
 A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
 J. L. Power, Jackson.
 George Frank Gouley, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
 William R. Bowen, Omaha.
 Samuel W. Chubbuck, Gold Hill.
 W. F. Bunting, St. John.
 John A. Harris, Concord.
 Joseph H. Hough, Trenton.
 James M. Austin, New York City.
 D. W. Bain, Raleigh.
 Benjamin Curren, Halifax.
 John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati.
 R. P. Earheart, Portland.
 John Thomson, Philadelphia.
 B. W. Higgs.
 John H. Isaacson, Montreal.
 Edwin Baker, Providence.
 Charles Inglesby, Charleston.
 John Frizzell, Nashville.
 George H. Bringhurst, Houston.
 Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Henry Clark, Rutland.
 John Dove, Richmond.
 Thomas M. Reed, Olympia.
 O. S. Long, Wheeling.
 John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee.
 John K. Jeffrey, Cheyenne.

CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.

William T. Walthall, Mobile.

 William A. January, San José.
 Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
 Edward C. Parmelee, Georgetown.
 Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford.

 Geo. W. Chaytor, Wilmington.
 W. R. Singleton, Washington.
 D. C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.
 Samuel D. Irvin, Macon.
 O. H. Purdy, Silver City.
 Joseph Robbins, Quincy.
 Daniel McDonald, Plymouth.
 C. M. Slover, Eufaula, Creek Nation.
 Henry J. B. Cummings, ————
 John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
 Thomas Todd, ————
 William R. Whitaker, New Orleans.
 Josiah H. Drummond, Portland.

 John M. Carter, Baltimore.

 Foster Pratt, Kalamazoo.
 A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
 Thomas S. Gathright, Gholson.
 Geo. Frank Gouley, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
 William R. Bowen, Omaha.
 Robert H. Taylor, Virginia.

 Nathan P. Hunt, ————
 Marshall B. Smith, Passaic.
 John W. Simons, New York.
 George Badger Harris, Henderson.
 Allen H. Crowe, Halifax.
 John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati.
 Stephen F. Chadwick, Salem.
 Richard Vaux, ————

 Thomas A. Doyle, Providence.
 Chas. Inglesby, Charleston.
 John Frizzell, Nashville.
 Marcus F. Mott, Galveston.
 C. Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Henry Clark, Rutland.
 B. R. Wellford, Jr., Richmond.
 T. M. Reed, Olympia.

 Geo. D. Wilber, Mineral Point.
 J. K. Jeffrey, Cheyenne.

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Grand Lodge of Maine.

1877.

FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

CONGRESS HALL, PORTLAND,
Tuesday, May 1, A. L. 5877. }

This being the day fixed by the Constitution for the Annual Communication, the Officers and Representatives assembled at nine o'clock A. M.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. ALBERT MOORE,	Grand Master;
R. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	Deputy Grand Master;
" CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	Senior Grand Warden;
" A. M. WETHERBEE,	Junior Grand Warden;
" MOSES DODGE,	Grand Treasurer;
" IRA BERRY,	Recording Grand Secretary;
" JOSEPH M. HAYES,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. & Rev. C. C. MASON,	Grand Chaplain;
" WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "
" CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "
W. BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS,	Grand Marshal;
" AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	Senior Grand Deacon;
" ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	Junior Grand Deacon;
" ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	Grand Steward;
" SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	" "
" AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "
" CHARLES E. WELD,	" "
" HORACE H. BURBANK,	Grand Sword Bearer;
" MARQUIS F. KING,	Grand Standard Bearer;
" WM. R. G. ESTES,	Grand Pursuivant;
" LEVI W. SMITH,	" "
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	Grand Lecturer;
Bro. WARREN PHILLIPS,	Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by W. and Rev. CHARLES C. MASON, Grand Chaplain.

On motion of Bro. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Voted, That an Assistant Grand Secretary and an Assistant Grand Tyler be appointed.

The Grand Master appointed Bro. STEPHEN BERRY Assistant Grand Secretary, and Bro. WARREN O. CARNEY Assistant Grand Tyler.

On motion of Bro. BURNHAM,

Voted, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors during this communication of the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the reading of the Records of the last Annual Communication be dispensed with.

Bro. LEANDER W. FOBES, for the Committee on Credentials, reported as follows:

Your Committee on Credentials have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report, that they find the lodges in this jurisdiction represented as follows:

1. *Portland*, by Geo. L. Bailey, WM; J. H. Hall, SW; W. N. Prince, JW; Joseph A. Locke, Proxy.
2. *Warren*, by Austin F. Kingsley, WM.
3. *Lincoln*, by T. C. Dole, SW.
4. *Hancock*, by G. A. Wheeler, WM.
5. *Kennebec*, by H. L. Grindall, WM; E. W. Whitecomb, SW; J. E. Brann, Proxy.
6. *Amity*, by T. C. Atwick, SW; S. Q. Day, Proxy.
7. *Eastern*, by Wm. H. Clark, WM; Wm. J. Fisher, SW.
8. *United*, not represented.
9. *Saco*, by W. S. Dennett, SW; John Quimby, Proxy.
10. *Rising Virtue*, by Clarence L. Dakin, WM; Wm. H. Thompson, SW.
11. *Pythagorean*, by Wyman H. Jones, SW; Seth W. Fife, Proxy.
12. *Cumberland*, by Ozias M. Cobb, WM; Albert W. Larrabee, Proxy.

13. *Oriental*, by Millard M. Caswell, WM; Geo. Peirce, Proxy.
14. *Soldr*, by W. Scott Shorey, WM; John R. Knowlton, JW; John O. Shaw, Proxy.
15. *Orient*, by H. G. Copeland, SW.
16. *St. George*, by H. W. Robinson, WM; J. R. Andrews, SW; Henry W. Smith, Proxy.
17. *Ancient Land-Mark*, by Henry F. Perry, WM; W. W. Roberts, SW; C. J. Farrington, JW; Stephen Berry, Proxy.
18. *Oxford*, by F. Howe, WM; A. Oscar Noyes, Proxy.
19. *Felicity*, by James M. Nevens, Proxy.
20. *Maine*, by Roliston Woodbury, SW.
21. *Oriental Star*, by Ebenezer Humphrey, WM; Chas. T. Moulton, SW.
22. *York*, by Edward W. Morton, Proxy.
23. *Freeport*, not represented.
24. *Phanix*, by E. S. Carter, WM.
25. *Temple*, by W. E. Whitman, WM; C. A. Cochrane, Proxy.
26. *Village*, by Silas Adams, SW.
27. *Admiral*, by Caleb P. Brackett, Proxy.
28. *Northern Star*, by Benj. Adams, WM.
29. *Tranquil*, by John B. Jordan, WM; A. M. Roak, JW.
30. *Blazing Star*, by W. F. Putnam, Proxy.
31. *Union*, by W. A. Albee, WM.
32. *Hermon*, by John F. Holmes, Proxy.
33. *Waterville*, by C. R. McFadden, WM; R. W. Dunn, Proxy.
34. *Somerset*, by Geo. W. Nash, WM; Wm. Tucker, JW.
35. *Bethlehem*, by E. F. Beals, WM; Milton M. Stone, Proxy.
36. *Casco*, by Nicholas Drinkwater, Proxy.
37. *Washington*, by Alfred Small, WM; E. W. Brown, SW.
38. *Harmony*, by Henry R. Millett, Proxy.
39. *Penobscot*, by Alton P. Fassett, WM; W. H. Dustin, SW; Chas. M. Sawyer, Proxy.
40. *Lygonia*, by John B. Redman, WM.
41. *Morning Star*, by John W. Starbird, Proxy.
42. *Freedom*, by Moses R. Brackett, Proxy.
43. *Alna*, by Dan'l A. Campbell, Proxy.
44. *Piscataquis*, by J. M. Palmer, WM.
45. *Central*, by Lynn W. Rollins, WM.
46. *St. Croix*, by Chas. A. McCullough, SW.
47. *Dunlap*, by Edwin A. Coffin, WM; Edwin Stone, SW; Nathan S. Drown, JW.
48. *Lafayette*, by J. Eugene Lewis, WM; Phineas Morrill, Jr., Proxy.
49. *Meridian Splendor*, by Nelson C. Smith, WM; E. W. Devereaux, Proxy.
50. *Aurora*, by C. G. Moffitt, WM.

51. *St. John's*, by Geo. H. Wakefield, WM.
52. *Mosaic*, by James T. Roberts, Proxy.
53. *Rural*, by Adelbert H. Bailey, WM.
54. *Vassalboro'*, by W. A. Evans, WM.
55. *Fraternal*, by H. H. Cheever, Proxy.
56. *Mount Moriah*, by Samuel D. McKusick, WM.
57. *King Hiram*, by Frank Stanley, Proxy.
58. *Unity*, by Addison B. Sparrow, SW; Raymond S. Rich, Proxy.
59. *Mount Hope*, not represented.
60. *Star in the East*, by Asa T. Wing, WM.
61. *King Solomon's*, by A. J. McLeod, Proxy.
62. *King David's*, by R. W. Perry, SW.
63. *Richmond*, by Geo. B. Randlett, WM.
64. *Pacific*, by Marrett Southard, SW.
65. *Mystic*, by E. B. Thomas, WM.
66. *Mechanics'*, by Henry C. Powers, WM; Wm. Taylor, JW.
67. *Blue Mountain*, by B. T. Parker, WM.
68. *Mariners'*, by J. N. Nichols, WM.
69. *Howard*, by James Freeman, WM.
70. *Standish*, by Bryan Paine, Proxy.
71. *Rising Sun*, by Asa Conary, WM.
72. *Pioneer*, by Washington Hawes, Proxy.
73. *Tyrian*, by John Richardson, WM; John E. Riggs, JW.
74. *Bristol*, not represented.
75. *Plymouth*, by Orrin Thorn, WM.
76. *Arundel*, not represented.
77. *Tremont*, by Benj. S. Doliver, Proxy.
78. *Crescent*, by George K. Hatch, WM.
79. *Rockland*, by Henry E. Hutchinson, SW.
80. *Keystone*, by Alonzo Moore, WM; Luther P. French, SW; Turner Buswell, Proxy.
81. *Atlantic*, by Geo. R. Shaw, WM; R. K. Gatley, SW; A. D. Pearson, JW; F. H. Swett, Proxy.
82. *St. Paul's*, by Joseph F. Morton, WM.
83. *St. Andrew's*, by Geo. Lansil, WM; A. B. Farnham, SW; Frank H. Drummond, Proxy.
84. *Eureka*, by C. G. Crocker, WM.
85. *Star in the West*, by Richard Whitten, WM; Chas. Taylor, Proxy.
86. *Temple*, by A. H. Bachelder, JW.
87. *Benevolent*, by Chas. H. Kimball, WM.
88. *Narraquagus*, by E. R. Wingate, SW.
89. *Island*, by Calvin W. Sherman, Proxy.
90. *Charter revoked*.
91. *Harwood*, by Leander H. Crane, WM.

92. *Siloam*, by T. B. Brown, WM.
93. *Horeb*, by Thos. W. Porter, SW.
94. *Paris*, by William A. Frothingham, Proxy.
95. *Corinthian*, by James H. French, Proxy.
96. *Monument*, by S. F. Berry, WM; Llewellyn Powers, Proxy.
97. *Bethel*, by J. C. Billings, WM; S. F. Gilson, Proxy.
98. *Katahdin*, by Jacob Sanders, WM.
99. *Vernon Valley*, by Geo. C. Hopkins, Proxy.
100. *Jefferson*, by H. C. Berry, WM; A. Montrose Chase, Proxy.
101. *Nezinscot*, by Sumner S. Merrill, WM; F. T. Faulkner, Proxy.
102. *Marsh River*, by David Brackett, WM.
103. *Dresden*, not represented.
104. *Dirigo*, by H. S. Gray, JW.
105. *Ashlar*, by Geo. H. Benson, WM; Wm. F. Wood, Proxy.
106. *Tuscan*, by Chas. E. Easterbrook, Proxy.
107. *Day Spring*, by Usher B. Thompson, Proxy.
108. *Relief*, by Asa W. Robinson, SW.
109. *Mount Kineo*, by C. N. Rand, WM.
110. *Monmouth*, by J. Gordon, WM.
111. *Liberty*, by James Leman, WM.
112. *Eastern Frontier*, by Chas. W. Johnson, SW.
113. *Messalonskee*, by Chas. Rowell, WM.
114. *Polar Star*, not represented.
115. *Buxton*, by Daniel Huntoon, Proxy.
116. *Lebanon*, by John H. Webster, Proxy.
117. *Greenleaf*, by Roscoe G. Smith, Proxy.
118. *Drummond*, by Ruthven J. Dearborn, WM.
119. *Pownal*, by Sam'l H. West, WM.
120. *Meduncook*, by Julian M. Payson, Proxy.
121. *Acacia*, not represented.
122. *Marine*, by George H. Howard, Proxy.
123. *Franklin*, by W. W. Norcross, SW.
124. *Olive Branch*, by J. Hovey Leason, WM.
125. *Meridian*, by Charles E. Vickery, WM.
126. *Timothy Chase*, by James F. Fernald, Proxy.
127. *Presumpscot*, by Chas. Jones, Proxy.
128. *Eggemoggin*, not represented.
129. *Quantabacook*, by A. Cooper, WM.
130. *Trinity*, by George H. Freeman, Proxy.
131. *Lookout*, by Alexander D. Ross, WM.
132. *Mount Tire'm*, by Charles A. Allen, JW.
133. *Asylum*, by Love R. Sturtevant, Proxy.
134. *Trojan*, by J. P. Sturgis, WM.

135. *Riverside*, not represented.
136. *Ionic*, by P. H. Winslow, SW.
137. *Kenduskeag*, by Charles H. Sleeper, WM.
138. *Lewy's Island*, by A. H. Woodcock, Proxy.
139. *Archon*, by George R. Thurlough, WM; George Sweetser, Proxy.
140. *Mount Desert*, by Thaddeus S. Somes, WM.
141. *Augusta*, by E. C. Dudley, WM; C. A. Curtis, JW; John H. Parsons, Proxy.
142. *Ocean*, by George Getchell, Proxy.
143. *Preble*, by John B. Bodwell, Proxy.
144. *Seaside*, not represented.
145. *Moses Webster*, by T. L. Roberts, Proxy.
146. *Sebasticook*, by D. S. Wardwell, WM.
147. *Evening Star*, by George D. Bisbee, WM.
148. *Forest*, by John A. Larrabee, Proxy.
149. *Doric*, by Albert F. Jackson, WM.
150. *Rabboni*, by L. E. Timberlake, Proxy.
151. *Excelsior*, by Joseph L. Witherly, JW.
152. *Crooked River*, by M. E. Hall, SW; A. B. Lovewell, Proxy.
153. *Delta*, by Augustus N. French, WM.
154. *Mystic Tie*, Dan'l M. Teague, Proxy.
155. *Ancient York*, by S. J. White, WM; W. S. Colton, Jr., SW; Geo. B. Shorey, Proxy.
156. *Wilton*, by Justus Webster, WM; Archie L. Talbot, Proxy.
157. *Cambridge*, by John W. Cole, SW; I. H. Horn, JW.
158. *Anchor*, not represented.
159. *Esoteric*, by Arthur W. Greely, WM.
160. *Parian*, by J. P. Curtis, Proxy.
161. *Carrabassett*, by Geo. W. Johnson, WM.
162. *Arion*, by Leander C. Walker, SW.
163. *Pleasant River*, E. P. Fifield, WM.
164. *Webster*, by Frank E. Sleeper, WM.
165. *Molunkus*, by Alfred Cushman, Jr., Proxy.
166. *Neguemkeag*, by Geo. W. Reynolds, WM; A. Wentworth, SW.
167. *Whitney*, by James Ripley, WM; Herbert G. Deshon, Proxy.
168. *Composite*, by Marcellus Nason, WM.
169. *Shepherd's River*, by Jacob H. Swan, Proxy.
170. *Caribou*, by G. M. Emery, WM.
171. *Naskeag*, by Warren Wells, WM.
172. *Pine Tree*, by H. McLane, WM.
173. *Pleiades*, by Lincoln H. Leighton, Proxy.
174. *Lynde*, by Emery Morrill, JW.
175. *Baskahegan*, by W. B. Fenlason, WM.

176. *Palestine*, by C. B. Emery, WM; Charles Y. Foss, JW; William E. Andrews, Proxy.
177. *Rising Star*, by Benj. H. Cushman, WM.
178. *Ancient Brothers'*, by Albert N. Penley, WM; Isaac S. Robinson, Proxy.
179. *Yorkshire*, by Haven A. Butler, SW.
180. *Hiram*, by Gordon R. Garden, WM; E. N. Perry, SW; Hiram Ellis, JW; Thos. B. Haskell, Proxy.

[Total number of chartered lodges, 179; represented, 167.]

Your committee further report that the following Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge are present, namely:

JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	P. G. M.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	"
WM. P. PREBLE,	"
DAVID CARGILL,	"
FRANCIS LORING TALBOT,	P. S. G. W.
JOHN W. BALLOU,	P. J. G. W.
HENRY H. DICKEY,	"

And Grand Officers as follows:

M. W. Albert Moore,	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W. Edward P. Burnham,	<i>Deputy Grand Master</i>
" Charles I. Collamore,	<i>Senior Grand Warden.</i>
" A. M. Wetherbee,	<i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>
" Moses Dodge,	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
" Ira Berry,	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
" Joseph M. Hayes,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary.</i>
" E. Howard Vose,	<i>D. D. G. M. 2d District.</i>
" Henry R. Taylor,	" 3d "
" James T. Cushman,	" 4th "
" Daniel Dolloff, Jr.,	" 5th "
" Manly G. Trask,	" 6th "
" John H. Gordon,	" 7th "
" Clark D. Smalley,	" 9th "
" Almore Kennedy,	" 10th "
" Peter Williams,	" 12th "
" Simon S. Brown,	" 13th "
" Simeon Stone,	" 14th "
" Fessenden I. Day,	" 15th "
" Diman B. Perry,	" 16th "
" George E. Taylor,	" 17th "
" Samuel G. Davis,	" 18th "
" John S. Derby,	" 19th "

W. & Rev. C. C. Mason,	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
“ Charles A. Curtis,	“ “
“ Wm. E. Gibbs,	“ “
W. Benj. F. Andrews,	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
“ Augustus Bailey,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ Arlington B. Marston,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ Rotheus E. Paine,	<i>Grand Steward.</i>
“ S. J. Chadbourne,	“ “
“ Austin F. Kingsley,	“ “
“ Charles E. Weld,	“ “
“ Horace H. Burbank,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
“ Marquis F. King,	<i>Grand Standard Bearer.</i>
“ Wm. R. G. Estes,	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
“ Levi W. Smith,	“ “
“ Timothy J. Murray,	<i>Grand Lecturer.</i>
Bro. Warren Phillips,	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

The following Grand Lodges are represented, to wit:

ALABAMA,	LOUISIANA,	NEW JERSEY,
ARKANSAS,	MARYLAND,	NEW YORK,
CALIFORNIA,	MICHIGAN,	NORTH CAROLINA,
COLORADO,	MINNESOTA,	NOVA SCOTIA,
DELAWARE,	MISSISSIPPI,	OREGON,
DIST. OF COLUMBIA,	MISSOURI,	SOUTH CAROLINA,
FLORIDA,	MONTANA,	TENNESSEE,
GEORGIA,	NEBRASKA,	TEXAS,
KANSAS,	NEVADA,	WEST VIRGINIA,
KENTUCKY,	NEW HAMPSHIRE,	WISCONSIN.

Respectfully submitted,

LEANDER W. FORBES,	} <i>Committee.</i>
STEPHEN BERRY,	
GEORGE L. BAILEY,	

Which report was accepted.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

On Doings of Grand Officers.

DAVID CARGILL, SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, C. P. EMERY.

On the Pay Roll.

F. H. DRUMMOND, EDWIN W. COFFIN, W. S. DENNETT.

On Unfinished Business.

EDWIN STONE, AUGUSTUS BAILEY, DANIEL A. CAMPBELL.

On By-Laws.

C. R. MCFADDEN, TURNER BUSWELL, AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY.

Which appointments were confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

The fleeting moments of time have brought us to the close of another masonic year: again we convene in Annual Communication to give an account of our stewardship, to review our doings, and to consider measures for the future welfare and prosperity of our time-honored institution. True to ancient masonic tradition, that no man should ever enter upon any great and important undertaking without first invoking a blessing from Deity, it was meet and proper that we should unite with the Rev. Grand Chaplain in thankful praise to Almighty God for His kind and protecting care over us; and to invoke His aid and guidance in the future, that whatever we do may be done to His honor and glory, and for the best interests of masonry, and that our deliberations at this session may be actuated by a spirit of harmony and concession, and with an eye single to the welfare of the subordinate lodges which we represent.

EDMUND B. HINKLEY, P. S. G. WARDEN.

I have to announce the decease of Past Senior Grand Warden EDMUND B. HINKLEY. He was buried with the masonic honors due to his rank, on the 27th day of August last. I regretted my inability to respond to the request of R. W. A. M. WETHERBEE, Junior Grand Warden, to be present and conduct the ceremonies of the occasion. I had no personal acquaintance with the deceased, and therefore leave to those who knew him best to offer the needful and appropriate tribute to his memory.

AMOS NOURSE, P. D. G. MASTER.

Dr. AMOS NOURSE, Past Deputy Grand Master, died at Bath, April 7th, last, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. He was born in Bolton, Mass., graduated at Harvard College in 1812, studied medicine in Boston, commenced the practice of his profession in Wiscasset, and in 1819 removed to Hallowell, where he continued a very extensive practice until 1844, when he removed to Bath and has since lived there. Dr. Nourse was made a mason in Kennebec Lodge, No. 5, in July, 1819, was chosen Master of the lodge in 1822, was Junior Grand Warden in 1828 and '29, Senior Grand Warden in 1830 and '31, and Deputy Grand Master in 1832, all which offices he filled with dignity and honor. Cotemporaneous with M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, PELEG SPRAGUE, SAMUEL FESSENDEN, NATH'L COFFIN, JOHN C. HUMPHREYS and other distinguished men and masons—like these he loved masonry, and was deeply devoted to its interests. His was an active and useful life, attaining to the highest rank in his profession and filling many important civil offices, both State and National. He was United States Senator in 1857, Collector of the Port of Bath in 1844, Judge of Probate for Sagadahoc County twelve years, and held other honorable and important positions, the duties of which he discharged with the strictest fidelity. Our venerable Brother has been called from his labors, and passed on to receive his reward in a better and higher life. Let us emulate his virtues and profit by his example, that it may finally be said of us, as in truth it may now be said of him, a good man has gone to his final rest.

While the destroying angel has touched but lightly upon the membership of this Grand Body, many of the subordinate lodges have been called to mourn the death of some of their beloved ones, and to pay the last sad tribute of affection to their memory. Many of the Brethren who have so often greeted us in our annual assemblies, will greet us no more this side of the river. But an abiding *Faith*, inspired by the sublime teachings of our Order, strengthens the cherished *Hope* that we shall meet again in the Celestial Grand Lodge above, ever to bask in the sunlight of that supreme *Charity* that knows no evil, and extends through

the boundless realms of eternity. A few fleeting years, at most, and we too shall follow—the places that now know us will know us no more forever. Let the uncertain tenure of this brief and transitory existence impel us to renewed zeal in the cause of humanity and for the moral elevation of human society.

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

It is with profound satisfaction that I am able to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. With two or three exceptions, there has been scarcely a ripple of discord among the craft, or contention between the lodges during the year. Less than the usual complaints of the invasion of jurisdiction, and the reception of rejected candidates, have been made. All these have been settled amicably, or are in progress of settlement.

I have received through the Grand Masters of other Grand Jurisdictions, several complaints against lodges in this State for the invasion of their territorial jurisdiction. I have required the lodges complained of to render a satisfactory explanation or make suitable apology in all these cases. Great care should be exercised in all cases where the petitioner is not well known and his legal and masonic residence well established.

The work of the lodges has been more or less affected by the continued financial depression. The accessions to our numbers are believed to be less than in any year in the last decade. But this affords no cause for alarm. The moral and financial strength of the Order was never better than now. But masonry, like every other department of life, social, moral or financial, must experience severe discipline for the public profligacy, extravagance, and demoralization of the recent past, illustrating the old maxim, that nations, organizations and individuals must reap as they sow.

BRO. C. H. ALDEN having declined the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master of the 12th District, in July last, I appointed R. W. PETER WILLIAMS to the office, who accepted, was duly installed, and has since discharged its duties. R. W. FRANK E. SLEEPER, District Deputy Grand Master of the 14th District,

resigned, and on the 5th of October I appointed Bro. SIMEON STONE, of Lisbon Falls, his successor.

DISPENSATIONS.

No dispensations for new lodges have been granted during the year. I have granted seven dispensations for conferring the degrees in less than the usual time, requiring in every case a voucher from the principal officers of the lodge for the worthiness and good moral character of the applicant. I have also granted seven dispensations for the election of officers in cases where the freaks of the moon contravened the law of the lodges; also a dispensation to Hermon Lodge, No. 32, to call a special meeting to transact business relating to their hall, needful to be done before the time of the next stated meeting. In all cases of special meetings I required a strict observance of the Standing Regulation No. 7 of this Grand Lodge, providing special notice to all the members of the lodge.

August 4th, I granted permission to re-open the Lodge of Instruction in Biddeford, which was heretofore authorized by a vote of the Grand Lodge of 1857, to be continued until further orders.

September 30th, I granted dispensations to Penobscot Lodge, No. 39, Mt. Kineo, 109, Doric, 149, and Cambridge, 157, to appear in masonic clothing and form a procession at Greenville, for the purpose of erecting a marble tablet to the memory of Bro. LOUIS ANNANCE, said to be once a chief of the St. Francis tribe of Indians, an educated Indian, a Christian man, and forty years a mason, who, responsive to the natural instincts of his race, had for many years spent much of his time roaming the wild-wood of Northern Maine in solitary communion with nature and in the exciting scenes of the hunt.

On the 4th day of October, a respectable number of masons assembled at the newly made grave of our Indian Brother, in a retired spot at the foot of Moosehead Lake, and with appropriate ceremonies erected a simple marble tablet in commemoration of his pure and virtuous life. The tablet, properly inscribed, was contributed by the masons of that section of the State, as a testimonial of their respect and esteem for this noble son of the forest.

W. Bro. S. A. PATTEN, of Doric Lodge, No. 149, of Monson, gave a brief address on the occasion, in which he said :

"On the 27th day of December last, we consigned to the silent grave the remains of our friend and Brother, Louis Annance. To-day we gather around his resting-place, and erect there a stone with suitable inscription—a testimonial of our esteem for him as a man, and as a worthy Brother of our ancient and honorable Institution.

"Though belonging to a race, for the most part, wanting in the grace and polish of education, he availed himself of some opportunities for mental culture, thrown in his way in early life, and made no inconsiderable progress in the arts and sciences.

"When asked by a friend a few years since, 'why did you not continue your studies and give yourself up to intellectual pursuits?' he replied, at the same time raising his hand and pointing his finger to his head,—'Too much Indian here!'

"Many of the characteristics of his race exhibited themselves in his life, despite the influences of the schools and early association with the whites, even down to a ripe old age. He loved the communion and solitude of the woods, and most of his time, after abandoning literary pursuits, till the infirmities of age pressed heavily upon him, was spent in roaming the forest in pursuit of game.

"How plainly in his case is illustrated the fact, that it is difficult, if not impossible, for a man to rid himself, even if he will, of those mental and moral peculiarities which mark and distinguish his nation and race from that of all others. The Ethiopian cannot change his skin nor the leopard his spots, and not less difficult is it for a man to obliterate or conceal those tastes, habits, and modes of thought which the Great Creator has seen fit to make the distinguishing features of that branch of the human family to which he belongs.

"In the year 1836, he was made a Master Mason by North Star Lodge, located at Lancaster, in the State of New Hampshire, and from that time to the day of his death he ceased not to love our Institution. He often spoke of it in warm terms of commendation. For his Brethren he entertained a peculiar esteem, and he seemed always keenly alive to the obligation of the Fraternity."

CONSTITUTIONS AND DEDICATIONS.

June 1st, I commissioned M. W. J. H. DRUMMOND to constitute Hiram Lodge, No. 180, at Cape Elizabeth, install the officers and dedicate their hall, who, having performed the services, made due return thereof. I learn that this new lodge commences with favorable prospects.

June 15th, I convened a special Grand Lodge in Auburn, and constituted Ancient Brothers Lodge, No. 178, and installed its officers. I had the assistance of R. W. F. I. DAY, District Deputy Grand Master of the 15th District, W. Brother WM. J. BURNHAM, and other Brethren of Auburn and Lewiston. Although the ceremonies were private, there was a large number of masons present; and several brief and interesting speeches by the Brethren present, followed the installation services. It was a very pleasant occasion, and appearances indicated a fine and prosperous lodge.

On the 21st day of June, R. W. E. P. BURNHAM, Deputy Grand Master, assisted by R. W. JOHN S. DERBY, District Deputy Grand Master of the 19th District, W. WARREN PHILLIPS, Grand Tyler, and the Brethren from Ocean Lodge, No. 142, constituted Yorkshire Lodge, No. 179, at North Berwick, installed their officers and dedicated their hall.

On the 23d day of June, I convened a Special Grand Lodge at Dexter, for the purpose of dedicating a new hall for Penobscot Lodge, No. 39. R. W. CHAS. I. COLLAMORE, Senior Grand Warden; R. W. ALDEN M. WETHERBEE, Junior Grand Warden; R. W. DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR., D. D. G. M. of the 5th District; R. W. JOHN H. GORDON, D. D. G. M. of the 7th District; W. ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, Junior Grand Deacon; W. WARREN PHILLIPS, Grand Tyler, and several Past Masters from adjacent lodges, rendered very efficient aid in the dedicatory services. The ceremonies were witnessed by a large and interested audience of ladies and gentlemen. At the close of the dedicatory services a procession was formed, consisting of ten masonic lodges, under the escort of three Commanderies of Knights Templar, and took up a line of march through the principal streets of the village, to a spacious pavilion erected for the occasion. Tables were spread for eight hundred guests, and dinner was served to two or three times that number. 'Twas a beautiful June day, and nature, robed in her loveliest attire, seemed to rejoice with the thousands of people who lined the streets on either side of the line of march. Rev. E. C. BOLLES, of Salem, Mass., delivered an able address under the broad canopy of the

pavilion, to an audience estimated at eight thousand. Toasts and speeches from distinguished masons followed the address. 'Twas a gala day for Dexter, and one long to be remembered as one of the largest masonic demonstrations ever made in eastern Maine.

September 14th, I convened a Special Grand Lodge in Canaan, consisting of R. W. SIMON S. BROWN, D. D. G. M. of the 13th District, R. W. JOHN H. GORDON, D. D. G. M. of the 7th District, W. WARREN PHILLIPS, Grand Tyler, and Past Masters from surrounding lodges, for the purpose of dedicating a Hall for Carrabassett Lodge, No. 161. The ceremonies of the dedication were open to the public, and a large audience was present. After the ceremonies in the hall were over a procession was formed, consisting of Somerset, Siloam, Meridian, Corinthian and Carrabassett Lodges, which, under the escort of De Molay Commandery of Knights Templar, marched through the principal streets to the Town Hall for refreshment, thence to the church, where an able address was delivered by Rev. WEBSTER WOODBURY. A large throng of people greeted the procession as it proceeded along its line of march. Carrabassett Lodge has a fine hall, and is flourishing and prosperous.

On the 24th day of October, I commissioned R. W. JAMES T. CUSHMAN, D. D. G. M. of the 4th District, to constitute Rising Star Lodge, No. 177, and install its officers, which service was duly rendered on the 2d day of November, and due return made thereof. An interesting and able address was delivered by Bro. C. H. SPOFFORD, of Deer Isle, and refreshments served by the ladies.

December 4th, I dedicated a new hall for Richmond Lodge, No. 63, in the presence of the families of its members, receiving the assistance of W. WARREN PHILLIPS, Grand Tyler, Past Masters ABIAL LIBBEY, J. W. SPAULDING, and other Brethren. After the ceremonies of dedication, refreshments were served in an adjoining room, and the rest of the evening was spent in social converse.

January 31st, I granted permission to Ancient Brothers' Lodge, No. 178, to remove to another hall in the same city, the distance being less than half a mile.

While there has been a marked decrease in the correspondence from last year, there have been very many questions asked upon masonic jurisprudence, the joint occupancy of masonic halls, and other subjects pertaining to the general welfare of the craft. I have given them all the consideration they seemed to demand, and if any have been unanswered, the omission was purely accidental, as it has been my purpose to answer all communications addressed to me upon all subjects pertaining to masonry. Many rulings and decisions have been called for, but most of them were answered by reference to the Constitution and former decisions of the Grand Lodge. I report for your consideration such as seemed to involve points not already settled.

DECISIONS.

1. The appointment and installation of a Master of a lodge as District Deputy Grand Master, vacates the office of Master, and the Senior Warden succeeds to the Chair until the next annual election.

2. A rejected candidate, or the lodge to which he may apply for the degrees, may apply to the rejecting lodge for a waiver of jurisdiction at any stated meeting, and such application must lie over until the next stated meeting before being acted upon, and a unanimous ballot is requisite.

3. The Master of a lodge may admit or refuse to admit a visitor, or a member of his own lodge, on objection being made. If a member, the Master should cause an investigation to be made, and if the objection proves to be groundless, admit him, and if for good cause, still refuse admission and have charges filed and the member tried.

4. The penalty for non-payment of dues, shall be suspension from or forfeiture of membership after due trial. If suspension, the payment of arrears restores to membership without a vote of the lodge; if forfeiture of membership, a petition for restoration must be presented, the same course pursued, and the same ballot taken as in the case of any non-affiliate.

5. Investigating committees cannot be required to give their reasons for an unfavorable report upon a petition for the degrees,

nor can the reasons be required of one member of a committee for declining to sign a favorable report which the other two members of the committee have signed.

6. Charges for non-payment of dues may be filed by the Secretary or any other member, or the lodge may by vote designate some one to do it. The charges must be in writing, and due trial had thereon after proper notice, as in other masonic trials.

7. All the lodges having concurrent jurisdiction over a candidate must waive the same before he can petition for the degrees to a lodge in another jurisdiction.

8. No lodge is required to reimburse another lodge for expenses voluntarily incurred in assisting its members outside of its own jurisdiction; but masonic comity seems to demand a liberal and equitable adjustment of expenses needfully incurred in such cases.

9. An application was received for the degrees, and before ballot was had thereon the applicant was taken sick. I am requested to ask your opinion, and to enquire if there is any way to dispose of the application without a ballot.

Ans. If the disability be such as to render the applicant unable "honestly to acquire the means of subsistence," the committee so reporting, "the fact shall be entered of record and the petition and fee returned," without a ballot.

10. A man born and raised in our jurisdiction, about four years ago went away, was employed as a clerk for a short time, and then began to travel as a salesman. His route of travel is this way, he coming here about once a month. He calls his residence here, and always has. He wants to apply to our lodge for admission. Would it be safe for us to receive his petition?

Ans. Jurisdiction follows the legal residence of the applicant—where he pays taxes, exercises the right of suffrage, etc. If he does neither, on account of his itinerancy, having no such residence elsewhere, your claim would seem best.

11. A member pays up his dues Sept. 2, 1862, and asks for his discharge; immediately under the credit is written, "membership withdrawn." His name does not appear on the return to

the Grand Lodge after 1863, but it does not appear that the lodge took any action upon it. Having moved away from the jurisdiction, he now wants a dimit to become a charter member of another lodge. Can this lodge grant him a dimit; and if so, must his dues be first paid or remitted?

Ans. You can give a dimit, or, what would seem better in such a case, certify, under seal, that the member paid up to such a date and withdrew his membership, which was the former practice of doing things. Inasmuch as the member was not responsible for the inaction of the lodge, he should not be held to pay dues after his withdrawal.

12. A subordinate lodge in another jurisdiction requesting a lodge in this jurisdiction, as a favor, to confer all the degrees upon a candidate accepted by them—the following questions were submitted for my decision:

1st. Shall we comply with their request; aside from our willingness, is it masonic?

2d. Being elected in Ruth Lodge, and raised in our lodge, what lodge is he a member of?

3d. Will you grant a dispensation to confer the degrees in one evening, if you have no objection to the first two questions?

Ans.—1st. As an act of courtesy, one lodge may confer the degrees by the request of another lodge in this jurisdiction. The same *may* apply to the conferring of the second and third degrees by the request of a lodge out of the jurisdiction. Art. VI, Sec. 93, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, prohibits the initiation of a candidate out of the State, without the permission of the Grand Master, as well as of the lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides.

2d. "Every candidate who shall receive the third degree in any lodge in this jurisdiction, shall thereby become a member of said lodge."

3d. I answer no to the third question.

With no law or precedent action of the Grand Lodge in such a case, I gave this decision with some misgivings. Further reflection leads me to doubt the authority, as I certainly do the expediency, for one body to confer the degrees by the request of

another anywhere, much less for a lodge out of the State, without the permission of the Grand Master of such State. Giving due deference to the theory that the work of one lodge at the request of another lodge is constructively the work of the latter, we fail to see how one lodge can do constructively for another what the Constitution bars it from doing for itself.

INSURANCE.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorized to pay to the ———— Relief Association fees and assessments, as a loan to such members of this lodge as the Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, as a committee, may recommend. Certificate of membership to be in favor of the lodge, to be returned to said Brother (or payable to his family) when said fees and other expenses have been paid."

My opinion upon this resolution was desired by a District Deputy Grand Master, who was also a member of the lodge before which the resolution was then pending. With this request for a decision was also submitted a printed circular issued by the County Relief Association "to the masonic fraternity," suggesting "that the lodges, in their capacity as guardians of the welfare of the craft, and as an investment of their surplus funds, in every way safe, should insure such members as may desire it and have not the means to pay the deposit fee, giving the insured the privilege, at any time while in good health and standing, of paying the amount advanced by the lodge as premium and assessments, with interest, and of having the policy made payable to such legatee as he may designate." I made the following decision:

The proposed action of your lodge to pay for the insurance of its members, directly or indirectly, would be such use of its funds as its contributors never contemplated, and wholly inadmissible. Masonic lodges, as such, can have nothing to do with Relief Associations. The funds are to be devoted to charitable purposes; not to insure the lives of its members, nor can they be directly or indirectly converted to such use.

As voluntary organizations, there may be no objections to Relief Associations among individual masons, but there is neither reason nor authority for the Grand Lodge or the subordinate lodges to patronize them, or recognize them as masonic; much less to devote their funds to the insurance of their members. My convictions are clear that such a disposition of lodge funds would lead to endless strife and discord. No lodge can insure all its members. Every member having equally contributed to the funds, all are alike entitled to its benefits, and no distinction could be made without creating dissatisfaction. No question creates so much irritation in the lodges and so strains the fraternal cord that binds its members together, as the disposition of their finances. Any attempt to carry out the policy indicated by this resolution would be a continual cause of irritation, if there was any authority for it—as there is not.

At present, these and other kindred associations are but just entering upon their experimental stage. The uncertain tenure and stability of all like organizations, in the present stress of the times, tends to throw a shadow of doubt over their success, managed the best they may be. With a membership fee of only two dollars, and an assessment of one dollar and ten cents upon the death of a member of the Association, and taking the same ratio of deaths to the whole membership, as reported by the Grand Lodge last year, as a criterion, the death-rate assessment upon each member of the Association would be about eleven dollars annually, besides the fee for membership. This sum, multiplied by the number it insures, would be the annual cost to each lodge for its insured members, if in the proportion of ten in every hundred, entailing an annual draft of one hundred and ten dollars to every lodge of a hundred members.

Having once commenced, the lodge must continue its payments to the end, or forfeit the sum already paid. Not only would the lodges become responsible for the payment of the assessments, but virtually responsible for the moral character and masonic conduct of their insured members, for, upon suspension or expulsion from the lodge, membership in the association ceases

at once, and the lodge is minus the amount of the assessments paid out for such member.

Having been asked to review and modify this decision, I have deemed it proper to present some of the impressions leading me to it. The more I reviewed it the stronger were my convictions that a contrary decision would not only open the door to an unseemly scramble for the benefits the scheme proposed, but entail such a burden as would ultimately cripple, if not bankrupt, the lodges that adopted it.

The benefits of Relief Associations and other kindred organizations, safely and economically conducted, are not questioned; but the great danger is, when the death-rates begin to increase and the assessments begin to multiply, as they will with the increasing years of the members, that the interest in the association will begin to wane, policies to lapse; members to drop out one after another, and a final collapse will follow. The recent history of Life Insurance Companies, conducted upon the same principle, affords an illustration of the dangers of the system. In view of possible failure, such associations should receive no legislative sanction, or recognition as masonic, from the Grand Lodge or its subordinates, much less devote their funds to insure their members therein.

When we substitute for the voluntary and silent charities of masonry, a system of benefits on a strictly commercial basis, it will have lost all that traditional, mystic power which has ever distinguished it from all other human organizations as a fraternally charitable institution, wherein its chief glory lies.

As the action indicated by this resolve had been contemplated by some of the lodges, and only held in abeyance by the force of this decision, I submit that justice to them seems to demand that it should be considered and the decision confirmed or revoked at the present session.

PREBLE LODGE.

I have decided that unimplicated members of Preble Lodge, the charter of which was revoked and afterwards restored to other members, have the right to apply to any other lodge for

membership, by paying up their dues to the restored Preble Lodge to the time its charter was revoked, and not otherwise; also that the restored Preble Lodge, having received the funds of the former lodge, should pay all the rightful claims against it, including the rent of the hall under lease for a term of years when the charter was revoked, at the same time recommending a compromise with the lessor to pay up and cancel the lease; also, wishing to avoid every seeming cause of irritation in that jurisdiction, I declined to grant a dispensation for a Lodge of Instruction to the former unaffiliated members of Preble Lodge at Springvale.

HOME FOR AGED AND INDIGENT MASONS.

A resolution was adopted and a committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge, to take into consideration the subject of establishing a Home for Aged and Indigent Masons in this State, and report at this session. I am not advised what the committee, if anything, will recommend. It is a subject worthy of your earnest consideration, and commends itself to every thoughtful mason, as an object much to be desired, whenever it can be obtained without serious embarrassment to the Grand Lodge and the Fraternity at large. But the signs of the times admonish us to faithfully exercise the cardinal virtue of prudence. Better, then, make haste slowly, until a more favorable opportunity offers.

FIRE.

The circumstances under which we meet, the rooms we occupy to-day, and all the surroundings, forcibly remind us that the masonic fraternity of this city have again suffered from the fire fiend. On the twenty-third day of last December, the splendid halls, spacious rooms, furniture and fixtures belonging to the masons, which this Grand Body has occupied for its annual communications for several years past, were destroyed by fire, a full account of which was given in the newspapers at the time. All the masonic bodies in the city, occupied the rooms and had their fixtures in them, all of which they lost. In reply to a note

of inquiry, the Grand Secretary informed me that the records, most of the books, and all important papers were saved. The Grand Treasurer also advised me of the safety of the valuable papers, collars, jewels, etc., etc., in his charge. The property was insured for a considerable sum towards securing a new home, which, it is hoped, may be done at an early day. To the masons of this city we are indebted for procuring these rooms for this meeting of the Grand Lodge.

ONTARIO.

Learning from official sources that a spurious Grand Lodge had been formed in the Province of Ontario, Canada, of which FRANCIS WESTLAKE claims to be Grand Master, I issued a cautionary circular to all the lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, that no lodge or individual hailing under this so-called Grand Lodge could be recognized in this jurisdiction, and that the greatest caution should be exercised in extending masonic courtesies to any person from that province. It is for you to judge of the wisdom of this act, and also to determine if any further action is needed at the present time.

REPRESENTATIVE.

On the suggestion of the Grand Master of that jurisdiction, I have appointed Bro. WM. N. KENNEDY as a Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

I have received but two reports of trials, which I have transmitted to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

DUES.

There is a growing restiveness among the lodges on the subject of non-payment of dues and the sequent evil of non-affiliation. While serious objection is made to non-affiliation, as tending to alienate the brotherhood and weaken the bond of union among the brethren, a more serious complaint comes up against forever carrying delinquents on the rolls of the lodges, thus imposing the burdens of the many upon the few. The evil tendency

of the system and the present practice is a source of great anxiety to every thoughtful mason. To devise some method to preserve the membership of the lodges and equalize the burdens, will require all the wisdom of our masonic Solons in the near future. 'Tis a question that is pressing for solution, and will not down at our bidding. Let us meet it promptly and consider it wisely.

CENTENNIAL IN MASSACHUSETTS.

I received a cordial invitation from the Most Worshipful PERCIVAL LOWELL EVERETT, Grand Master of Massachusetts, to be present at the celebration of the centennial of the Grand Lodge of that State, on the eighth day of March last, but a press of other matters prevented my attendance.

REPORTS.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary will show the working condition of the Grand Lodge in each of their departments; the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters show the working condition of the lodges and bear evidence of the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them; the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which will be before you, ably discusses all the questions of interest mooted by other Grand Lodges. The Grand Tyler has rendered me efficient assistance in the consecrations and dedications of the year.

The duties of this session will conclude my labors as your Grand Master, and very likely my last official act in masonry. This high and responsible office will be given to another, who will be able to devote more time to it and discharge its duties better than I have been able to do. As a parting word, let me remind you that the character of every earthly institution is more or less reflected by the daily walk and moral deportment of its votaries. The character and influence of masonry will be measured by this inflexible rule. The paternity of God and the brotherhood of man is the universal religion of masonry, the inspiration of its fraternal power and the prestige of its success in ameliorating the condition of humanity. Virtue and morality,

charity and brotherly love are its necessary fruits. "By their fruits ye shall know them," applies to masonry as well as to all other human organizations. Then, let me exhort you to cultivate the moral virtues, practice the excellent tenets of your profession, and in all things conform to the moral precepts of our venerable institution.

And now, brethren, as my official connection with you as Grand Master is about to terminate, permit me to renew my thanks to you for advancing me to this exalted position, the highest in the gift of masonry, and a distinction I shall ever appreciate as the most honorable within the power of any body of men to bestow. For your kindness and courtesy in all our official relations, I tender you my sincere thanks; and, invoking the blessing of Him who holds the destinies of nations and peoples as in the hollow of His hand, to rest upon us and all regular masons, and to guide us in our present deliberations, I submit my official report for your consideration.

ALBERT MOORE, *Grand Master.*

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Master's Address be referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.

A letter was received from M. W. REUEL WASHBURN, the oldest living Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, expressing his regret at being unable, on account of illness, to be present at this annual communication.

The Grand Secretary presented petitions, as follows :
Of I. S. Bangs and others, for a new lodge at Waterville; and
Of John P. Stevens and others, for a new lodge in Brooksville.

Which were referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A proposed amendment to the by-laws of Plymouth

Lodge, changing the time of the annual election from January to September, was presented, and referred to the Committee on By-Laws: which committee, without further action, referred it to the Grand Secretary.

The dispensation and other papers of Reuel Washburn Lodge, at Livermore Falls, with a petition for a charter, were presented, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The Grand Treasurer submitted his Annual Report, as follows:

PORTLAND, May 1, 1877.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine:

The amount of receipts by the Treasurer for the current masonic year last past, including the sum received from Insurance Company for damage and loss of property by fire, were

\$5,091.18

The amount of disbursements was

4,758.06

Items in detail are given in Account Current rendered herewith.

The balance in the treasury is

1,141.80

I have been unable to obtain abstracts of the returns of lodges from the D. D. G. Masters of Districts three and eleven.

An addition of eight hundred dollars has been made to the invested Charity Fund.

The Grand Lodge suffered somewhat, though not severely, from the fire in December last, which destroyed a very large amount of property belonging to the fraternity and left them once again homeless.

The loss to this Grand Body consisted in the destruction of a part of its Library and damage to the remainder; and also to office furniture, by water as well as by fire. The amount of the loss on Library, to the extent of the policy of insurance, was promptly paid by the "Etna Fire Insurance Company," and I have obtained a new policy for the amount previously insured.

Were I placed in the position of M. W. Grand Master, I might take occasion to say here, that notwithstanding we have now a balance of a few hundred dollars in the treasury, yet it will be well to exercise rigid economy in making any and all appropriations, as the receipts for the past and present years show a decrease in the amount of income, without a corresponding diminution of the expenses; but as it might not seem becoming in me to do so, I will refrain from introducing the subject and close this report.

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

ACCOUNT CURRENT.

Dr. The M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MAINE,
in account with MOSES DODGE, Grand Treasurer.

1876.

May 4,	For paid Henry F. Collins, D. D. G. M. 1st District,.....	\$ 33.00
"	Wm. H. Hunter, " 2d "	11.50
"	Sam'l N. Campbell, " 3d "	8.00
"	James T. Cushman, " 4th "	38.25
"	Daniel Dolloff, Jr., " 5th "	38.00
"	Jesse Prentiss, " 6th "	41.80
"	John H. Gordon, " 7th "	34.34
"	Wm. A. Pendleton, " 8th "	16.50
"	Rothens E. Paine, " 9th "	48.25
"	Daniel A. Campbell, " 10th "	26.50
"	Austin D. Knight, " 11th "	9.73
"	Peter Williams, " 12th "	38.50
"	W. R. G. Estes, " 13th "	17.50
"	Frank E. Sleeper, " 14th "	28.77
"	Fessenden I. Day, " 15th "	44.55
"	Edgar H. Powers, " 16th "	20.04
2,	" Geo. E. Taylor, " 17th "	15.10
4,	" Isaiah S. Webb, " 18th "	19.35
"	Chas. E. Weld, " 19th "	25.54
"	John. H. Gordon, " Bill of 1875,.....	33.29
3,	" Geo. Mitchell, dues of Cambridge Lodge, remitted,	13.75
"	R. E. Paine, Com. on Masonic History,.....	1.02
"	Albert Moore, Grand Master, expenses,....	50.23
"	F. Loring Talbot, expressage,.....	1.00
20,	" Portland Safety Deposit Vaults, rent of box,....	15.00
"	Stephen Berry, Ass't Grand Secretary, per vote,...	20.00
"	Warren Phillips, Grand Tyler, " ...	30.00
"	W. O. Carney, Ass't Grand Tyler, " ...	15.00
"	Moses Dodge, Grand Treasurer, " ...	40.00
"	J. H. Drummond, Com. on For. Cor., " ...	80.00
"	C. O. Files, Grand Organist, " ...	10.00
"	T. J. Murray, Grand Lecturer, " ...	25.00
June 1,	" Warren Phillips, Grand Tyler, expenses,.....	28.20
22,	" M. W. Emery, dues of members of Preble Lodge,	4.50
"	Charity Fund Investment,.....	308.93
July 1,	" Portland Savings Bank, rent,.....	56.25
5,	" Stephen Berry, printing Proceedings, &c.,.....	414.93
15,	" Geo. L. Bailey, binding Proceedings,.....	30.60

June 20,	For paid Masonic Trustees, use of hall, gas, &c.,.....	200.00
22,	" Ira Berry, recording charters, bill of postage, &c.,..	59.65
Sept. 22,	" Geo. L. Bailey, bill for binding,.....	28.75
Oct. 2,	" Portland Savings Bank, rent,.....	56.25
23,	" Ira Berry, Grand Secretary, salary,.....	500.00
Dec. 23,	" Portland Savings Bank, rent,.....	51.25
29,	" Frank Lawrence, labor,.....	7.00
	" Albion P. Waite, labor,.....	4.20
1877.		
Jan. 1,	" American Bank Note Co., diplomas,.....	100.00
3,	" Premium for Insurance,.....	20.00
	" W. O. Carney, moving furniture,.....	1.80
Feb. 16,	" Carney and Merrill, repairing furniture,.....	4.34
23,	" C. C. Hayes, labor on library,.....	96.00
Mar. 7,	" Carney and Merrill, repairing furniture,.....	9.29
April 5,	" American Bank Note Co., diplomas,.....	100.00
28,	" Ira Berry, Gr. Sec., postage, office expenses, &c.,..	26.72
30,	" Geo. E. Taylor, expenses constituting lodge,.....	5.00
	" Stephen Berry, printing Report For. Cor., &c.,....	175.81
	" Pay Roll of 1876,.....	1,605.30
	" Grand Treasurer's incidental expenses,.....	13.78
May 1,	" Balance in Treasury,.....	1,141.80
		<hr/>
		\$5,899.86

1876. Cr.

	By balance in Treasury May 1, 1876,.....	\$808.70
May 2,	Cash of H. F. Collins, D. D. G. M.	127.10
	" Wm. H. Hunter, " 2d Dist.	153.30
	" Sam'l N. Campbell, " 3d Dist.	153.80
	" James T. Cushman, " 4th Dist.	270.45
	" Daniel Dolloff, Jr., " 5th Dist.	260.40
	" Jesse Prentiss, " 6th Dist.	342.60
3,	" John H. Gordon, " 7th Dist.	177.90
2,	" Wm. A. Pendleton, " 8th Dist.	197.90
	" Rotheus E. Paine, " 9th Dist.	396.70
3,	" Daniel A. Campbell, " 10th Dist.	188.30
	" Austin D. Knight, " 11th Dist.	237.60
2,	" Peter Williams, " 12th Dist.	161.00
	" W. R. G. Estes, " 13th Dist.	232.05
3,	" Frank E. Sleeper, " 14th Dist.	234.10
2,	" Fessenden I. Day, " 15th Dist.	297.75
	" Edgar H. Powers, " 16th Dist.	233.60
	" Geo. E. Taylor, " 17th Dist.	442.90
	" Isaiah S. Webb, " 18th Dist.	184.70
	" Chas. E. Weld, " 19th Dist.	311.00

May 20,	Cash of Wm. Atwood, char. fee Hiram Lodge,	30.00
June 9,	" Benj. P. Parker, charter fee Yorkshire Lodge,.....	30.00
July 20,	" R. H. Hinkley, Gr. Chapter bill, rent, &c.,	75.05
22,	" Ira Berry, char. fee Rising Star Lodge,	30.00
	" " " " " Ancient Bros.' "	30.00
	" " " disp. fee Reuel Washburn Lodge,.....	25.00
Sept. 16,	" Albert Moore, disp. fee for conferring degrees,.....	3.00
Oct. 7,	" Albert Moore, disp. fee for conferring degrees,.....	3.00
Dec. 29,	" Etna Ins. Company, damage by fire,...	232.26
1877.		
Jan. 26,	" Albert Moore, disp. fee for conferring degrees,.....	3.00
April 26,	" Albert Moore, disp. fee for conferring degrees,.....	12.00
28,	" Ira Berry, for diplomas sold, registration, &c.,.....	9.70
		<hr/> \$5,899.86

THE CHARITY FUND consists of—

25 shares Canal National Bank Stock,.....	\$2,500.00
37 shares Casco National Bank Stock,.....	3,700.00
5 shares Freeman's National Bank Stock,.....	500.00
5 shares First National Bank Stock,.....	500.00
\$6,800.00 U. S. 5-20 Bonds,.....	6,800.00
1,900.00 Deposit in Portland Savings Bank,.....	1,900.00
1,900.00 " Maine " "	1,900.00
1,000.00 City of Portland Bond (Municipal),.....	1,000.00
	<hr/> \$18,800.00

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of Bro. JOHN H. WEBSTER,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be directed to issue at once a circular to lodges, directing each to ascertain during the year the non-affiliated masons in their jurisdiction, and to keep an alphabetical list of the same, to which all suspended from or deprived of membership shall be added. In places where more than one lodge exists this duty shall devolve on the oldest lodge.

A petition for removal of Unity Lodge from Freedom to Thorndike was received, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

Bro. JOSEPH A. LOCKE submitted the report of the Committee on Returns, which was accepted, to wit:

To the M. W. Grand Masters, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully submit the following report:

Number of chartered lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, is one hundred and seventy-nine; and returns have been received from all except Ocean Lodge, at Wells, giving the following exhibit:

As formerly, for convenience of comparison, we give the footings of last year's returns:

	1877.	1876.
Initiated,.....	703.....	805
Admitted,.....	888.....	1037
Re-instated,.....	23.....	32
Dimitted,.....	297.....	319
Died,.....	216.....	218
Suspended.....	3.....	3
Expelled,.....	6.....	9
Deprived of Membership,.....	163*.....	201
Number of Members,.....	10,365.....	(corrected,) 18,843
Non-affiliates,.....	192 †.....	216
Rejected,.....	332.....	352

There is one lodge under dispensation, viz: Reuel Washburn at Livermore Falls, giving the following returns:

Initiated.	Raised.	Rejected.	Petitioners.	Died.	M. Masons.
7	7	0	32	2	37

IRA BERRY,
JOSEPH A. LOCKE, } Committee.
WARREN PHILLIPS, }

*Of these, 87 are returned as *suspended from membership*; 56 as deprived of membership; and 20 returned last year by Ancient Brothers' Lodge, but who did not become members.

† To these should be added 143 deprived of membership, making 335.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.

Nos.	Lodges.	Initiated.	Admitted.	Re-instated.	Dimitted.	Died.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Deprived of Membership.	Members.	Non-affil'd.	Rejected.
1	Portland,.....	1	6	3	7	8	..	..	18	332	..	..
2	Warren,.....	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	112	..	..
3	Lincoln,.....	6	4	..	3	2	..	..	..	96	3	..
4	Hancock,.....	3	3	..	12	1	..	..	1	98	4	..
5	Kennebec,.....	8	8	..	2	6	..	..	..	161	4	11
6	Amity,.....	5	6	..	1	2	..	..	..	135	..	..
7	Eastern,.....	4	6	1	4	3	..	..	..	200	..	4
8	United,.....	2	6	..	3	2	..	..	12	129	12	4
9	Saco,.....	2	2	..	5	1	..	..	2	152	..	..
10	Rising Virtue,.....	11	12	..	..	3	..	..	..	224	..	9
11	Pythagorean,.....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	67	..	..
12	Cumberland,.....	7	7	..	1	..	..	..	..	86	..	..
13	Oriental,.....	7	8	..	9	3	..	..	12	165	2	1
14	Solar,.....	6	4	..	4	2	..	..	..	223	7	6
15	Orient,.....	10	10	..	..	5	..	..	..	163	..	..
16	St. George,.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	..	2
17	Ancient Landmark,.....	4	6	..	3	3	..	1	..	371	..	2
18	Oxford,.....	6	7	..	1	2	..	..	3	129	7	5
19	Felicity,.....	3	3	..	3	3	..	..	..	154	..	5
20	Maine,.....	3	4	..	3	1	..	..	..	98	..	1
21	Oriental Star,.....	3	3	..	7	1	..	..	..	126	..	2
22	York,.....	1	4	..	1	1	..	..	..	85	5	..
23	Freeport,.....	7	11	..	3	1	..	..	..	80	..	..
24	Phoenix,.....	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	26	179	..	3
25	Temple,.....	3	4	..	1	1	..	..	..	89	..	1
26	Village,.....	6	6	..	1	2	..	..	..	113	3	..
27	Adoniram,.....	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	64	..	..
28	Northern Star,.....	4	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	126	..	3
29	Tranquil,.....	6	12	..	15	3	..	..	7	191	..	..
30	Blazing Star,.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	92	..	..
31	Union,.....	3	4	..	1	2	..	..	..	105	3	2
32	Hermon,.....	3	6	..	3	..	..	..	..	175	..	4
33	Waterville,.....	3	3	..	5	3	..	1	..	159	..	4
34	Somerset,.....	11	13	..	4	5	..	..	..	217	4	9
35	Bethlehem,.....	8	11	..	1	3	..	..	..	216	..	5
36	Casco,.....	2	2	..	1	7	..	..	..	156	..	..
37	Washington,.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	89	..	..
38	Harmony,.....	6	6	1	1	4	..	..	..	151	..	2
39	Penobscot,.....	4	10	..	2	..	..	..	..	146	3	6
40	Lygonia,.....	5	10	..	..	2	..	..	..	259	..	3
41	Morning Star,.....	6	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	71	..	2
42	Freedom,.....	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	69	..	..
43	Alna,.....	10	10	..	2	..	..	..	..	162	..	3
44	Piscataquis,.....	4	2	..	..	1	..	..	2	91	2	1
45	Central,.....	4	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	147	..	2
46	St. Croix,.....	9	15	..	2	1	..	..	..	208	13	4
47	Dunlap,.....	9	9	2	2	..	..	..	1	184	..	3
48	Lafayette,.....	4	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	96	3	..
49	Meridian Splendor,.....	1	2	1	1	1	..	..	2	83	19	1
50	Aurora,.....	4	5	..	3	5	..	..	..	442	12	3
51	St. John's,.....	6	7	2	17	4	..	..	..	173	..	1

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
52	Mosaic,.....	7	9	1	2	2	..	..	5	168	1	..
53	Rural,.....	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	58	..	..
54	Vassalboro',...	4	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	85	1	1
55	Fraternal,.....	7	25	..	7	..	..	..	..	93	..	1
56	Mount Moriah,...	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	54	..	1
57	King Hiram,.....	7	8	..	1	..	..	..	..	69	..	4
58	Unity,.....	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	58	..	..
59	Mount Hope,.....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	34	..	..
60	Star in the East,...	4	5	..	3	..	..	..	..	159	..	2
61	King Solomon's,...	7	7	..	4	1	..	..	..	120	..	..
62	King David's,.....	5	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	104	..	..
63	Richmond,.....	1	3	..	3	1	..	..	..	113	5	4
64	Pacific,.....	7	10	..	1	2	..	..	..	96	1	2
65	Mystic,.....	3	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	134	..	1
66	Mechanics',.....	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	103	2	2
67	Blue Mountain,...	3	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	50	6	..
68	Mariners',.....	5	9	..	1	3	..	..	6	170	1	..
69	Howard,.....	2	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	107	1	3
70	Standish,.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	..	..
71	Rising Sun,.....	3	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	109	4	..
72	Pioneer,.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	39	..	..
73	Tyrian,.....	7	7	..	1	2	..	..	..	172	2	2
74	Bristol,.....	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	129	..	1
75	Plymouth,.....	2	2	..	2	3	..	..	1	50	..	1
76	Arundel,.....	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	6	66	9	..
77	Tremont,.....	2	1	..	..	2	1	..	4	120	..	..
78	Crescent,.....	1	1	..	3	2	..	..	2	149	..	..
79	Rockland,.....	8	8	..	..	6	..	..	..	374	..	2
80	Keystone,.....	2	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	95	..	2
81	Atlantic,.....	12	19	..	5	4	..	1	..	270	15	4
82	St. Paul's,.....	8	12	..	..	2	..	..	..	131	..	2
83	St. Andrew's,.....	12	13	..	4	3	..	..	2	307	..	7
84	Eureka,.....	7	7	..	2	3	..	..	..	130	1	6
85	Star in the West,...	1	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	106	4	..
86	Temple,.....	4	4	2	2	2	..	..	..	196	..	6
87	Benevolent,.....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	54	1	1
88	Narraguagus,.....	3	3	..	2	2	..	..	..	142	..	..
89	Island,.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	74	..	..
90	Hiram Abiff, <i>ch. rev.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
91	Harwood,.....	1	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	161	4	3
92	Siloam,.....	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	116	..	..
93	Horeb,.....	3	3	..	4	1	..	..	..	100	..	2
94	Paris,.....	1	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	101	..	1
95	Corinthian,.....	2	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	76	..	7
96	Monument,.....	4	6	..	3	2	..	..	..	122	3	1

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
109	Mount Kineo,.....	6	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	109	..	1
110	Monmouth,.....	0	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	79	..	..
111	Liberty,.....	1	2	..	6	3	..	..	9	114	4	..
112	Eastern Frontier, ..	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	..	..
113	Messalonskee, .....	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	86	..	2
114	Polar Star,.....	6	9	..	2	1	..	..	..	172	..	2
115	Buxton,.....	6	8	..	2	..	..	..	..	107	1	3
116	Lebanon,.....	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	83	1	..
117	Greenleaf,.....	2	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	122	..	2
118	Drummond,.....	1	2	..	5	1	..	..	..	60	1	..
119	Pownal,.....	5	13	..	..	1	..	..	..	55	..	2
120	Meduncook,.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	..	..
121	Acacia,.....	1	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	74	..	2
122	Marine,.....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	168	..	..
123	Franklin,	5	5	..	1	2	..	..	..	78	..	1
124	Olive Branch,	4	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	93	..	..
125	Meridian, .....	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	98	..	6
126	Timothy Chase,....	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	128	..	1
127	Presumpscot,.....	4	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	96	..	2
128	Eggemoggin,.....	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	110	1	7
129	Quantabacook,	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	73	4	0
130	Trinity,	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	70	..	4
131	Lookout,	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	44	..	1
132	Mount Tire'm,....	3	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	86	..	1
133	Asylum,	3	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	52	..	..
134	Trojan,	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	66	..	1
135	Riverside,.....	3	3	..	4	1	..	..	..	103	..	4
136	Ionic,.....	6	7	..	1	1	..	..	..	91	..	4
137	Kenduskeag,	2	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	95	..	5
138	Lewy's Island,....	8	7	..	3	..	1	..	..	85	3	..
139	Archon,	5	4	..	1	3	..	..	..	93	..	..
140	Mount Desert,....	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	92	..	..
141	Augusta,	14	14	..	1	2	..	..	..	125	..	5
142	Ocean, .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
143	Preble,.....	8	15	..	..	1	..	..	..	37	..	1
144	Seaside,	5	5	..	..	2	..	..	..	104	..	3
145	Moses Webster,....	14	17	..	1	..	1	..	..	162	..	11
146	Sebasticoak,.....	4	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	77	..	7
147	Evening Star,.....	6	7	..	1	..	..	..	..	66	..	3
148	Forest,.....	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	1	80	2	2
149	Doric,	9	6	..	1	..	..	..	4	61	..	3
150	Rabboni,	4	9	..	6	..	..	..	..	114	..	4
151	Excelsior,.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	35	..	..
152	Crooked River,....	3	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	65	..	..
153	Delta,	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	61	..	2
154	Mystic Tie,	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	37	..	1
155	Ancient York,....	4	6	..	..	2	..	..	..	75	..	2
156	Wilton,	4	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	76	..	1
157	Cambridge,	6	7	..	..	1	..	..	..	77	..	1
158	Anchor,	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	..	..
159	Esoteric,.....	8	6	..	..	..	..	1	..	77	..	..
160	Parian,	5	5	..	3	1	..	..	3	53	2	4
161	Carrabassett,.....	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	73	..	3
162	Arion,	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	..	1
163	Pleasant River,....	3	5	..	2	..	..	..	..	45	..	..
164	Webster,	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	35	..	2
165	Molunkus, .....	..	1	..	2	1	..	1	..	25	..	1

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
166	Neguemkeag,	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	61	2	1
167	Whitney,	11	16	..	1	..	..	..	..	59	..	6
168	Composite.....	5	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	26	..	..
169	Shepherd's River,.	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	31	..	..
170	Caribou,.....	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	1	42	..	..
171	Naskeag,.....	3	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	53	..	..
172	Pine Tree,.....	2	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	48	..	7
173	Pleiades,.....	5	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	1	4
174	Lynde,.....	6	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	36	..	2
175	Baskahegan, . . .	11	10	..	..	1	..	..	..	34	..	2
176	Palestine,.....	6	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	..	..
177	Rising Star,.....	4	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	..	..
178	Ancient Brothers',	4	6	..	..	..	..	..	20	40	..	1
179	Yorkshire,.....	5	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	..	..
180	Hiram,.....	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	..	4
		703	888	23	297	216	3	6	163	19865	192	333

NOTE.—Add Reuel Washburn Lodge, and the initiates will be 710; admissions 895; deaths 218; members 19,402. Reckoning Ocean Lodge 70 members, as returned last year, the total membership is 19,472.

Petitions of JOHN M. HOWE, BYRON S. CHICK, and JOSEPH B. WATSON, for restoration to the rights and benefits of Freemasonry, were received, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The Grand Secretary submitted his annual report, as follows:

CONGRESS HALL, PORTLAND, May 1, 1877.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your Secretary has this year to report the performance of the ordinary duties of his office, and of some extraordinary. The burning of Masonic Hall, and the hasty removal of the books and papers, made a great deal of extra work necessary, to which I have given all the time I could spare from the work that was *imperative*, and the end is not yet.

The fire occurred in December last. The night was stormy. I did not hear the alarm. The Assistant Grand Secretary was promptly on hand; did not send for me,—but, aided by some devoted Brethren, and personal friends who are not masons, removed the books and papers from the Grand Lodge Room; and the principal injury sustained there was by water, with which the building was drenched. In a small room where many of our printed Proceedings (unbound) were packed away, fire fell through the floor above, and many were partially, some totally burned. Efforts to remove these were continued

until the Fire Department considered it unsafe, and ordered the faithful workmen to leave the building.

The Records were saved in good order; also the bound copies of Proceedings of other Grand Bodies in the Library, some of which could not have been replaced; and so far as I have been able to ascertain, no documents of real importance are missing.

Shortly after the building was cleared of people a partition wall fell, and the contents of the little room were buried in bricks, mortar and rubbish; there the mass smouldered until the bricks cooled enough to be handled, then it was removed, and we dried and saved what we could. The Reprint of early Grand Lodge Proceedings, folded and carefully tied up, was here, and some sheets were entirely ruined, so that we have very few complete copies, and shall have to reprint some signatures before we can supply them, except to a very limited extent. It is matter of regret, that more of our lodges did not call for copies while they could have been had at cost.

The completion of the arrangement of files of papers is postponed of course by this casualty; and part of the work that had been done in that direction must be done over again; but there is great reason for thankfulness that matters are no worse. Patience and labor will remedy most of our losses.

The Records of the Grand Lodge and Charity Fund are submitted for examination.

IRA BERRY, *Grand Secretary.*

Referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.

A petition for the restoration of WINFIELD S. ROBINSON to the rights and benefits of Freemasonry, with papers relating to the case, were presented, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge sundry papers, which were referred to the Committee of Grievances and Appeals, to wit:

Complaint of Maine Lodge against Caribou Lodge;

Proceedings of Moses Webster Lodge, in the case of CHARLES J. JAY;

Proceedings of Tremont Lodge, in the case of LEROY R. HONGDON; and sundry documents, which had already been before said Committee.

BRO. W. R. G. ESTES presented the following extract from the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge in 1858, (see page 109 of printed report):

“BRO. BRADFORD reported:

“*Resolved*, That in all applications for dimitts, the lodges within our jurisdiction be governed by the ancient usages and charges of our Institution, and suffer no member to withdraw unless to form a new lodge or to join another.

“Report accepted and resolution adopted.”

BRO. ESTES proposed that this resolution be revived; which proposition was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The answer of the Brother charged with having improperly alluded to masonry in arguing a case in a law court, was filed and referred to the special committee appointed to consider that subject.

BRO. F. LORING TALBOT submitted the following report:

The committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge to take into consideration the subject of establishing a Home for Aged and Indigent Masons in this State, submit the following report:

We have taken the subject into careful consideration, and decide that in our opinion, under the present general depression of business and the limited resources of the Grand Lodge, the expenditure which would necessarily be required for such an institution, could not safely be incurred.

They therefore present the following resolution:

Resolved, That the subject of establishing a Home for Aged and Indigent Masons, be postponed until a more favorable time.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, } Committee.
F. LORING TALBOT, }

Report accepted and resolution adopted.

BRO. DAVID CARGILL submitted the following report:

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers have attended to their duty, and submit the following report:

We recommend that so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the deaths of permanent members of this Grand Lodge, viz: R. W. AMOS NOURSE, P. D. G. Master, and R. W. EDMUND B. HINKLEY, P. S. G. Warden, be referred to a special committee of three.

We also recommend that the decisions of the Grand Master be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

We think we express the opinion of the Grand Lodge in the regret we find that the Grand Master should decline to be re-elected for the third term, as he has evinced the deep interest he feels for the welfare of our fraternity in the faithful and efficient manner in which he has discharged his duties.

The Grand Secretary has again shown to us his untiring zeal under very trying circumstances, caused by the fire last December, and we recommend that his report receive our hearty approval.

DAVID CARGILL, S. J. CHADBOURNE, C. P. EMERY,	}	Committee.
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Report accepted and recommendations adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. JOSEPH M. HAYES, A. M. WETHERBEE and CALEB G. MOFFITT, a special committee on deaths of Bros. NOURSE and HINKLEY.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. JOHN H. WEBSTER, was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the duty of, and is hereby enjoined upon the District Deputy Grand Masters in the several Masonic Districts, to use their best endeavors to impress upon the various lodges in their several jurisdictions, and their Masters and Wardens, the importance of the attendance of said officers upon the communications of the Grand Lodge, and to make use of their best efforts to have every lodge represented at all such communications by their first three officers.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet again at two o'clock this afternoon.

CONGRESS HALL, PORTLAND, }
Tuesday, May 1, 1877. }

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

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Grand Lodge Library, reported as follows:

The Committee on Library would report, that our library proper escaped the fire without material loss.

We have made considerable progress in completing files, by procuring reprints of Proceedings and missing copies, for which, and for some incidental expenses caused by the fire, we have paid \$17.75.

Very many Grand Secretaries, on learning of the destruction of the Grand Secretary's office, at once wrote offering to supply, as far as within their power, any losses to our library: fortunately, we have not been obliged to have recourse to them; and if it should finally prove that some of our files are broken, we have no doubt that they can all be replaced, as the losses, if any, are confined to Proceedings of recent years.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a full set, in bound volumes, of the *St. Louis Freemason*, from the lamented GEO. FRANK GOULEY, their editor and publisher—being one of the two only remaining sets he had. Since they were received Bro. GOULEY has gone from us: and while our plan has not been to include masonic newspapers and magazines in our library, we recommend that these volumes be retained therein, and that each one have inscribed in it the name of the donor, and that it is to be preserved as a perpetual memorial of the Brother whose gift it was.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, *for Committee.*

Which report was accepted.

The following resolutions, presented by Bro. DRUMMOND, were adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has learned with much sorrow of the death of R. W. JOHN DOVE, for so many years Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and the recent sad death of R. W. GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, both of whom are endeared to us for their noble qualities, and their eminent services in Freemasonry.

Resolved, That a page of our printed Proceedings, suitably

nscribed, be devoted to the memory of each, as a token of our appreciation of their masonic labors, and the loss which the craft, wherever dispersed, have sustained in their death.

BRO. A. M. WETHERBEE presented credentials as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, near the Grand Lodge of Maine, and was welcomed as such by the Grand Master.

BRO. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, reported as follows:

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which was referred the question whether Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge can be represented therein by proxy, have considered the matter, and ask leave to report:

The Constitution provides that "the Grand Lodge shall consist of" certain Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers, "all of whom, together with the Worshipful Masters and Wardens, for the time being, of the several chartered lodges under this jurisdiction, *or their legally appointed proxies*, shall be entitled to vote as members of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Tyler excepted."

At the first view, this language appears susceptible of two constructions, because the word "*their*" in the phrase, "*or their legally appointed proxies*," may refer to "*lodges*" or to "all of whom," &c., in the preceding part of the same sentence. Your committee are of the opinion that the word "*their*" refers to lodges, and, therefore, that Permanent Members cannot be represented in the Grand Lodge by proxy, for the following reasons:

1. A pronoun usually refers to the next preceding noun for which it may stand, and "*lodges*" is that noun in this sentence.
2. An examination of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, during the whole fifty-seven years since its organization, shows that no Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer has ever been represented therein by proxy.
3. The other construction would give the Master and the Wardens, each, as well as the Permanent Members, the power to appoint a proxy, and under this clause, such proxy would have a vote, while the next clause expressly provides that in the absence of the officers the proxy *of the lodge* shall cast the vote of the lodge.
4. The phrase is "*or their legally appointed proxies*"; but the Constitution nowhere provides for the appointment of proxies by Permanent Members or Masters or Wardens, and, therefore, there is no law to which the word "*legally*" can refer in their case; while, on the other hand, it does expressly provide for the appointment of a proxy *by the lodge*, and gives him member-

ship in the Grand Lodge, and the sole power to cast the vote of the lodge when all the officers are absent.

5. In the Constitution as adopted in 1820, the language was "proxies of lodges," instead of "or their legally appointed proxies"; in the revision of 1844, the same language was used; but in the revision of 1847, the present form was adopted: and there can be no doubt that it was intended to preserve the same meaning as existed before, without introducing so radical a change as the other construction would involve.

We, therefore, report that the proxy named by the Committee on Credentials is not entitled to a vote in the Grand Lodge.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
WILLIAM P. PREBLE,	
HENRY H. DICKEY,	

Which report was accepted.

The hour for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, the Grand Master appointed Bros. EDWIN STONE, BENJAMIN ADAMS and SIMON S. BROWN a committee to receive, sort and count votes; and Bros. HORACE H. BURBANK, WILLIAM R. G. ESTES and JOHN R. ANDREWS a second committee for the same purpose.

R. W. A. M. WETHERBEE, Junior Grand Warden, thanking the Grand Lodge for his election to that position, declined being considered a candidate for office at this time.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to ballot, and the following Brethren were reported to be duly and legally elected, viz:

M. W.	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Saco;
R. W.	CHAS. I. COLLAMORE,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Bangor;
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Portland;
"	SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	East Dixmont;
"	MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland;
"	IRA BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	"

Which report was accepted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to ballot for a Committee of Finance, and elected Brothers

OLIVER GERRISH,	Portland;
HENRY H. DICKEY,	Lewiston; and
BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS,	Portland.

BROS. JOSEPH M. HAYES, of Bath, and ALBERT MOORE, of North Anson, were elected Trustees of the Charity Fund for three years.

The M. W. Grand Master announced, that when the Grand Lodge was called off, it would be until two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment.

CONGRESS HALL, PORTLAND, }
WEDNESDAY, May 2, 1877. }

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

Present, as yesterday, with the addition of R. W. ISAAC DOWNING, Past Senior Grand Warden.

BROS. CHARLES E. WELD, C. N. RAND and TURNER BUSWELL were appointed a Committee on leave of absence.

BRO. JOHN S. DERBY presented the request of York Lodge of Instruction for a continuance of their dispensation,—which was referred to the Committee on Dispersations and Charters.

The lectures of the three degrees were passed by several Brethren, under the direction of the Grand Lecturer.

The report of the Committee on the Pay-roll was presented, accepted, and the Grand Treasurer authorized to make payments in accordance therewith.

BRO. PAINE, for the Committee on History, made the following report, which was accepted, viz :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Committee on the History of Masonry in Maine respectfully submit the following report :

We have received during the past year the following named histories, viz :

Mount Moriah Lodge,	No. 56, ms.
Ionic Lodge,	" 136, "
Archon Lodge,	" 139, "
Relief Lodge,	" 108, "
Presumpscot Lodge,	" 127, "
Freedom Lodge,	" 42, "
Tranquil Lodge.	" 29, in print.

We are compelled to report as still delinquent, Ashlar, No. 105; Mechanics', No. 66; Marine, No. 122; Narraguagus, No. 88; Polar Star, No. 114; Rural, No. 53; Rabboni, No. 150; Solar, No. 14; Star in the East, No. 60; United, No. 8.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. E. PAINE,	} Committee.
GEO. E. TAYLOR,	
F. T. FAULKNER,	

Petition for restoration of WILLIAM F. HALL was received, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

BRO. CARGILL presented the following report :

The committee to whom was referred the proposition to amend the Constitution, in Section 58, relative to the investing of moneys belonging to the Charity Fund (*See Proceedings of 1876, page 44*), have considered said proposition, and recommend that the Constitution be amended in accordance with

said proposition, viz: by adding to the provision in Section 58, Part II, Article 1, the words "at a meeting of the Board, and not otherwise," making it read—

"*Provided*, That it may be lawful for said Trustees to exchange said Fund from one investment to another at a meeting of the Board, and not otherwise."

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, }
DAVID CARGILL, } *Committee.*

Which report was accepted, and the amendment adopted.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which in accordance with a general regulation had been made to the Grand Master in advance of the annual communication, printed, and submitted with the Grand Master's annual address, was presented and distributed to the members.

Report on Foreign Correspondence.

TO THE M. W. GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN MAINE:

The Committee on Correspondence herewith submit their annual report.

Want of time, occasioned by other pressing duties, has prevented our fully adopting the plan we pursued last year in summarizing instead of making extracts.

We have received the Proceedings of all the *fifty-two* American Grand Lodges save one, Dakota: and have reviewed those of Idaho, Nebraska, Pennsylvania and Texas for two years, bringing our review up to the latest communication of all the Grand Lodges, with the exception of Dakota.

The following Table shows the Proceedings received, the date and length of each annual communication, and the page of this report upon which the review commences. The list is nearer full than ever before, and we the more regret the absence of our young sister Dakota.

Grand Lodges.	Date of Annual Communication.	Page of Review.
Alabama,	December 4 to 7, 1876.	309
Arkansas,	October 9 to 11, 1876.	313
British Columbia,	February 19, 22 and 24, 1876.	315
California,	October 10 to 14, 1876.	315

Canada,	July 12 and 13, 1876.	321
Colorado,	September 19 and 20, 1876.	322
Connecticut,	January 17 and 18, 1877.	323
Dakota,	Proceedings not received.	
Delaware,	October 4 and 5, 1876.	323
District of Columbia,	November 8, 1876.	325
Florida,	January 11 to 13, 1876.	332
Georgia,	October 31, 1876.	311
Idaho,	December 13 to 16, 1875.	336
Idaho,	September 12 to 14, 1876.	337
Illinois,	October 3 to 5, 1876.	338
Indiana,	May 23 and 24, 1876.	343
Indian Territory,	September 5 to 7, 1876.	347
Iowa,	June 6 to 8, 1876.	347
Kansas,	November 20 and 21, 1876.	351
Kentucky,	October 19 and 20, 1876.	354
Louisiana,	February 12 to 17, 1877.	358
Manitoba,	June 14, 1876.	360
Maryland,	November 21 and 22, 1876.	362
Massachusetts,	December 13, 1876.	365
Michigan,	January 25 and 26, 1876.	372
Minnesota,	January 9 to 11, 1877.	372
Mississippi,	February 7 to 9, 1877.	439
Missouri,	October 10 to 12, 1876.	376
Montana,	October 3 and 4, 1876.	382
Nebraska,	June 23 to 25, 1875.	384
Nebraska,	June 20 and 21, 1876.	385
Nevada,	November 21 to 24, 1876.	386
New Brunswick,	September 27 and 28, 1876.	391
New Hampshire,	May 17, 1876.	391
New Jersey,	January 17 and 18, 1877.	393
New York,	June 6 to 8, 1876.	396
North Carolina,	December 5 to 8, 1876.	399
Nova Scotia,	June 7 and 8, 1876.	401
Ohio,	October 17 to 19, 1876.	402
Oregon,	June 12 to 14, 1876.	403
Pennsylvania,	December 27, 1875.	405
Pennsylvania,	December 27, 1876.	408
Prince Edward Island,	February 16, 1876.	411
Quebec,	July 15, 1876.	411
Rhode Island,	May 15, 1876.	412
South Carolina,	December 12 and 13, 1876.	414
Tennessee,	November 13 to 15, 1876.	418

Texas,	June 7 to 10, 1876.	419
Texas,	December 14 and 15, 1876.	422
Utah,	November 14 to 16, 1876.	424
Vermont,	June 14 and 15, 1876.	427
Virginia,	December 12 to 13, 1876.	431
Washington,	September 27 to 29, 1876.	432
West Virginia,	November 14 and 15, 1876.	433
Wisconsin,	June 13 to 15, 1876.	436
Wyoming,	October 10 and 11, 1876.	437

ALABAMA, 1876.

Representation, 211 lodges out of 303: eight charters granted and three dispensations continued: several lodges re-instated, whose charters had been forfeited for failure to make returns and pay dues: the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island recognized: recognition of the Grand Lodge of Ontario declined: the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of Cuba postponed for further information: reports made on the work in the several degrees and concurred in: a Grand Master's seal ordered.

The address of the Grand Master (PALMER J. PILLANS) is a concise statement of his official action and decisions, with remarks upon the causes of the falling off of the membership in that State.

Of the latter he says:

"Our numbers, brethren, apparently diminish, while the number of our lodges seems to increase, which ought to suggest to us the propriety of inquiring into the reasons for this deplorable state of things. Doubtless the peculiar political condition which has for some time prevailed, and the financial depression lying incubus-like on the whole country, have had their due influence in producing the lethargy which we to-day witness in masonic circles. But are there not other and more potent causes conspiring to this same result? Have we, as masons, exemplified in our lives what we teach with our lips? Masonry indicates a high morality, and urges the practice of the cardinal virtues and of charity—a charity which thinketh no ill of a brother; a charity which is ever ready to whisper good counsel in his ear, and to lend a hand to help in time of need; a charity which will ever regard a brother's welfare as his own. Let us, then, this day, put the inquiry to ourselves and to each other, if we, either individually or as lodges, have been true to what we claim for masonry. Be sure, my brethren, if this were so, the masonic light would so shine before men that they, seeing our good works, would seek to become of us, and our sphere of usefulness would increase and our numbers enlarge. It is idle for us to proclaim our virtues if we practice them not. Should a brother be distressed, do we console him? Should he be vilely spoken of, do we defend him? Should he need good counsel and advice, do we give it him? If reviled of men, do we go to him and ascertain the truth, or do we not rather shun and avoid him, even 'passing by on the other side,' although we do not repeat the slanders reported of him? There is no one so entirely bad but that there is some good in him; and we, as masons, are banded together to cultivate what is good, that the bad may be overcome thereby."

The Grand Secretary offered the following, which was referred to a special committee, but no report thereon was made:

"WHEREAS, The question of the recognition of Negro Masons has been made more than usually prominent during the last year; and whereas this Grand Lodge has a well-settled opinion upon that subject, which she desires most respectfully and fraternally to express to her sister Grand Lodges everywhere, and especially to those of the United States; she deems the present a fit opportunity to set forth the reasons which impel her to that opinion.

"1. It is indisputable that whatever theory we adopt as to the origin of masonry—whether that which carries it back to the original father of mankind, and his immediate descendants; or to Enoch and Noah; or to the building of King Solomon's Temple; or arising from the constitutions of Pythagoras; or if we trace it back to the Eleusinian Mysteries; or to those of Ceres, and the institution of the Bacchanalia; or, what is most probable of all, the incorporation of the Roman Builders under Numa Pompilius—that theory carries us back to the Caucasian Race.

"2. Masonry was originally what it is mainly to-day, a Social Institution; intended for those who daily mingled together in the ordinary walks of life, in business, in pleasure, and in the family circle; into which it is not credible that anyone of the Negro, or of any other of the inferior races, could have been admitted.

"3. That negroes have of late years been admitted into lodges of Freemasons is due, it is believed, to the sympathy which has been excited for them by anti-slavery societies generally, and particularly by those of the United States; and that any were admitted during the revolutionary war by traveling lodges belonging to the British Army, was due to the feeling which existed at the time against the American Patriots; a proceeding entirely at variance with the object of the formation of such lodges, they having no right to confer the degrees upon any citizen or resident of the country in which they might be sojourning, but only upon members of the army to which such lodges belonged.

"4. Although it is usually said that masonry is universal, and that in every clime masons are to be found: yet it is only universal in so far as the Caucasian Race has carried it into every quarter of the globe; and if that race has sometimes admitted negroes, and others of the inferior races, it has been done in violation of the original and fundamental laws of the fraternity.

"5. In view, therefore, of these facts, indisputable as they are conceived to be, the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama seizes the present as a fit and proper occasion to declare its purpose under no circumstances whatever to acknowledge the legality of negro masons, such acknowledgment being foreign to the original purpose of the fraternity, and introducing an element of demoralization into the society."

We think our good Bro. SAYRE cannot sustain or prove his propositions of fact: and if he cannot, his conclusion fails, of course. A somewhat extended examination fails to find the proof of his assertions, but decidedly the reverse. In the earliest records we have found, there are declarations as to the *universality* of masonry utterly at variance with his views. We shall look with much interest for the report of the committee (of which he is chairman).

The Report on Correspondence (137 pp.) was presented by Bro. OLIVER S. BEERS. If it falls behind his report of last year in interest, it is only because he makes fewer comments in this. Indeed, in his own words, "the theory of this report is a simple re-production, as far as may be, of the opinions, work and doings of each Grand Body." Occasionally he presents his own views in his forcible style of last year.

Of dues, he says:

"We do not see how, under present conditions and organizations, lodges could be sustained without dues; nor is the by-law *agreement* to contribute to

the support of lodges, by any reasonable construction of the contract, entitled to be called '*compulsory dues*.' The compulsion comes in when indigent brethren (or more generally negligent ones) feel the enforcing power of the lodge after failing either to pay their dues, or ask to be excused from payment by reason of poverty. In a long masonic experience, we have never known a worthy brother troubled in arranging his dues to the lodge, except in a few cases where pride and self-will dictated a course of refractory disregard of lodge rules and etiquette. In such cases the brothers seemed to act as if it was the duty of the lodge to presume they *could not pay*, and would give no reason for delinquency.

"Lodges *must* be sustained, and by contributions. The power to enforce dues is a self-preserving necessity; but it should be, and generally is, exercised mildly and charitably. We venture to assert that none but cold and crotchety masons ever feel oppressed under the system of (so-called) compulsory dues. We fear if you abolish dues you will destroy the lodges, and thus strangle masonry. Beware of Iconoclasts!"

He devotes seven pages to Maine, besides giving our report on the Colored Grand Lodges. He says the address of Grand Master Moore is concise and able, and quotes largely from it: says that "his decisions are quite numerous and, we think, admirable, both as regards their correctness as expositions of masonic law, and for terseness and clearness of expression." He commends the style of our last year's report, and attributes his not adopting the same course to *timidity*. We, too, have returned to the old plan, but not from *that* cause!

We are compelled to differ from him in one matter. He says:

"A brother of another lodge or jurisdiction desiring to visit, and giving no other assurance of *his right to do so* than that intimated in a request for an *examination*, has no right to demand of the lodge he proposes to visit the exhibit of its charter, as a condition precedent to the examination. He has elected to visit a lodge recognized publicly as a masonic institution, and is himself unknown. In such cases the burden of proof is on the applicant, and for such a visitor to demand the charter *without trial* is impudent or irregular. After trial, and *before* entering the lodge, we always show the charter if requested to do so. The visitor must prove his right to inspect the charter, and *then* his request (not demand) to that effect is complied with. We know of no other rule in Mobile, and the 'Brother from Mississippi' alluded to above must have blundered in making his demand *before* he had proved his *right to 'sit with the individuals'* alluded to."

A charter is a public document, and may be exhibited as well to a profane as to a mason. But the examination of a visitor involves our secret work. There are many clandestine lodges in this country: there may be, indeed we know there *are*, such lodges in Mobile. Now, we submit that no one *has a right* to disclose the secrets of masonry to a strange committee, unless he has the proper evidence that they represent a *regular* lodge: and that evidence is the charter. It is not a matter of *etiquette*, but of *ordinary prudence*.

We had intended to quote his concluding remarks, but our space fails us.

GEORGIA, 1876.

The Proceedings were not received in season for review in their proper alphabetical order. The "Roll of Lodges Represented" numbers 247, but the

reports of the Committee on Credentials make the number less than 50, the whole number of lodges being 307, of which 247 made returns: we do not understand it; there must have been represented more than those reported by the committee, as upon one question 233 votes were thrown, each lodge and Permanent Member having one vote.

The address of the Grand Master (DAVID E. BUTLER) is exceedingly brief. He says the lodges on the sea-board had suffered from the pestilence, but the others had enjoyed the privileges of the craft in peace and good health. He reports that the Southern Masonic Female College, all things considered, is doing well.

Four charters were granted and four refused: the work on the first degree was reported upon and adopted: Bro. LAWRENCE's "Practical Lectures" were deservedly commended to the craft and recommended to be read frequently in the lodges: an amendment to the Constitution was adopted, giving the right to a member to have a dimit on payment of dues; it failed to receive a two-thirds vote at first, but on re-consideration, it was adopted by a vote of 163 to 69.

In the tabulated returns a column is given to "Members unable to pay dues," and another to "Ministers," both of which classes are exempted from the payment of dues, as we understand it; one lodge returns *seventy-six* of the former, and another *fourteen* of the latter, and several report *ten* or more; the whole number of ministers returned is 725 out of a membership of 14,475, averaging about *one* in *twenty*.

The visitors to the Masonic College speak in high terms of the progress of the pupils: they report that a Boarding House is greatly needed, and the committee recommended the raising of money, by selling the bonds of the Grand Lodge, to provide one. But as the Grand Lodge is \$28,800 in debt on account of the Temple in Macon, and the revenue from the rents is nearly nominal on account of the stringency of the times, and especially as \$8,800 of the debt must be met during the year, the appropriation was refused.

BRO. SAMUEL LAWRENCE presented a very brief Report on Correspondence (15 pp.), giving what is said of that Grand Lodge by the others. If all should adopt the same course, these reports would soon dwindle to nothing. The Grand Lodge voted not to appoint a Committee on Correspondence this year, on the ground of economy, no doubt. This is all right, but we marvel how it can afford to devote 150 of the 240 pages of the pamphlet Proceedings to giving the list of members of subordinate lodges, of no earthly use, as experience in Maine and other States has demonstrated, except to make work for the printer, delay the issue of the Proceedings, fill up the shelves of libraries, and afford facilities for impostors. Whether brethren persist in voting to print them, in order that *they may see their own names in print*, or not, we cannot tell, but we have been assured that such was the case in one jurisdiction.

ARKANSAS, 1876.

Eighty-two lodges represented: ten charters granted and one refused; and two dispensations continued: the work exemplified: the Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming recognized: affiliation fees abolished: the "Masonic Jewel" recommended to the lodges and their members: and the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory postponed till the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Master (M. L. BELL) opens his address with remarks of a general character, impressive and interesting: he says St. John's College, under the present arrangement, has been quite successful: gives an account of his official action and a statement of his decisions, and closes as follows:

"And now, my Brethren, in taking my official leave of you, and resuming my place in the ranks of the craftsmen, permit me to congratulate you on the prosperity of the Order, the peace and harmony that prevail in all our lodges, and to thank you for the kindness and brotherly love you have extended to me while I was your Grand Master. My duties have been somewhat arduous, but it has been a labor of love, and I sincerely hope I retire from this high position with the love and respect of all my Brethren. This is all the reward I claim."

We greatly regret to learn that since the Grand Lodge met, the Grand Secretary's office has been burned, and with it the Records, Proceedings and other property of the Grand Lodge. We hope the statement of the loss has been exaggerated. The greatness of the loss will be the better realized from the fact, that there is not, so far as known, a single complete file of the Proceedings of either the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter in existence: and the records being lost, a reprint is entirely out of the question.

Among the decisions are the following:

1. A Brother, who, being a member of a lodge *U. D.*, joins in a petition for another lodge *U. D.*, which is granted, becomes a member of the second lodge *U. D.* and has no longer anything to do with the first.
2. When a dispensation for a new lodge is withdrawn by the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master cannot restore it: he can only grant a new one.

We have always supposed, also, that when a dispensation expires, it cannot be continued by the Grand Master, and only by the Grand Lodge.

3. Willfully non-affiliated masons have no rights, and "should not be buried as masons, or allowed to visit lodges." Still it is held that lodges may allow them to visit in their discretion, but "this courtesy should not be extended to relief or masonic sepulture."

In the absence of positive law of the Grand Lodge, we do not see how the line can be drawn at visitation: it seems to us that a lodge may relieve or bury a Brother whom it could receive as a visitor.

4. A member of a lodge in this State may hold office therein, although he resides in another State.

The Trustees of St. John's College were directed to receive propositions for a lease of the buildings for educational purposes, and report to the next Grand Lodge.

The Report on Correspondence (98 pp.) was presented by Bro. GEO. THORNBURGH.

He gives an item of interest in relation to Past G. M. ENGLISH, who (he says) "was born in Madison County (Alabama), near Capshaw's Mountain, 'in a log cabin.' He lived there from his birth (1816) till the year 1844, when he moved to Little Rock, where he now resides. He lives in the hearts of the masons of America, and the good people of Arkansas." *Ditto!*

He holds that a lodge should not be allowed to restore a suspended Brother to his masonic rights without also restoring him to membership: that a lodge which rejects a candidate cannot consistently recommend him to another lodge: that rejection for affiliation should not debar a Brother from applying to another lodge for membership: and that requiring a member to pay his *pro rata* proportion of the liabilities of the lodge "won't do."

In his review of Maine, he compliments the style in which our Proceedings are "put up"; pronounces our system of obtaining the histories of lodges a "good idea"; quotes from the report of our Grand Treasurer, and adds:

"I expect our Dodge will be a man, too, before we let him dodge out of the Treasurer's office. Can't these two old, silver-headed financial Dodges, by some dodge or other, rake up kinship? What say you, Roderick? Speak unto Moses in the goodly land, and inquire of him somewhat concerning this matter."

Quoting the report of the Committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in reference to establishing a Masonic College, he says:

"Brethren of Mississippi, your desires deserve encouragement; but, from experience, we warn you to look well to your financial basis and plans for running the College. You ought to have such an institution. You are worthy of it, and it of your support, but I fear the one dollar tax will cause trouble. It did with us."

From his "Conclusion" we take the following:

"The dreaded task is done. I began the work with visions of mountains of dry, uninteresting reading before me. I look back upon it as a work rather to be courted than avoided. Not because of my ability to perform it, but because I have been brought by a way I knew not. I have been led in paths I had not known. My views on masonry and its triumphs have been exalted. On every hand I have found the evidences of an onward and upward march. I have seen what masonry is doing for the destitute by her Boards and Committees of Charity. I have seen how the widow and the orphan are tenderly cared for in Masonic 'Homes.' I have seen Masonic Colleges erected for the education of the head and heart of sons and daughters. I have seen the best men of the nation, in the ranks of the craft, battling for fraternity and systematic benevolence. I have seen our tried and trusty leaders fall, here and there, in the battle of life; but there were strong hands, brave hearts and noble souls ready to receive their mantles. I have found that masonry is not dead, nor sleeping, but is wielding a greater influence, year after year, in behalf of fallen humanity. Occasionally a pebble is thrown upon the surface, and a ripple is created, but, in its attempts to widen, it is met by the waves of brotherly love, relief and truth, and is driven back amid the shouts of the craft, crying 'Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will to man.'"

* * * * *

"Now I quit. But, before doing so, I wish to say to my Brethren of the reportorial corps, that I have enjoyed the short acquaintance I have had

with you very much. If I am never a member of your 'gang' (newspaper men say that) again, I shall be with you always in spirit. And 'now I beseech you, Brethren, * * * that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.'

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1876.

Six of the eight lodges represented: the Representative system adopted: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (SIMEON DUCK) says that, while the membership has not increased so much as was desirable, the lodges are in a healthy condition. He gives some most excellent suggestions pertaining to the selection of candidates.

The Grand Treasurer reports the Grand Lodge out of debt, with a balance in hand, and that the two Benevolent Funds now amount to \$2,315.69, against \$1,675.95 last year.

A brief account of the visit of the Grand Lodges of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, with the speeches on the occasion, is given in the Appendix. The re-union was exceedingly interesting and enjoyable, and must have had a great influence in strengthening the bonds of Brotherhood among the masons of the jurisdictions represented.

CALIFORNIA, 1876.

We have a volume of almost 400 pages, printed in type smaller than any found in our own Proceedings, and how to "review it" within the usual space, is a problem which many of "the guild" have struggled with manfully, but have never solved! It is not the *size* of the volume, nor the mere *quantity* of matter in it, that is so very troublesome; but the *quality* of the contents renders it difficult to dismiss it without many more extracts than we have room for, and still more difficult to determine which ones to omit.

One hundred and seventy-five of the two hundred and one lodges represented: three charters granted: the work in all three degrees exemplified: the Grand Lodges of Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized, and affiliation fees abolished.

The Grand Master (JOHN MILLS BROWN) glances at the progress of masonry during the century of our country's existence, and proceeds with an account of his official action: being of course unable to visit all the lodges, he adopted the plan of holding district meetings, which were an immense success; there are thirty Districts in the State, and he held meetings in sixteen of them: the attendance was usually very full, we judge (for the Districts are designated by Counties, and we are not able, without spending too much time, to ascertain what lodges the particular Districts comprise); the Grand Master, referring to his visits, says:

"As a result of my varied association with officers and members of lodges, I shall offer remarks critical in their nature, aiming to exhibit causes which have tended to perplex and disturb, and, to a greater or less extent, impair the usefulness, interrupt the harmony, and injure the reputation of the lodges where these causes are in force."

We endeavor to condense:

I. One great evil is the lack of attendance on lodge meetings.

1. Many members apparently believe, that, without an official position, there is no necessity, duty nor obligation, which requires their presence, forgetting how much the officers are encouraged and aided by the presence and counsel of the members.

2. Then come the holiday masons, always faithful at banquets and public ceremonies, but never working, being too luke-warm even to assist at funeral ceremonies, "and" (adds the Grand Master) "these men are masons!"

3. Others would attend were the workings of the lodge more attractive; and this leads to the repeated recommendation that more care be taken in the selection of officers, and that no one should be selected simply because, in common parlance, he is "a good fellow," as Masters should be familiar enough with the work to make it attractive, and know enough of masonic law to make their rulings respected and cheerfully obeyed; the Master, who is thoroughly acquainted with his duties, will have the power growing out of the feeling that he is right, and the Brethren impressed by his knowledge will render a ready obedience.

4. Others make an excuse that is valid: they allege that not only physical inconvenience, but often actual illness, is produced by confinement in a badly ventilated lodge room; and the Grand Master says that the halls, new and old, with very few exceptions, were most unhappily deficient in this essential. By the commendations from Brethren from abroad, of the ventilation of the hall in Portland, recently destroyed, we believe that this important matter is receiving attention.

II. Much of the discord in lodges, and much of the opprobrium cast by the outer world upon the Order, he found to result from receiving improper material. "Every lodge," he says, "is responsible to the Fraternity for the quality of material furnished."

III. On the other hand, one cause which disturbs, and to some extent paralyzes lodges, is the use of the black ball from revengeful, malicious or personal motives. He gives several illustrations, but we are sorry to say that this vicious and unmasonic practice is not unknown in Maine.

IV. A very common cause of trouble is "the tardy or non-payment of dues." He holds (as we believe correctly) that the usual expenses of a lodge should be paid by dues, without recourse to initiation fees, so that there shall be no temptation to receive material for the mere sake of the fees. A lodge, to be in a sound condition, must have a sure revenue equal to its expenses. While recognizing the great evil of non-affiliation (and he says that in one

locality where there are two lodges with an aggregate membership of 180, there are nearly 200 non-affiliates), he is not prepared to propose any remedy.

We commend these observations to the careful consideration of the Brethren in this jurisdiction.

Less than one-quarter of the thirty Inspectors had made a report to him, but he was unable to account for the failure of the others. Those reports presented show a satisfactory exhibit in the main; the want of efficient Secretaries is noticed, as well as the feeble attendance at funerals, but no diminution of the number at banquets is reported.

Among his decisions is one that is instructive in many respects: a Brother too poor to pay his dues, and too proud to ask their remission for their non-payment, was suspended; afterwards he was injured, whereupon a Brother sent his arrears to the Secretary, who received and receipted for them; but before they were actually received, the Brother had died, though the Secretary did not know it; the Grand Master, while regretting that any inquiry should have been made as to the precise time of the Brother's death, decided that he died a suspended mason, and what was done did not restore him.

The Grand Lodge, however, upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, decided that the money having been *sent* to the Secretary before the Brother died, the law was complied with and the Brother restored—another illustration that hard cases will sometimes stretch the law almost, if not quite, to the point of breaking.

He decided (contrary to the usually received doctrine in this section) that if a Master is so much interested in a trial that he cannot preside, the Senior Warden cannot preside, but the Grand Master must appoint some one.

He had been obliged in two instances to caution officers against the expenditure of lodge funds for suppers and other festivities, given either to compliment officers, to arouse Brethren from their supineness, or even to attract the notice of the profane; also to reprove a lodge for habitually receiving applications without the fees; and in several instances to rebuke lodges for not acknowledging notices from other lodges that the latter had aided members of the former; while apparently not holding that there is an obligation to reimburse in such cases, he insists that the fraternal action should be courteously recognized.

He also refused permission for lodges to appear in public on the "Centennial Fourth of July;" we have formerly held to the same doctrine, but an examination of the old records has led us to change our opinion, and we now believe that joining in celebrations of a State or National character, is sanctioned by the principles and ancient usages of the craft.

He decided that it was not improper for Brethren in a remote locality, where there is no lodge, to go in procession in masonic clothing to the funeral of a deceased Brother, and at the grave read the service, deposit the acacia and give the public grand honors.

The following, in relation to masonry in the Sandwich Islands and in Mexico, will be read with much interest :

"In July, a communication was received from *Hawaiian Lodge*, No. 21, asking for permission to apply to the Grand Lodges in the United States and Great Britain for a small amount towards their charity fund. Having in the past year resided for many months at Honolulu, where, in visiting this lodge, and in association with its members, opportunities were afforded to acquire an accurate knowledge of its condition, wants, and expenditures for charitable purposes, I was not surprised to receive the application ; yet, satisfied of the impropriety of soliciting assistance from other than this Grand Lodge, the permission was denied.

"By its geographical position, *Hawaiian Lodge*, from its commencement, has been called upon to assist sick and distressed masons, landed from ships of nearly every nationality, in addition to its own poor, thereby imposing expenditures, at times burdensome, yet their wants have not gone unrelieved nor have the weary craftsmen asked for aid in vain. The establishment of a mail-steamship line affords greater facilities for invalids seeking health to reach Honolulu, and, as it frequently happens, if remittances fail or death follows, the calls for relief have a proportionate increase. Under these circumstances, I have to invite your consideration of the matter, and earnestly recommend that, besides the accustomed remission of dues to the Grand Lodge, a sum be appropriated sufficient to meet probable requirements."

* * * * *

"While absent in Mexico I visited *Melchor Ocampo Lodge*, No. 29, at Mazatlan, and *Pizarro Suarez Lodge*, No. 44, at Acapulco—the former large and flourishing, the latter with a membership of twenty-eight, having been in operation a little more than one year. Received with honors and genuine fraternal welcome, it would seem amiss if I failed to make, in your presence, a formal avowal of the courtesy bestowed. Since the expulsion of the Jesuits—a society so aptly compared to a sword with the handle at Rome and the point everywhere—and the dissolution of the connection between the Church and the State, masonry in Mexico has progressed and obtained a prominence that betokens for it an auspicious future. Its supporters are derived from communities advanced in intelligence, independence, and citizenship—men faithful to honest conviction, with enough moral strength of character to undertake and to accomplish—men who believe in 'soul liberty.'"

He announces the death of Past G. M. CHARLES MARSH, known to many in Maine: we heartily endorse what the Grand Master says of him, as well as the sentiment on the page inscribed to his memory.

"As one Communication succeeds another, familiar faces disappear and new voices mingle in our deliberations. Since the last, God in His infinite wisdom has taken unto Himself our loved and esteemed Brother, Past Grand Master Charles Marsh, a pioneer in citizenship and in masonry, and closely identified with interests pertaining to the commonwealth and to the fraternity. His devotion to the honor and welfare of the craft, his sturdy and unyielding championship for its cause, and his earnest labors for its successful progress, enabled him to merit and receive its highest honors. Gifted with clear, strong, good sense, pure in personal qualities, a combination of intellectual and moral rectitude, he with credit presided over the counsels and administered the affairs, at different times, of the several Grand Bodies in this jurisdiction. You will gratefully remember his constant attendance at this Grand Lodge, and the ability and fidelity which characterized his disposition of questions appertaining to jurisprudence and finance; and you will recall his cordiality of manner and unaffected kindness of heart, with a presence, not showy nor superficial, but amiable, as if actuated by a generous nature, and reliable, as if supported by fearless truthfulness. His own nature was of a gentle, humane, unselfish quality—modest, earnest, and steadfast—faithful to friends,

charitable to opponents, and always active in human duty. His life was a solid good to societies founded for benevolence.

"Our Brother accompanied me on an official visit to *Excelsior* Lodge, on the evening of March 22d, and there appeared for the last time at lodge labors, with the shadow of death already on his brow. He died on the morning of April 28th, and on the 30th, the Grand Lodge was convened in Special Communication and paid the last sad tribute of respect to his remains. As the long, mournful, silent procession of kindred, friends, Brothers, Companions, Sir Knights, and representatives from other organizations, conveyed the body through the streets to the church, and from church to the grave, spectators, in witnessing the general grief and solemn honors, could have exclaimed, 'Over the tomb of such a man tears might fall, but not one could be a tear of bitterness.' We consigned our Brother to his last resting place, and felt that his life, in its praiseworthy usefulness, was his eulogy, and should be measured by what it had accomplished rather than by its duration; that he would still live in his good deeds, venerated memory, and fruitful example; and that in devout repetition of his Master's words, he might have said, 'I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do.'"

"No one of our Brethren was more universally beloved. Modest, unassuming, gentle, generous, good and true, constant in his devotion to every interest of the craft, faithful in the discharge of every accepted trust, he had deserved and received the confidence of his Brethren, and been elevated to their every highest place."

We would gladly refer to other matters in this address and make other extracts, but must forbear.

The Grand Lecturer complains of not receiving reports from many of the Inspectors, who are substantially the same as our District Deputy Grand Masters. The reports which were made, confirm what we have taken from the Grand Master's address. We think our system is the most effective.

The San Francisco Board of Relief had disbursed nearly \$8,000 during the year (in 199 cases), and nearly \$130,000 in the twenty-one years since it was organized.

As usual, all the lodges had made returns and paid their dues; the membership of the lodges is smaller than in Maine, or in the East generally. California has about 200 lodges, and Maine about 175; we give a comparison:

				Maine.	California.
Number of lodges having	200 members and over,	.....	13	.....	4
" " " "	150 and less than 200 members	....	23	.....	6
" " " "	100 " " 150 "	....	44	.....	16
" " " "	75 " " 100 "	....	35	.....	12
" " " "	50 " " 75 "	....	39	.....	54
" " " "	30 " " 50 "	....	15	.....	68
" " " "	20 " " 30 "	....	4	.....	31
" " " "	15 " " 20 "	....	0	.....	5
" " " "	less than fifteen members,	.....	0	.....	2

Seven lodges had conferred but two degrees during the year, eleven but one degree, and twenty-one had done no work.

The Committee on Jurisprudence recommended that no action be taken in

relation to the so called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and conclude their report as follows :

"Now, the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, invoking the same doctrine that was urged in the case of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, advances its claim to the Province of Ontario. All the proceedings in its organization were irregular and revolutionary, and not a single lodge of the Province has joined in the movement; yet we are not a little astonished that some of our Eastern brethren have not come forward to its support. As it is, even our Brethren of Maine turn the cold shoulder and forbid masonic intercourse with the followers of the new doctrine. We do not see, however, the propriety or necessity of such edicts forbidding intercourse. All the participants in the movement have been suspended by the proper authority; and we understand it to be a generally recognized rule that suspended masons, at home or abroad, are not entitled to receive masonic courtesies. The Grand Lodge of Canada has ample power, and evidently has the will, to deal with this rebellious organization and its officers and promoters, without the assistance of any of its neighbors. Your committee therefore recommend that no action be taken in the premises by this Grand Lodge."

From which it will be perceived that the committee do not yet comprehend the principles upon which our Grand Lodge and *their* Grand Lodge recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec. When they do, they will get over their astonishment; until then, they will continue to "astonish everybody." We may add, however, that the edict of our Grand Master covers the case of persons who may be initiated in these lodges, as well as those suspended, and was intended as information to our own lodges that these Ontario people had been suspended and are clandestine—a matter in which the Grand Lodge of Canada could not have protected us.

BRO. JOHN H. C. BRONTE, as Grand Orator, delivered a capital address.

We find the following in the Proceedings :

"The Grand Secretary stated he had often been importuned to affix his signature and the seal of the Grand Lodge to certain so-called diplomas which had been peddled through the State by masonic or other bummers; and that he had constantly refused to sign or issue any other diploma than that which has been in use by the Grand Lodge almost from the time of its organization, it being one issued *directly* by that Body, on parchment, and signed by its Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

"A number of members spoke of the manner in which some of their less experienced Brethren had been swindled by the purchase of these highly colored documents, and, by common consent, it was understood that the Grand Secretary should, in his next bi-monthly circular to the lodges, warn them and their members against the aforesaid bummers and the purchase of their useless pictorials."

We have had, during the last year, the rare good fortune to meet Bro* ABELL and make his personal acquaintance; and while a more genial, kind-hearted man does not live, we should rather prefer not to act the rôle of an "aforesaid bummer," trying to palm off "pictorials" on him!

The Report on Correspondence (110 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM H. HILL. We heartily welcome him back and hope he has come to stay.

We have already devoted so much space to these Proceedings, that we can scarcely glance at this excellent report.

In his review of Maine, he says :

"The address of Grand Master Moore is of reasonable length and mainly devoted to local matters. He congratulated the Fraternity on the remarkable fact that no cases of grievance had occurred requiring discipline on the part of any lodge. It appears, however, that in Maine, as elsewhere, masons abuse the use of the black-ball. He censures such conduct strongly and rightfully, but we see no remedy therefor but to keep such members out of the lodge, and that is easier said than done. He had granted dispensations for the formation of four new lodges, and had refused two other applications. He earnestly recommends the preparation of a digest of masonic law and decisions in Maine as an absolute necessity. We say the same in relation to California."

He gives a condensed abstract of the Proceedings, reviewed with fewer remarks than is usual for him.

CANADA, 1876.

As usual, a large number of Special Communications for the purpose of laying the corner stones of public edifices were held.

At the Annual Communication 216 lodges represented: sixteen charters granted, and the usual routine business transacted.

The subject of main interest in the address of the Grand Master (JAMES K. KERR), is the formation of the so called Grand Lodge of Ontario. It seems that prior to the Annual Communication in 1875, a dispensation was issued for Eden Lodge, at London, which was withdrawn by the Grand Lodge in 1875, which requested the Grand Master to issue a dispensation, authorizing the crafting and raising of those who had been initiated in the new lodge, but conferring no other authority. But in defiance of the vote of the Grand Lodge, Eden Lodge, which had not returned its dispensation, proceeded to initiate a candidate, and finally the Brethren concerned in it proceeded, without the slightest pretence of authority, to form a so called Grand Lodge. Not a single lodge of the two hundred and more lodges in the Province, was represented in the convention by which it was formed. There was, at the time, a Grand Lodge having exclusive jurisdiction in that Province, and having no jurisdiction out of it. It is true that its name was the Grand Lodge of *Canada*, and not the Grand Lodge of *Ontario*: but while all agree that there can be but one Grand Lodge in a State or Province, there is no law requiring the Grand Lodge to bear the same *name* as the State or Province. If the "Grand Lodge of Maine" should change her name to the "Pine Tree Grand Lodge," we do not apprehend that that would be held to authorize the formation of a new Grand Lodge in this State: the matter of name would be held to be a mere question of taste: such a question, and no other, is raised by the Grand Lodge for the Province of Ontario's continuing to call itself the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Those participating in the movement were cited before special commissioners, and their report was laid before the Board of General Purposes, and upon

its recommendation *forty-two* of them were expelled, the suspension of *five* continued, and one was restored.

We are obliged to say that not only was this movement wholly unauthorized by masonic law, but also was without cause: that the alleged reasons are without foundation in fact: and that the movement is so closely connected with the refusal of the Grand Lodge to continue Eden Lodge, that it will be *very* difficult for the originators of the scheme to make the craft believe that they were not wholly actuated by revenge.

A note to the Proceedings says that the Report on Correspondence will be issued as an Appendix: but we have recently been informed by Bro. MASON, Grand Secretary, that it has not been printed and probably will not be until next year.

COLORADO, 1876.

Eight lodges represented: three charters granted: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Indian Territory recognized: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (OREN H. HENRY) says:

"I am happy to say that all is harmony and peace within our borders. The lodges are, with hardly an exception, in a prosperous condition, and the order is steadily increasing in strength and influence. Its beneficent power is exerted in a thousand ways, diffusing its blessings on all who come within its sphere. Though venerable with age and enriched by the history and traditions of a remote past, it exhibits to-day all the freshness of a renewed youth. Though the most conservative of human institutions, it adapts itself to every changing condition of life, and is in full accord with the newest developments of modern society. Based on the broadest foundations underlying the nature of man, no change of country or lapse of time can destroy its symmetry, impair its beauty, or weaken its influence. It comes to every man with a restraining, ennobling and sustaining power. It tenders to him its powerful aid in his endeavors for self-improvement. It encourages and assists him in his efforts for success, and in his hour of affliction and adversity, comes with gentle sympathy to comfort his sorrows, and with ever ready help to relieve his needs. When illness invades his frame, the assiduous ministrations of masonic Brethren solace his sufferings, and when it pleases the Supreme Ruler to call him hence, masonry stands ready to soothe his final moments and tenderly commit his mortal remains to the bosom of mother earth, while his departure is comforted by the assurance that the widow and the orphan shall find a sure protection in her ever present care. Thus in life and in death our institution stands the bounteous source of blessing to mankind."

The Grand Secretary reports fair progress in completing files of Proceedings for the Library.

The Grand Lecturer (GEO. M. HOWE, formerly and again now of Portland,) reports spending three days with one lodge exemplifying the work.

A committee was appointed to report a plan for raising a fund for a Masonic Asylum.

CONNECTICUT, 1877.

One hundred and three lodges represented: two charters granted and one dispensation continued: no Report on Correspondence, on account of the illness of the Chairman of the committee.

The address of the Grand Master (EDWARD B. ROWE) is chiefly confined to local matters. He says:

"The experiences of my administration convince me of the great necessity that exists of exercising a closer watch-care and guardianship over our subordinate lodges. To this end, I earnestly recommend to your consideration the propriety of an amendment to our Constitution, whereby provision shall be made for the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters. Let this Grand Lodge regulate the number of such appointments, define their duties and designate their rank, leaving the Grand Master to *make* the appointments. By this action we may have a careful inspection of every lodge in the State yearly, and relieve the Grand Master of much of the labor that now of necessity devolves upon him.

"The duties of the year have been exceedingly burdensome, involving a sacrifice of time and labor that can hardly be expected of any man who has individual business interests to claim his attention.

"You expect of the Grand Master faithful service, and you exact a clear record. If, may be, he shall happily avoid error in his decisions, and in the discharge of the prerogatives of his office, you extol him as a good and faithful servant, and retire him with a vote of thanks. If, unhappily, he shall err, you hold him to strict account, and he steps down from his high position and into the past, with the certain benediction 'inefficient.' It behooves you, then, to so legislate that he may have at his command the services of an experienced and efficient staff, to whom he may delegate his authority upon needed occasions, and with whom he may counsel from time to time for the good of the craft."

The committee reported adversely, and their report was adopted—an error which the Grand Lodge will some time discover. Lodges need visitation and a certain supervision: Connecticut has nearly 120 lodges: one man cannot supervise them all: an officer whose duty it is to afford all needed supervision, and who shall be entrusted with power by the law of the Grand Lodge, is vastly more efficient than a special Deputy, commissioned for a specific purpose: hence the necessity and benefit of District Deputies.

It was decided that public installations shall be performed while the lodge is "called off."

We greatly regret to find that our friend, Grand Secretary WHEELER, was detained at home by illness, and we join heartily in the following resolution of the Grand Lodge:

"*Resolved*, That the members of this Grand Lodge have learned with deep regret of the prolonged and severe illness of our worthy Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. J. K. Wheeler, and they hereby extend to him their heartfelt sympathy in his great affliction, and their sincere wishes for his speedy and entire recovery."

DELAWARE, 1876.

Twenty lodges represented: one charter granted: the work exemplified: no Report on Correspondence.

The address of the Grand Master (GEORGE W. CHAYTOR) is a practical business-like document. He had issued one dispensation for a new lodge: had refused all applications to shorten the time between degrees: had appointed several Representatives, and among them a special Representative who visited the Grand Lodges in Great Britain: had assisted in managing the finances of the Grand Lodge, and that, too, successfully.

He recommended the repeal of the resolution interdicting intercourse with the famous Alpha Lodge, of New Jersey, and the Grand Lodge had the good sense to follow his advice.

He also recommended the repeal of the regulation requiring Secretaries and Treasurers to give bonds; and it was repealed—an act of questionable wisdom, as it appears to us. It is true, as he says, that “every mason is, or should be, considered honorable and honest to the extreme meaning of those words;” and that we “have the power to select our servants from the entire body of the craft;” but man is fallible, and for *trust funds* it is better to have a *pecuniary* security as well as a masonic security. The history of the craft in this country, we are sorry to say, amply shows the worldly wisdom of this policy.

He speaks favorably of the “Masonic Benefit Association,” saying that it appears to be a good thing and should at least awaken inquiry and investigation. He discusses the subject of “Colored Masons,” but we believe that he gives nothing new.

We greatly regret to find the following in his address:

“As the records of the Grand Lodge are in such a state as to expose them to loss by either fire or some other misfortune, and as a number of years of these records have already been destroyed through the reckless carelessness of a former Grand Secretary, who should have been expelled for his negligence, and are lost to us forever, but a single communication of all those torn out of the record book having been printed, I would strongly urge upon you the adoption of some means by which they can be preserved until such time as our funds will admit of their being printed.”

A committee was appointed to provide a place of safe deposit for them. We notice that P. G. Master ALLMOND presented the Grand Lodge with the Proceedings of 1825, 1826, 1827, 1828, 1830, 1844, and 1850 to 1875, inclusive. It has been stated that these were all that were ever published, except 1829; but the Grand Lodge of New York has some of the earlier years' Proceedings, and it is quite certain that those for several years, immediately after the organization, were published. A small special tax would pay the expense of a re-print, which would be the surest method of preserving the records, besides being of great benefit to the craft.

The law of the ballot was thus stated by him in a special decision:

“Formerly lodges met and worked only on the first or E. A. degree, when all things worked to Line and Rule. Later, they obtained the right to work the three degrees. Accustomed to transact all business in the E. A. lodge, when the privilege to work the F. C. and M. M. degrees were granted, the old time custom of transacting business in the E. A. lodge was retained, and lodges of the F. C. and M. M. degrees were only opened for instruction or

work. When either the F. C. or M. M. degree was to be conferred, a petition and ballot was required, and the law governing the ballot in the first also governed it in the second and third degrees. At a still later period all the business and the voting upon petitions were transferred to the third degree, and the vote upon the application of candidates necessarily covered all the degrees. The lodge of M. M. being the superior, its acts could not be subjected to the revision or inquiry in lodges of the first and second degrees, which were under and subordinate to its control.

"Formerly, to be made a mason, *i. e.*, to receive the first degree, was to receive also the privilege of membership. The change made in the transfer of business carried the membership with it, and since then, to become a member of the lodge, you must have obtained the degree of M. Mason.

"Therefore, I hold that a *fair* ballot in a M. Mason's lodge on the petition of an applicant to be made 'a mason and admitted a member,' covers all the symbolic degrees. And all our lodges will hereafter be governed by this decision.

"A vote upon the proficiency of the candidate must be taken, but *not by ballot*.

"Nothing here decided, will be construed to prevent the right of masons to stop a candidate in his progress by objection. If objection is made after the vote is taken, and prior to initiation, it has all the *force and character* of a *black ball*, and *no inquiry* can be made of the party so objecting. If, however, the objection comes after he has been made an E. A. Mason, the party making it *must prefer charges*, and the candidate put upon his trial."

The Grand Lodge recognized the "*Gran Logia de la Isla de Cuba*," being the first of the American Grand Lodges to do so.

He decided that no hall should be *dedicated* unless it is to be used exclusively for masonic purposes; and that when a hall has been dedicated, it is improper to allow it to be used by any non-masonic society.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1876.

Several Special Communications were held during the year—two to attend the funerals of Past Grand Masters ROGER C. WEIGHTMAN and JAMES E. F. HOLMEAD.

At the Annual Communication, twenty lodges were represented: one charter was granted for a lodge to work in the German language, whose records were kept in English on one page and in German on the opposite page.

The address of the Grand Master (ISAAC L. JOHNSON) is brief, and contains nothing calling for special notice, save the system of visiting each lodge and having an address delivered, had been maintained during the year.

The incoming Grand Master (E. G. DAVIS) cautioned the Brethren against electioneering for office.

The Librarian reports a fair increase of the Grand Lodge Library and (still more gratifying) an increase in the number of the readers.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Bro. WILLIAM R. SINGLETON. He says that, for pecuniary reasons, it was thought in Grand Lodge that a report of *eighty* pages would be the correct thing, and accordingly we find the report ends on the last half of the *eightieth page*! This shows the exactness of Bro. S. We have in former times been obliged to write *at a*

mark (the end of a page) some two or three pages off, and we flattered ourself that as we hit it with some precision, it was quite a feat, but it sinks into insignificance when compared with hitting one *eighty* pages off! He devotes twelve pages to Maine, in consequence of the importance of the questions discussed, giving our entire review of the Proceedings of his Grand Lodge for 1874 and 1875.

BRO. ROBBINS, of Illinois, having remarked that the power of the Grand Lodge to decide finally a case before it on appeal "is ample under the *landmark*," BRO. SINGLETON says:

"Now Bro. Robbins, we are at a standstill, until you produce the *landmarks*, and give the authority for the same as a *bona fide landmark*, for we have yet to see all of these myths clearly authenticated. We have our own ideas as to those same *landmarks*, and until one of those *ghosts* or something else may be produced of equal potency, we shall hold on to our constituent rights as to punishments of our members. We belong to that class who believe that Grand Lodge powers are *delegated* to them as representative governments. Lodges are not altogether subordinate in every respect. In legislation, *Masons*, as such, have surrendered some of their organic as well as individual rights for the good of the whole Craft; but in the question of masonic *life* and *death*, in questions of discipline, we have yet to be convinced that any Grand Body can take from our lower courts of trial that which should alone belong there. As we said in a former report, we are unwilling to be taken from the warm sympathies and charitable feelings and liberal constructions of our social relations, and carry our destinies in masonry to the icy-cold criticisms of a *Star-Chamber* Committee on Grievances and Appeals, there to have the death sentence pronounced, as being the easiest method of getting rid of the trouble of examining into all the details of the case, through perhaps hundreds of pages of manuscript testimony. We have read too many reports of this sort, in the past six years, not to have been convinced that no Grand Lodge committee is competent to decide upon the guilt or innocence of the accused in *all* cases of review, but only upon the regularity of procedure. 'Tis true that often the lodge trial shows evidence of error. Let the committee point out such error in the proceedings, and remand the case for action of the lodge with positive instructions, and permit the Brethren under the new circumstances to decide upon the punishment. Brethren! charity, heaven-born charity, is the key-stone of masonry, and if those among whom the accused has committed the offence, and who are to suffer the most, and in view of their obligations, do not mete out to him the full measure of punishment as the Grievance Committee may think and your Grand Lodge dignitaries would assign to him, remember that 'justice should always be tempered with mercy,' and it is better that many guilty should escape than one innocent Brother be punished, or that too severe a penalty be inflicted for a light offence or for a dereliction of duty. Where extenuating circumstances existed, or previous good character would entitle a Brother to favorable consideration, all of these matters would be absent from the minds of a severe Grievance Star-chamber Committee, who, with the rigid exactitude of legal proceedings, would mete out justice by the yard or foot or inch from *their* stand-point. The masonic *fraternity* at large is in this respect like the church. And we have simply to remember the famous *trial*, before Jesus of Nazareth, of the woman taken in adultery: 'Where are these thine accusers?' If they be absent—then, 'Neither do I condemn you.' The technical points raised by Bros. Robbins and Drummond we are willing to admit; perhaps they are right. Legal gentlemen can be expected only thus to look at a question, and we are far, very far, from entering our dissent to legal technicalities. Yet he who is infinite in his justice is also infinite in his mercy; and let us, then, hold on to our reserved rights, where mercy is more apt to have its full sway, than to surrender our dearest privileges to the Grand Body, where it is

too apt to assert powers not belonging to it. We have ever contended against certain powers of the Grand Lodge as being dangerous to the liberties of the craft, while we grant to the Grand Lodge sovereignty in other particulars. We may at some future time, perhaps, show in what consists Grand Lodge sovereignty in the abstract and where it is denied in the concrete, but our limits now forbid."

As Bro. ROBBINS has been removed from "the guild" (to be made Grand Master), and as the same subject has been discussed by us heretofore, we will review the foregoing extract in connection with his remarks in reply to us.

The Sixth "Ancient Charge" says: "If any complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the lodge, who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies (*unless you carry it by appeal to the Grand Lodge*)", &c. We do not know what Bro. SINGLETON's idea of a landmark is, but we hold that, if there are any landmarks, the "Ancient Charges" must be so esteemed. In this charge an unlimited right of appeal (in the widest sense of the term) and the right of the Grand Lodge to try and decide the case for itself, are here clearly recognized. The *Seventh* also says: "If a Brother do you an injury, apply first to your own or his lodge, and, IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED, *you may appeal to the Grand Lodge.*" In this, also, the same rights are recognized.

The idea that Grand Lodge powers are delegated to them was first broached more than eighty years after the first Grand Lodge was formed, and after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, and was evidently taken from that. This fact shows that it is an erroneous idea. The Grand Lodge has no restraint imposed upon its sovereignty, save that imposed by itself.

Bro. S.'s proposition that no "Grand Body can take from our lower courts of trial that which should belong alone there," might be correct if the latter clause was true, but the very point of our position is that these trials do not "belong alone there."

His animadversions upon Committees on Grievances and Appeals have no weight, as they are based on fancy and not on principle. We have found that lodges are about as apt in certain cases to be too severe as too lenient; indeed, frequently a trial excites so much feeling in a lodge that it is an exceedingly poor tribunal to weigh evidence and give a calm, deliberate judgment. The mere fact of allowing an appeal presumes more wisdom, better judgment, and a stronger inclination to do what is right in the Grand Lodge than in the subordinate lodge; but the inevitable conclusion from the argument of Bro. S., which we are now considering, is the reverse, and that the appeal should be from the Grand Lodge to the subordinate.

Bro. S. evidently supposes that Bro. ROBBINS is a *lawyer*, "which he is not," at a *doctor*. We once had the same impression, and it must be that Bro. R. was cut out for a lawyer!

In reply to us, he says:

"In regard to this point it would be well to observe that Grand Lodges differ very essentially from courts of law or equity. The latter decide upon questions of property, while lodges decide the questions of life or death of their members.

"The first principle in masonry is that a lodge is to be the sole judge of its membership. No other body in existence can force a member upon it. Then we firmly hold that no other body can take away its members without its consent. If upon trial of an offence the lodge should decide for punishment sufficient in its own judgment, we cannot see where (if the trial be regular) any other body can dictate. In every trial, upon conviction, the question is left for those who hear the testimony to decide the amount of punishment. There is no masonic law fixing the penalties for certain offences; it is invariably left to the lodge. Hence, we fail to see *where* any Grand Lodge can do so."

But courts of law decide upon the *liberty* and *life* of the citizen, and the same principles are applied *upon this point* in these cases as in cases concerning property.

The proposition that because no power in the world can force a member into a lodge, no power can take one out without its consent, is a very palpable *non sequitur*. No power can force a person into our family without our consent: and if a member violates any of our mere family rules, no power but ourselves can intervene to take him out: but if a member violates the laws prescribed to us by the State, the law does take that member out, tries him, and punishes him without our family consent, and it may be against our utmost efforts. The case is parallel: if a member of a lodge violates a mere by-law of the lodge, that has the power to punish him; but if he violates the general masonic law, the whole Fraternity through its head will see that such member is punished: it cannot deprive him of membership in terms, but it can expel him from masonry, and thus destroy all rights founded upon his masonic character. The law cannot sentence a man in terms, never to enter his family; but it can imprison him for life, and one of the results be to prevent him from ever entering it.

We repeat that the argument founded on the *danger* of this power of the Grand Lodge, would equally prove that there should be no appeal: for the *danger* results from an erroneous decision, and the Grand Lodge is equally liable to error in one case as in another. There is no law of nature or logic, confining errors of judgment to any particular class of cases.

In order to have the whole of Bro. SINGLETON's argument, we quote all he says by way of comment upon our report last year.

We said:

"We believe it to be well settled that a lodge has jurisdiction over its members wherever they may be, and also over all masons in its territorial jurisdiction, whether members of other lodges or not."

To which he replies:

"The proposition above enunciated and marked by us in italics meets our decided concurrence, and is in accordance with what we said in our last report, and we proceed to show where we think Bro. D. and all the others have erred in their conclusions. Mark this positive declaration: 'A lodge has jurisdiction over its members wherever they may be.' Then, if Bro. D. himself be

sojourning in Washington City, but is a member of a lodge in Portland, he is under that doctrine, amenable only to *his* lodge in Portland, and not to any lodge in Washington. Twenty-seven years ago we acted as Master of a lodge in Missouri, and this very question arose. As W. M., we decided that we had no jurisdiction over a Brother who belonged to a lodge in another county; we were sustained by the Grand Master, Bro. Joseph Foster, than whom no better judge of masonic law and practice could be found; and it was then the *law* of Missouri, made so by such men as Carnegy, Foster, the Douglass brothers, McBride, and a host of other sound masonic jurists, who were our teachers in masonry, every one of whom had a hand in our masonic education. Every day's experience in masonic law since that day has convinced us that it is the true doctrine if properly carried out. And how shall it be done? Simply in this manner: A. is charged with unmasonic conduct. The lodge in whose jurisdiction the alleged offence occurs takes official cognizance, as it would with one of its own members, of which he is to be duly notified, and that charges and specifications will be forwarded to his own lodge, through, if you please, the Grand Secretary of his Grand Jurisdiction if outside of your own. Such alleged testimony as may be gathered, *i. e.*, the same by which the charges were preferred and specifications drawn, also to accompany these papers.

"If the Brother cannot return to his own jurisdiction, or will not, then his lodge should commission the other lodge to act as a trial committee, to take the evidence, and transmit the same with their judgment upon the testimony, and send it to his lodge.

"We have thus hastily sketched one method; others, perhaps better, might be suggested, but the whole principle lies in this one truism: 'No man can serve two masters.' That principle it was which impelled Bro. Drummond and the writer of this to defend the action of the Grand Lodge of Quebec as applied to a Grand Body. It could not operate in one country and be governed by the laws of another.

"Any lodge may have regulations which differ from another lodge, and a member of the latter offend unwittingly. In Indiana or Kansas a Brother who sells intoxicating drinks by the glass may be amenable to the lodge for an immorality. Should a Washington City Brother be sojourning in either of those States and sell liquor thus, innocent as it is considered here, the Indiana or Kansas Brethren could arrest him and make him an expelled mason—while in his own lodge at home it is no masonic offence. Need we multiply reasons? Why they are as 'plenty as blackberries.'

"Our limits forbid the answer to his objections to our views of Grand Bodies. To set our position 'right before the courts,' we would have to take more space than we are allowed. The subject will keep for another year, but we think we can prove that a Grand Lodge cannot be practically the 'representatives of all the fraternity in communication,' and that it is not 'an absolute and independent body,' notwithstanding the utterance of the 'Virginia Ahiman Rezon,' a copy of which we have before us. We, from careful examination, believe this refers only to the *fraternity* who belong to or hold membership in that particular jurisdiction.

"In Washington city, during the sessions of Congress, there are oftentimes Grand Masters of other Grand Bodies. Does Bro. D. mean to assert that our Grand Lodge here, as a sovereign Body, can summon those Grand Masters, who are of equal sovereign powers, to appear before it? Let our Grand Lodge test the question, and see how far its sovereignty can be stretched before being severed.

"Those Brethren are bound to answer all summonses coming to them from a lodge of Master Masons duly constituted. We do not believe that power extends to a Grand Body, and in this the original and more ancient Body has the advantage.

"Prior to 1717, there was no such Grand Lodge. It was an assembly where a Grand Master was elected who was emphatically a Grand Master over all masons.

"When there were two Grand Lodges in England, from 1739 to 1813,

which was the sovereign Body? A large share of the masonry in the colonies was derived from the 'Ancient' Grand Lodge, and it has descended to us; and the very Ahiman Rezon quoted by Bro. D., originated with Lawrence Dermot, the head of the Second Grand Lodge, and much of his Ahiman Rezon was a perversion of the old regulations, as published by Anderson, for which see Mitchell's 'History of Masonry,' and his 'Common Law.'

"The authority quoted by Bro. Drummond refers to a *new* regulation, not the *old* one, which says, 'for the members of the Grand Lodge are truly the representatives of all the Fraternity.' How? ask we. 'According to the *old Regulation X.*' And now let us see what that says. 'Reg. X. The majority of every particular lodge, when congregated, *not else*, shall have privilege of giving instructions to their Master and Wardens before the meeting of the Grand Chapter, because the said officers are *their* representatives, and supposed to speak the sentiments of *their* Brethren at the said Grand Lodge.' (Italics ours.)

"Now, where in these, or any other old or new regulations, do we find the Grand Lodge as being representatives of those who are *not* members, or who are *not* admitted to visit lodges? In England, when there was the Grand Lodge, of which these articles composed the general law, there was also a Grand Lodge at York; or at all events, allowing Bro. Hughan to be correct, there were lodges in the north of England. Now, did these Masters and Wardens of lodges in the south of England, collectively, represent *all* the Brethren within the realm? Certainly not. And although there might have been in London, in the Parliament, very many masons from the north of England and Scotland, we do not think *they* were represented in the Grand Lodge of England.

"This is our position now in the United States; and we doubt exceedingly that, should our Brethren now in Congress assembled, be consulted on this subject, they would admit their 'obedience' to our jurisdiction in any sense whatever. Hence we hold that our Grand Master is the 'Grand Master of Masons of the District of Columbia'; because not a solitary mason not a member of some constituent lodge in this jurisdiction had anything to do with the choice of those representatives who elected that officer.

"We have much confidence in the judgment of our Bro. Drummond, as we have also in that of Bro. Wellford; both being eminent lawyers, we would defer to them on a purely legal point. Last year we gave them both the benefit of their views upon a particular subject on which they differed diametrically, and each quoting the legal practice in his own State. Now we have thought that where, in our jurisprudence, legal maxims can be applied, there must be safety in such applications; but it would seem from the differences manifested between these eminent counsellors, no such safety is apparent. The truth is that we have been accustomed to apply our knowledge of masonic law, obtained prior, perhaps, to the initiation of either of these Brethren, and we have been sustained by a majority of masonic authorities—not legal gentlemen. We hold ourselves always open to conviction; the truth we are in search of; and have in many instances abandoned our positions when convinced. Now we are in the habit, when in doubt, to refer to ancient precedents as a safe guide, and in new questions to go back to the ancient regulations, if they can be applied.

"In the matter of the sovereignty of a Grand Lodge when acting as a court of appeals: in reply, therefore, to Bro. D., we refer to the controversy between the Lodge of Antiquity and the Grand Lodge in 1777. That lodge having expelled three of its members for misbehavior, the Grand Lodge interfered, and, as was thought, without proper investigation, ordered them to be re-instated. The lodge refused to comply, the members conceiving themselves competent and sole judges in the choice of their own private members. The consequence was a rupture ensued. 'The Lodge of Antiquity on one hand supported its *immemorial* privileges.' From this controversy grew out a new order, which is often quoted, and is now the universal rule, viz: '*Resolved*, That every private lodge derives its authority from the Grand Lodge, and that no authority but the Grand Lodge can withdraw or take away that

power,' &c. It is a well-settled principle that when a Brother is expelled by his lodge, the Grand Lodge may restore him to his general rights as a mason, but cannot compel the lodge to take him back into affiliation. Why? Because of the principle announced above by the Lodge of Antiquity. Let us then apply the principle to the case in point, when upon trial the Brother is not expelled by the lodge, but a merciful decision is reached, and the members desire to pardon the Brother and keep him among them. How can the power of the Grand Lodge intervene, and expel him from his lodge? It would be just as reasonable to say that the Grand Lodge shall place a sentinel over the ballot-box, and exclude candidates by a black ball. If the lodge be the judge of its members in one case it must be in the other. The Grand Lodge can only operate as a court of review, and not of original jurisdiction. In this we differ from the judiciary system of the country, in which matter we confess our former error."

He evidently italicised too much. He misunderstands us. While we hold that a mason's own lodge has jurisdiction over him, we hold that it is not exclusive, but that the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides also has jurisdiction over him, for all violations of the general masonic law, in which his own lodge has jurisdiction. If he holds official position, so that his own lodge cannot try him, neither can any other.

It would frequently happen that from the distance and difficulty in procuring testimony, the home lodge cannot properly try him.

But we hold that a mason's obligations require him to obey the laws of the Grand Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may reside, or be. It is no excuse for a violation of the law of a State, that the perpetrator is a citizen of *another* State. Whoever comes into a State must obey its laws; whatever mason comes into the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge must obey its laws. The illustration he supposes, about Indiana and Kansas, is an argument against his position. Shall it be said that a Washington mason may go to Kansas and violate the laws of the Grand Lodge of Kansas with impunity, on the ground that the act is no violation of the law of his own Grand Lodge? Nay verily.

The argument about Grand Masters does not apply, because they are practically exempted from punishment everywhere.

The existence of two Grand Lodges in England proves nothing: the fact is an anomaly, and cannot again exist. But the question is easily answered. They were both sovereign over their own members, and did not recognize the members of the other as masons.

BRO. SINGLETON is in error when he says that his position is sustained "by a majority of masonic authorities." Every author of a work on "Masonic Jurisprudence" in this country that we have ever seen, is against him: and we believe that in a very large majority of the Grand Lodges the law of *territorial* jurisdiction is maintained.

The case of the Lodge of Antiquity is not conclusive. The Grand Lodge maintained its position, and the lodge finally yielded. The argument is really surrendered by Bro. S., when he says that the system of Masonic trials differs from the judiciary system of the country. To be sure, he must admit that: but the admission is fatal. The "Ancient Charges" give the right of

unlimited "*appeal*": that word was well understood, and had a fixed signification given to it by the *judiciary system* of the country: and that signification was that, upon *appeal*, the whole case was re-tried, and the proper judgment given by the appellate court.

FLORIDA, 1876.

Forty-three lodges represented: nine charters granted and one restored, and one dispensation granted and one continued: an eloquent address delivered by Bro. C. A. FULWOOD, Grand Orator: a committee appointed to take into consideration the erection of a Masonic Temple: labor suspended while the Grand Lodge visited Solomon Lodge to witness the exemplification of the work in the different degrees: a committee appointed to examine the various works on Masonic Jurisprudence and recommend some work for use by the lodges: a revision of the decisions of the Grand Lodge reported and adopted: and the Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Dakota and Prince Edward Island recognized.

The Grand Master (ALBERT J. RUSSELL) congratulates the craft upon the prevalence of harmony, peace and fraternal love in all their borders: discusses the "Colored Mason" question, but chiefly in the non-masonic aspect; and gives a clear and concise statement of his official action and decisions: we give one of the latter; in a case in which but one black ball was cast and the candidate declared rejected, a member, at a subsequent meeting, stated that he had cast the black ball, but had done wrong, and desired to withdraw it. The Grand Master decided:

"Any Brother who will exercise the sacred privilege of the ballot upon so little information in the case, as, will cause him to so radically change his vote in so short a time, should be censured. Again, if the lodge, or any member thereof, has influenced the Brother so to act, then they should be severely censured; but, if the Brother is sincere and unbiased in his desire to withdraw his rejecting ballot, and all the members of the lodge are satisfied, then you may proceed to initiate, as the candidate stands elected."

This is not law in Maine, and we believe that it is better, in such a case, that the candidate should petition again in due time, than to suffer the evils likely to grow out of allowing a black ball to be withdrawn after the candidate is declared rejected.

Four of the seven District Deputies made full and detailed reports: and in the faithful and intelligent performance of duty by these officers, we find the cause, to a great extent, of the renewal of the prosperity of the craft in Florida. Of course, the able labors of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary have done much in this direction, but in so extensive a jurisdiction as Florida, the utmost efforts of these officers could effect but little without the aid of competent, faithful and *working* Deputies.

One of them, Bro. Z. H. MASON, well says:

"Our lodges are beginning to require of candidates a higher standard of moral qualifications, which will in part account for the small number of in-

itiations: they are also purging the membership of some who should never have been permitted to enter her portals.

"There is one fact that I wish to strongly impress upon the minds of the Brethren, not only within my own jurisdiction, but throughout the State, which is the necessity of selecting such Brethren for lodge officers as possess a moral influence in the community. When this great pre-requisite is neglected, though the Brother has high mental qualifications, masonry must suffer its usefulness to be crippled, and our loved Order, which we believe to be an instrument in the hands of God for good, is retarded in its efforts to unite men as a band of Brothers."

We quote, also, what another (Bro. D. L. McKINNON) says of Santa Rosa Lodge, of which our indefatigable friend JOHN CARLOVITZ is Secretary, and to whose zealous labors the lodge is very largely indebted for its Masonic Library, now much larger than when this report was made:

"It is now with unfeigned pleasure that I report the condition of Santa Rosa Lodge, at Milton, which, I insist, all things being considered, is the model lodge of the State. It holds its meetings on the first and third Saturdays of each month, in the upper hall of the masonic edifice, which is situated centrally in a plat of ground occupying nearly an entire block. The edifice is one of the most prominent landmarks in that town, in an excellent condition, and neatness within and without. It is surrounded by a park and garden enclosed by a stylish fence. The expenditures for repairs and improvements on the edifice and grounds approach \$2,000. The lodge is composed of seventy-seven members and one Entered Apprentice, who received the degree at the time of my visit, thus offering an opportunity to exemplify the work. The following books are kept in the most sylish order: 1, 'Book of Records, with alphabetical index'; 2, 'Ledger, exhibiting the accounts of the members'; 3, 'Cash Accounts of the Secretary, of moneys received, &c.'; 4, a book called 'Abstract of Work,' according to its form, exhibiting a history of every member, past and present, since the organization of the lodge; 5, 'Book of Rejections, Suspensions and Expulsions,' alphabetically arranged; 6, 'Book of Visitors.' The present by-laws of the lodge are a new code, and show the approval of the Grand Master, bearing date August 17, 1875. The financial condition of the lodge, on account of the necessary heavy expenditures for its maintenance, is at present low, but I doubt not their zeal will soon replenish their fund. The lodge also possesses a Masonic Library of forty volumes, lately gotten up by one of its Stewards. It is hoped that this is a foundation to a larger one in due course of time. The expenditures of the lodge during the school season of 1874-'75, on account of the tuition of its orphans, approach two hundred and fifty dollars. The widows have also been relieved from the Charity Fund, when applications were received. To advance the general status of education, and for the diffusion of knowledge in that place, the lodge has opened in the lower halls of the edifice an institution of learning known under the name of '*Masonic Academy of Milton, Florida*,' and under the management of able teachers, and governed by a Board of Directors. The Academy during the winter will count over one hundred pupils. A library of five hundred volumes, collected by one of the Stewards, is also connected with the school, for the diffusion of knowledge, which is open to the public once a week. I submit if there is another lodge in the State which comes as near carrying out the true spirit of masonry! I think a great deal is due to Bro. John Carlovitz, a member of that lodge, and the Steward above referred to, for the systematic arrangement of the books and the collection of the libraries."

A question having been raised as to the power, of any except duly constituted chartered lodges, to make masons, Bro. SAM'L PASCO made a very able and interesting report thereon. He says:

"The lodge, or particular lodge, as it is properly termed, derives its authority from its charter, under a law that has been recognized for at least one hundred and fifty years. This charter, during the same period, has been granted by the Grand Lodge, and all the authority the particular lodge has emanates from the parent body. The right to make masons, then, exists in the Grand Lodge. But, during the period specified, it has become a settled principle of masonic law, that the Grand Lodge will no longer confer degrees, and that the particular lodge has exclusive jurisdiction of the matter over the territory included within its limits, a territory, however, which is liable to be reduced in extent by the organization of new lodges under the provisions of the Grand Lodge Constitution. The Grand Lodge, by its present compact with the particular lodges, has vested the power of making masons in them, subject to a resumption of that power when it organizes new lodges temporarily under a dispensation from the Grand Master. The masons made in these lodges working under dispensation are made under the direct authority of the Grand Lodge."

* * * * *

"The occasional lodge, under which general head the lodge under dispensation is properly classed, is, then, a regularly constituted lodge, if it is called into being by the Grand Master's edict, based upon competent authority, and it has just such powers as are specially designated in the written authority it has for its existence. Such a lodge needs no installation ceremony to perfect its existence. It is considered as under the eye and direction of the Grand Master. He, in theory, is always present when it meets, and his installation vows cover the acting officers, who are his proxies, acting under his sign manual, and their acts are his."

The Committee on Education made an interesting report. They say that the public school system has not been in operation long enough in that State to develop its adaptation to meet the educational wants of the people: some lodges had co-operated with the public schools and contributed directly to their support, thus keeping them open from six to eight months in a year; this course is commended as wise, judicious and economical, and the committee trust that lodges will adopt it whenever practicable: they also earnestly commend the example of Santa Rosa Lodge: the following resolutions reported by the committee were adopted:

"*Resolved*, 1. That this Grand Lodge will do all in its power to forward the cause of a wholesome general education.

"2. That, recognizing our obligations to the children of our deceased Brethren, and for the purpose of more definitely meeting those obligations in the future, the Masters of the respective lodges within this Grand Jurisdiction shall report at the next annual session the number of orphan children of Master Masons under twenty-one years of age, and the school privileges accessible, within their several subordinate jurisdictions."

We have such an abiding faith in the success of the public school system, that we have no words to express our appreciation of the wisdom of our Brethren of Florida in the course they are taking. The public good demands a system of a "wholesome general education"; and, therefore, it should be sustained at the public expense. But the public schools can be beneficially assisted by aid from any source: and this aid, in almost all cases, would do much more good, if given to the public schools than if expended for a separate school. The necessary expense of buildings, teachers, &c., must be met to about the same extent for a school of twenty-five scholars, as for one of

one hundred scholars. The division of schools and colleges among the different religious denominations in this country has caused the useless expenditure of a vast deal of money. In Maine we have four colleges, while all admit that two would be amply sufficient, and with the aid of one-quarter of the money permanently invested in the other two, and with one-quarter of the income annually expended in the other two, they could educate all the students of all of them as well as they are now educated. The true economy is *union of effort and expenditure*, to the extent, when practicable, of filling an existing school to its full capacity before starting a new one. Amid a sparse population, this, of course, is not practicable, but nevertheless it should be done as nearly as may be even then.

The Committee on Masonic Temple reported in favor of purchasing a lot in Jacksonville for the erection of a Temple, and a Board of Trustees were appointed to carry out the plan. We trust the members of that Board will carefully read the Proceedings, for the last fifteen or twenty years, of those Grand Lodges which have undertaken the same thing, and especially those of Maryland, Massachusetts and New York. They may thus avoid some errors into which otherwise they may fall.

BRO. D. C. DAWKINS presented another of his excellent Reports on Correspondence (111 pp.). But the printer has put extracts and text in the same kind of type, so that it requires close attention to distinguish the one from the other. We marked one extract to be copied in this report, and were proceeding to congratulate ourself on having our views so fully endorsed by Bro. DAWKINS, when on a close examination we perceived that we had marked an extract Bro. D. had taken *from a former report of our own!* It is true the "quotation marks" were all there, but the extract being in the same type as the text, we overlooked them.

He holds that "masonic burial" and the "admission of visitors" are within the discretion of the lodge: he says:

"It will certainly be conceded by all intelligent and thoughtful masons, that our ancient Brethren, in lodge capacity, had some original or primitive prerogatives which were absolute in them, and which by the nature of such things, including the principle of succession, became inherent. Now we assume further, that these inherent rights, whatever they are, should be respected; yea, more, they should be venerated and scrupulously preserved, protected, and perpetuated, except only such, if any there be, as must of necessity give place to a general regulation for the good of the craft at large. From this standpoint we are led to inquire what was, or must have been, the ancient custom? Without delving in legendary lore, or plodding through untold pages of ancient history, we think that we may safely assume that our primeval ancestors possessed the same disposition to cherish the virtuous memory of their fraternal dead that is found in our time-honored fraternity now, and there can certainly be no reasonable doubt that the right to do so existed in the lodges, untrammelled by the legislation of a unity of lodges or higher power, and our lodges of this day and time are not likely to admit an incompetency in themselves to discreetly determine upon the propriety or impropriety of the funeral obsequies in every case that may arise. Therefore, refraining from unnecessary, restrictive and dictatorial legislation, let the prerogative remain, where it has always been, with the lodges, and all is safe.

"The same principle and rule of action will as well apply to the 'admission of visitors,' modernly and erroneously termed, in some places, the 'right of visitation.' The prerogative should be left with the lodge to determine, upon all applications to visit it, what will the better preserve harmony and good feeling among the Brethren, and if this view of this subject be correct, then our own Grand Lodge, with some others, has gone too far in dictating to the lodges, in effect, that one single private member, whether from virtuous or vicious motives, may absolutely checkmate and control the judgment, views and wishes of all the other members, and hence, of the lodge itself, upon its own time-honored right of adjudication. When a few lodges shall have been disbanded as a consequence, the folly of such dictum will be discovered, and probably receded from. If we should be asked why the same principle and rule of action should not control petitions for initiation or membership, we reply, they are two separate and distinct subjects, involving entirely different principles and consequences, standing upon foundations totally independent of each other, and having no connecting parity; one is an absolute right, veiled in inviolable secrecy—the other, a matter of *viva voce* announcement and consideration."

We had intended to quote his remarks upon the powers of Grand Masters; but we have already devoted so much space to this Grand Lodge, that we must pass on.

IDAHO, 1875.

The delay in receiving these Proceedings was caused by including them with a re-print of the previous Proceedings; the Constitution (interleaved) is also published with them; the whole making a handsome volume of over four hundred pages.

The ten lodges all represented: the time of the Annual Communication changed from December to September: one charter granted: the "Orphan Fund" increased to nearly \$3,000: the Grand Orients of Egypt and Hungary and the Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Dakota and Wyoming recognized: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (Z. P. MIKKELSON), in his address, exhorts the Brethren to cultivate charity, avoid slander, profanity and gambling (the latter a vice peculiarly incident to newly settled countries), reproves the use of brow beating and other unmasonic means to secure the admission of friends (of which complaint had been made to him), and cautions against too rapid advancement.

The Grand Lodge decided (overruling his decision) that a Master does not become a Past Master by receiving that degree, but only by serving a term as Master.

The Grand Secretary made a detailed report of much interest; his recommendation that measures be taken to obtain a Grand Lodge Library Room, was adopted.

A Committee on Correspondence was appointed with the understanding that a report should be made the next year.

IDAHO, 1876.

The eleven lodges represented: address of Grand Master (J. W. GRIFFIN) very brief, and, save the announcement that peace and harmony prevailed, of local interest only: the Representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt received and acknowledged: recognition of the Grand Orient of Hungary withdrawn, because it works a ritual not recognized by this Grand Lodge, and because it is an offshoot of the Grand Orient of France: recognition denied to the so called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and intercourse with the lodges and members of its obedience forbidden: appropriate tributes paid to the memory of Z. P. MIKKELSON, P. G. M., and H. R. CARTER, P. M., members of the Grand Lodge, who had died during the year: the Trustees of the Orphan Fund authorized to expend the interest thereof for the support and education of the orphans of deceased Brothers.

The resolution, requiring the proceedings of the Grand Lodge to be transcribed in a record book, repealed: if this action contemplates discontinuing the *written official* record of the Grand Lodge, we deem it in the highest degree unwise, and even contrary to the usage of masonry, and in violation of the well known duties of the recording officer.

A case of conflict of jurisdiction arose, but it was held that the matter was decided by the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, which provide that no citizen of the Territory, receiving the degrees in another jurisdiction, without the consent of the lodge within whose limits he resides, can be recognized as a mason.

BRO. O. H. PURDY presented the Report on Correspondence (74 pages)—the first in the history of this Grand Lodge, and one very creditable to its author. He makes brief extracts, frequently with comments, brief, but comprehensive.

He believes in educating the people: likes the rule in Idaho, that a rejected candidate cannot apply to any other lodge without the consent of the rejecting lodge: holds that a mason *suspended for any cause* is deprived for the time being of all rights and privileges: [he does not consider the case, under our law, of a mason suspended *from membership* only]: wishes he had been one of the happy party at Victoria, though he admits it was his own fault that he was not there, but we think he intended to say *misfortune* instead of *fault*: says he is not much in favor of a public display of masonic emblems, but, nevertheless, is willing to leave it to the vanity of the wearer, "not being desirous of depriving them of *every* means of making themselves known to their unknown Brethren," they being the ones who practice least the virtues taught in the lodge room, and who longest detain the Committee on Examination: has been taught by his own experience that every mason thinks the work as he has learned it *the true work*, and is rather glad that it is so, as the axiom, that one is jealous of that which he truly loves, holds good in this case "as in love affairs": believes in compulsory dues, as all institutions must have the certain means of meeting their current expenses: holds that the remedy for drunkenness should be had within the *tiled recesses of the lodge*, and if the lodge

fails to act, that its charter should be revoked, but deprecates the discussion of the question by Grand Masters in their addresses: pertinently asks whether it is not more in harmony with masonry to support institutions of learning and asylums for the unfortunate than to erect magnificent temples, more for display than use: says that *silent contempt* is the most effectual argument against the one-idea anti-masonic fanatics: dissents from the decision of our Grand Lodge, that a ballot cannot be ordered to correct a mistake made at a previous meeting and discovered after the lodge was closed; but as it was founded upon our own constitution, he will not persist in his dissent from the decision, while he might wish to amend the law; yet to order a new ballot, without previous notice, would be dangerous, as it can never be absolutely certain to the Master that, after all, there was a mistake; as we said under Florida, the safest and best way is, not to endeavor to legislate for occasional hard cases, but to follow the general rule; it may once in a while cause hardship, but, as a whole, it is safest: in his review of Missouri says, "If we recollect our E. A. lecture aright, we were instructed, that should we ever desire to visit a strange lodge, our first duty would be to *demand* the charter or dispensation, and if refused, to consider the assembly clandestine"; [*Ditto*]: and quotes largely, and with full approbation, from our report of last year upon the subject of "Colored Masonry," submitting resolutions (which do not appear to have been acted upon by the Grand Lodge) to the effect that the Grand Lodge of Idaho cannot recognize the Colored Grand Lodges, because they are clandestine; that she reiterates the provision of her Constitution that she is the Supreme Masonic Authority in Idaho Territory; and that she will resist all encroachment upon her jurisdictional rights, from whatever source they may come, and will withdraw intercourse from any masonic body attempting an invasion of her jurisdiction, or that of any of her sister Grand Lodges of the United States.

ILLINOIS, 1876.

Five hundred and ninety-seven lodges represented: thirteen charters granted: twenty-three lodges failed to make returns: four charters surrendered: receipts, \$28,597.75: disbursements, \$26,428.25: documents, relating to the formation of a Grand Lodge in Cuba, referred to Committee on Correspondence: the use of Postal Cards to give notice of meetings of lodges and the business thereat, forbidden, except that the time and place of meeting may be thus given: \$400.00 appropriated for A. W. BLAKESLEY, an old member of the Grand Lodge, now stricken with paralysis.

The Grand Master, GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY, and the Grand Treasurer, HARRISON DILLS, were absent on account of sickness; the former had gone to Colorado, hoping to recover his health, and he sent a dispatch that he was too ill to write, to which a response was sent assuring him of the warmest sympathy of the Grand Lodge and its heartfelt wishes for his restoration.

The Deputy Grand Master, JOSEPH ROBBINS, who had been acting Grand Master for two months, submitted a brief address.

He says :

"Twelve months have been told off by the swift recurring days since we last met as a Grand Lodge, and as we stand on the dividing line between two masonic years—ere we review the labors of the old and take counsel for the new—our grateful hearts instinctively turn towards Him whose loving kindness has been about us as a mantle, and on whose care we rest as in the hollow of a mighty hand.

"But as we stand here rejoicing in our strength, we do not forget the beloved Brother in his weakness, the Grand Master of our choice, who, in enforced exile, is seeking health beneath milder skies; but from every heart goes up a prayer for his restoration to his Brethren, and to his wife and little ones who watch for his coming with love's wistful eyes.

"Grand Master Lounsbury continued to perform the duties of his office long after his strength had ceased to be equal to the task, when, in the latter part of July, his health became so much impaired that he was compelled to relinquish them, and, acting under the imperative orders of his physicians, to leave the jurisdiction and seek relief in the mountain air of Colorado.

"Soon after my succession to the duties of the Grand Mastership, it came to my knowledge that, from the abrupt abandonment of his business under the pressure of a necessity that would admit of no delay, not only were his financial affairs in such condition as to make the consequent mental anxiety a serious present hindrance to his recovery, but in such condition as to forbid his absence for a period long enough to insure any permanent benefit. The details of the financial situation were such as to require more speedy action than an appeal to the lodges alone could secure.

"The emergency was so pressing that, with the unanimous advice and consent of my colleagues of the Charity Committee, I determined to disregard the statutory limitation as to the amount to be appropriated in any given case during the recess of the Grand Lodge; and accordingly, on the twentieth day of August, I drew on the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge for five hundred dollars. This has been paid out for the relief of Bro. Lounsbury, on drafts which are herewith submitted as vouchers.

"This action which is submitted for your consideration, was supplemented by an appeal to the constituent lodges for further aid, issued from the Grand East on the thirtieth day of August. The response to this appeal has been prompt and liberal, but the returns are not yet so complete as to indicate the final aggregate. I trust it may be sufficient to enable our Grand Master to prolong his stay where alone there seems to be any hope of his recovery, and where, at latest advices, his physicians gave him encouragement to hope a prolonged sojourn might secure it."

About an equal amount had been given at the time of the session of the Grand Lodge.

Among his decisions (chiefly interpretations of their new code) we find the following of general application :

"2. A Brother who, in the exercise of the right of objection, is proved to be actuated by unworthy motives, or who maliciously uses it to interrupt the legitimate labors, or to mar the peace and harmony of the lodge, is liable to discipline and punishment.

"3. When a Brother is charged with unmasonic conduct, he being at the time in confinement for an offence against the State, the lodge need not, after having given him due notice and reasonable time and opportunity to prepare his defense, wait for his term of imprisonment to expire, but may conduct the proceedings to a final issue without his presence.

"8. A lodge may refuse to waive jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice

or Fellow Craft, but waiving jurisdiction, it cannot make conditions, pecuniary or otherwise, as to its assumption by another lodge."

In regard to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, he says:

"Application for recognition and an exchange of Representatives has been received from a body styling itself the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario, having its pretended seat of government at London, in that province.

"From an accompanying document, it appears that the following provision has been incorporated into the Constitution of this new body:

"In case of the sickness of any Brother, disqualifying him from labor, three dollars per week is to be appropriated by the lodge to which he belongs for his sustenance; and in case of the death of any Brother, fifty dollars is to be appropriated by the Grand Lodge for the benefit of his widow and orphans, if any."

"The Grand Lodge of Canada, with which we are in fraternal correspondence, and which is everywhere recognized as a sovereign body, already fully occupies the territory of the Province of Ontario; but were it not so, the Grand Lodge of Illinois could not enter into fraternal relations with an organization which, by the incorporation of the above-quoted provision into its organic law, had already taken itself out of the category of masonic bodies.

"The doctrine on which that provision is based is utterly subversive of the principles and groundwork of masonry, and the provision itself at once converts the society built upon it into a mutual benefit society, with which masonry can have nothing in common until it shall have lost those grand characteristics which distinguish it as a charitable, instead of an insurance association.

"That in recent years we have been drifting in a mercenary direction, and coming to make masonry more and more a matter of dollars and cents, cannot be doubted, nor can any thoughtful Brother view without alarm the increasing tendency in this direction.

"Heretofore these tendencies have manifested themselves only in such ways as to make their repression by legislative action difficult; but now that they have culminated in this revolutionary innovation, attempted by a body otherwise so revolutionary as to compel action with reference to it, I trust that the Grand Lodge of Illinois, while recognizing, in unmistakable terms, the jurisdictional rights of the Grand Lodge of Canada, will, in terms no less unmistakable, emphasize its determination to hold no intercourse with any self-styled masonic body, whose organic law is a denial of that fundamental principle of masonry which, more than any other, is characteristic and vital."

We fully concur in his views in relation to establishing a "Widows' and Orphans' Home":

"I deem it my duty to say that the history of public masonic charities in this country, educational or otherwise, does not inspire me with confidence in the success of such an undertaking under Grand Lodge management, even using the word success in its narrowest, its material aspect. More than this, I do not share the feeling that the absence of such an institution is a reproach to the craft in any jurisdiction. On the contrary, I repeat what I have elsewhere said, that the true mission of masonry is a silent one, leavening all unseen with its softening and restraining influences, the community in which it exists. An improved state of society is a nobler monument to its influence and power than piles of marble; and to touch the springs of benevolence in the individual heart, of more importance than the foundation of costly public charities.

"If, however, the Grand Lodge should differ with me on this subject, and deem it desirable to embark in this enterprise, I would still urge that the initial steps be taken with the utmost caution, and only after the most careful deliberation as to methods and plans."

He concludes as follows:

"My Brethren, we enter upon this thirty-seventh Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge just at the time when History pauses to erect the golden milestone which marks a hundred years of the Republic.

"As the nation bids her elder sisters abide as her guests and witness her material achievements, so we point with pride to the marvelous material growths of masonry in our jurisdiction. But let us not forget in our pride that this goodly heritage brings with it a corresponding responsibility. At such a moment, above all others, we ought to remember that only as we will it can the future of masonry be made worthy of its past; that the character of the institution will be and can be but the total resultant of the lives and characters of its individual members; and that as we enter upon a trust bequeathed to us by a preceding generation, the question gets itself asked of each one, 'What guarantee can you give for my future?'

"And so, Masters and Wardens, picked men of the craft, selected to represent masonry before the world, let us all take this question home, that haply each one of us may, from the vantage ground where Humanity waits on Introspection, resolve that the new cycle shall shame the old."

A plan for a Widows' and Orphans' Home was presented, to be endowed and supported by a gift of \$5,000 from the Grand Lodge and a tax of \$3.00 upon each initiate, and of twenty-five cents upon each member annually, which would give about \$17,000 yearly, taking the preceding returns as a basis. The matter was referred to the subordinate lodges, which were to act upon it at the stated meeting in December and report to the Grand Secretary.

A very interesting address was delivered by Bro. GEO. M. McCONNELL, Grand Orator.

The Report on Correspondence (141 pp.) was presented by Bro. THEODORE T. GURNEY.

Under the head of "General Aspects," he says:

"Looking over the field, we find much to encourage with but little that is condemnatory. Particularly have we noticed the commendable determination to place masonry upon a higher plane of usefulness.

"Grand Masters are out-spoken and fearless; and it is with pleasure that we place upon record the conviction, that in the near future an applicant for masonic honors will not only be obliged to express a belief in the existence of one 'Great Creator,' but will also be required to give 'cardinal virtues' an emphatic endorsement, before crossing the portals of a lodge. The good work in this direction is having rapid development, and we fully believe that naught can hinder an early consummation of our best intentions, but an over-anxious desire to make masons.

"We will not attempt a concealment of our apprehensions on this point. Lodges are not alone responsible. Many Grand Masters, though zealous for good, are inclined to look to numerical strength as necessary to giving the craft a prominence that shall meet our expectations in securing for our Fraternity a prominent place with kindred organizations, in conserving the interests of our race.

"We think they err; for we find in nearly every Grand Jurisdiction complaint of lodges without strength or efficiency, and in many instances so defective in morals as to demand their extinction. We do not think it requires large discernment to see that the present indiscriminate authorization of new lodges will lead to consequences which every good and true craftsman will have ample cause to deplore."

He holds that a member should not be suspended without trial, for non-payment of dues, as the Secretary may be in error, or the Brother unable to

pay his dues; that when objection is made to a visitor, the Master must decide as to the validity of the objection; and that a Brother "square on the books" "should be allowed to depart at his pleasure," as we don't want those who want to get away.

But we must give his own words; he says:

"We have, in this volume, alluded to the great impropriety of authorizing the organization of so many new lodges. We do not design to be an alarmist; nevertheless, if the experience of the past is of any value, we must see in many of the features of our too rapid growth, some evidences of trouble in the future. We disclaim any spirit of criticism when we express the belief that if the Brethren of the various Grand Jurisdictions would give less attention to numerical growth, and more attention to lodges now in existence, we should have better lodges and better masons. We seem to be losing sight of the fact that the institution of a new lodge is of vital importance to the whole craft. Are we not correct in this?"

* * * * *

"Lodges strive for work, but many of our Grand Masters strive for lodges. Very many of our best Brethren are enamoured of numerical success, while at the same time they are everlastingly admonishing us to 'guard well the outer door.' In our city we have a surplus of at least a dozen lodges, and every succeeding Grand Master adding to their numbers. What is true of Chicago, is true of the country at large; and the consequence is, that to maintain an existence, lodges are often forced to take up with anything that presents itself. We do not believe that an applicant should be made a mason till he has given abundant proof that he would be of some *consequence* to the Fraternity. If we had but one lodge where we have three, 'the votaries of Freemasonry would be drawn' from a class of men who would give us an influence that we cannot obtain, so long as lodges want money more than intellect and virtue."

* * * * *

"We make the assertion without fear of successful contradiction, that ninety per cent. of non-affiliates are not in sympathy with the Fraternity. Curiosity in some, avarice in others, and in the majority, a combination of both, prompted them to knock at the door of lodges. A few weeks of intercourse with the Brethren satisfied the first, and in the second place assured them that masonry was not an insurance association, for their benefit, but on the contrary, that any favors from the Brethren would only accrue from a well ordered life and faithful devotion to their obligations. These dimitt, or as is law in some jurisdictions allow themselves to be 'stricken from the roll.' It is true that a small percentage of non-affiliates dimitt for reasons which they believe to be sufficient. For these we entertain the warmest sympathy, and for this reason we are of opinion—

"First—That a non-affiliate has no *claims* upon the Fraternity.

"Second—That Grand Lodges should allow constituent bodies to be the judges of what fraternal courtesies should be extended to non-affiliates, either in life or death.

"Third—That a dimitt should be granted upon application in writing, stating reasons therefor. If the applicant declined to furnish such reasons, the dimitt should state the fact."

* * * * *

"If the widow, from conscientious convictions alone, or for other good reasons, is adverse to a *formal* masonic interment of her husband, and so expresses herself, she would be entitled to the aid and sympathy of the Fraternity. But on the other hand, if her objections to public or private expressions of sympathy and aid are founded in hostility to the institution, she thus, by her own election, waives every claim she has upon it.

"If our enemy hungers and is naked, we will give her food and raiment; but we emphatically deny that such an one has any *fraternal claim* upon us.

"It has frequently occurred in our city, that Brethren, in their last hours, have been forced to renounce masonry before their religious advisers would administer rites peculiar to the communion with which they were connected—their widows have shut the door in the faces of Brethren who generously proffered aid and fraternal consolation; yet lodges and Brethren have foolishly contributed to the support of these cheeky widows, in the belief that they had a *lawful claim*. *They have no such claim.*"

We have seen a few similar cases, and we fully concur in his remarks.

In his review of Maine (1876) he comments upon decision No. 8 as follows:

"A second ballot cannot be ordered to correct a mistake at a preceding meeting, discovered after the lodge was closed."

"Why not? Our understanding of such matters is, that all masonic law is founded in justice and *equity*. To us, the spirit of masonry is disregarded when we are not allowed to correct an error. If 'Richard Roe' presents his application for the degrees, I, under a misapprehension, believe that the applicant is a disreputable character, and object. I find, however, that the 'Richard Roe' who petitions is not the Richard Roe to whom I refer, but on the contrary, is a man entirely worthy of confidence. If I had been advised of my error *before* the closing of the lodge, it could have been corrected, but *after*, the correction of an error is prohibited. We fail to discover masonry in such ruling."

We have already answered this: lodges must be governed by general rules, and cannot make an exception because it seems to be "a hard case"; if that were allowed, it destroys all rules, and substitutes therefor the judgment, at the time, of the lodge.

He quotes our remarks about "Colored Masonry" in full, premising the following:

"Before giving Bro. Drummond's remarks, we would like to ask him what proof he has that 'In 1775, probably on the sixth day of March, Prince Hall and thirteen other colored men received the degrees of masonry in a traveling lodge attached to one of the regiments of the British army, then stationed in Boston.' Bro. Caldwell says there is 'no doubt about it'; but this is not good testimony. Have you any proof of what you allege to be true?"

We were not there, and so cannot "swear to it": nor is our statement founded upon Bro. CALDWELL'S. We have the same kind of evidence as we have that other men in 1775 were masons: we believe there is no record extant of the making of Grand Master WARREN a mason: yet there was no doubt that he was one. We made the statement upon the authority of Bro. GARDNER and others in Massachusetts, who have fully investigated the matter: and also upon the hitherto undisputed history given by the successors of Prince Hall: and also upon newspaper publications nearly contemporaneous. An account of the arrival of the charter for Prince Hall Lodge is given in a newspaper published at that time in Portland. The statement quoted by him was made upon full examination and consideration, and is no longer open to question.

INDIANA, 1876.

Four hundred and ninety-six of the five hundred and eight lodges represented: eleven charters and three dispensations granted, and eight dispensa-

tions continued; receipts about \$21,000, and disbursements about \$19,000, of which about \$2,000 was for furniture for Masonic Hall: one lodge writes that so many lodges have been organized in its vicinity, that it will be compelled to surrender its charter: two charters suspended: the Trustees of the Masonic Temple report that the building was not completed so soon by several months as was expected, and that they had failed to rent portions of it, so that a deficiency of about \$5,000 must be provided for, to meet interest and notes falling due during the year; the cost also exceeded the estimates about \$13,000; the whole cost is about \$115,000: the Grand Lodge voted to sell the surplus land, and apply the proceeds in reduction of the debt: our Indiana Brethren fail to realize the expectations they formed when the enterprise was started, and yet they are in an exceptionally good condition, when compared with some other Grand Lodges, which have indulged in the same luxury: a proposition to establish a "Widows' and Orphans' Home" was referred to a committee, and on their report, postponed until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge: steps were taken to prepare a history of masonry in Indiana, but the statistics called for from the lodges are very meagre, and must afford but scanty material; we commend to our Brethren of Indiana our plan in Maine—require from each lodge its own history: a large amount of routine business transacted.

The address of the Grand Master (DANIEL McDONALD) is very full, occupying over forty pages in the Proceedings, and yet we see but little that could be left out without detriment.

He announces the death of P. G. M. SOL. D. BAYLESS, who had been at the head of all the Indiana Masonic Grand Bodies, and in these capacities, as well as a masonic editor, had gained a national reputation; also of P. G. M. JOHN B. FRAVEL and of Gen. NICHOLAS D. GROVER, the last survivor of the original members of the Grand Lodge; and also of Past D. G. Masters CYRUS NUTT and CALEB SCHMIDLAPP: to whose memories he pays appropriate tributes, and concerning whom the Grand Lodge adopted resolutions.

He had arrested two charters; one, because the lodge refused, although specially informed as to the law, to inflict any penalty upon a member whom they found guilty of unmasonic conduct; the other, because the lodge initiated a candidate who was a mason expelled from an Ohio lodge for non-payment of dues: a very large number of cases were submitted to him, involving irregularities in the conduct of lodges or their officers, which he gives in full: we deem one case of sufficient interest to notice; at an election, the teller reported 26 votes for one Brother and 25 for another; it appeared that 52 voted, and the teller admitted that he threw out one vote because it was a blank; thereupon *twenty-nine* members signed a certificate that they voted for the defeated candidate, and in consequence the one declared to be elected declined to be installed, which was highly commendable conduct on his part, but we desire to say that that certificate was the *thinnest* kind of evidence, and that

we have no doubt that the result declared by the teller was correct, as our experience has shown us that there is a thousand times more liability to error or mistake as to how one has voted, than there is that a teller makes an error in counting; it was decided that a blank vote is no vote, and must not be counted.

We copy the following decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge:

"2. The vote of the lodge remitting the dues of a member suspended for non-payment of dues, restores him to the condition of a non-affiliate.

"3. A dimitted mason applies for membership; one black ball appearing against him, he is declared rejected. The rejected applicant is afterwards ready to prove that a non-affiliated mason voted and cast the black ball. Query: Is the applicant a member of the lodge? Answer: He is not a member of the lodge. Although a non-affiliated mason may have voted without right, no one but himself could know, or had a right to know, what kind of a vote he cast. The ballot being unfavorable, the applicant was rejected, and that was the end of it.

"4. A Brother under sentence of reprimand loses none of his rights as a member of the lodge to which he belongs. If he refuses to obey the sentence of reprimand, he may be regularly charged and tried for refusing to obey the action of the lodge in voting the sentence of reprimand. When a Brother has been tried, found guilty, and sentenced to be reprimanded, and before the reprimand is delivered, takes an appeal from the decision of the lodge to the Grand Lodge, by that act further proceedings are stayed until the Grand Lodge passes upon it, and his rights as a member, in the meantime, remain full and complete.

"5. I was asked: Has a mason a right, masonically, to sue a Brother of the same lodge, without first bringing it before the grievance committee or the lodge? To which I replied: Unless you have a provision in your by-laws (and you ought not to have), a mason has a perfect right to collect his debts in a legal manner, the same as any other man.

"8. Has a Brother who has been suspended for twelve months, a new trial being granted him, a right to a seat in the lodge before such trial is had? I replied: My opinion is, that the granting of a new trial by the lodge removes the sentence of suspension, and places the Brother in precisely the same condition he was in after charges were preferred against him and before the trial was had. He is simply under charges, and has a right to be present at the trial, and to a seat in the lodge until the ballot on his guilt or innocence is ordered.

"9. A member of a lodge applied to another lodge as a visitor. He was unable to prove himself by the usual tests. He then presented his photograph to the Master, who forwarded it to the Secretary of the lodge in which he was made, who certified, under seal of the lodge attached to the photograph, that the Brother was a member, regularly made and in good standing. I was asked if this was a sufficient voucher that the applicant was a Master Mason in good standing. I replied that it was not. * * * * How far avouchment may extend, I am not prepared to say; but I am of the opinion that no documentary evidence of any description whatever is lawful information, sufficient to admit a visitor as a Master Mason in good standing.

"12. A member under charges for non-payment of dues, who dies before his case is heard, loses none of his masonic rights."

The one numbered *two* is not law in Maine: a remission of the dues of one suspended from membership at once restores him: if, however, he has been "deprived of membership," the remission leaves him a non-affiliate. With this exception, we concur in the decisions.

In speaking of reducing the size of the Grand Lodge, of which only one representative of a lodge is a member, he advised that the mileage and *per*

diem be paid by each lodge to its representative, saying that, under the present system, one lodge paying over \$100.00, receives but \$6.00, while another lodge, with only 33 members, paid some \$15.00 and received \$28.00. The Grand Lodge refused to adopt his recommendation, and as we believe, very wisely. The Grand Master could not have intended to reduce the attendance; if he did, the plan proposed would accomplish the object: but we hold that a full representation in Grand Lodge is not only desirable, but actually necessary for the prosperity of the craft: and, if the Grand Master had gone into the other side of the account, he would have found that the lodge paying \$100.00 was at no expense, while the one paying the \$15.00 was at an expense of more than the \$28.00, or its delegate *was*, and *it would have been*, had the Grand Master's plan been adopted. Representation in Grand Lodge is for the common good, and its expense should be substantially borne in common. We tried a modification of his plan in Maine, but repealed it as soon as we could.

The following regulation was adopted:

"It is the privilege of every lodge to attend the funeral of any affiliated Master Mason when requested to do so by himself, his friends, or his immediate relatives. Like privilege may also be extended to non-affiliated Master Masons, at the discretion of the lodge."

The following sections were added to the Regulations, having been omitted in a revision, by a vote of 344 lodges against 64:

"SEC. 8. The moral law of masonry, founded upon the First Great Light, is the highest law known to man, and it is not in the power of any legislative body to legalize that which is morally wrong, so as to make it proper and right for any mason to practice it.

"SEC. 9. The use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage, is a masonic offense, and if a Brother persists therein after being admonished by his lodge, it is the duty of the lodge to suspend or expel him.

"SEC. 10. Every lodge is prohibited from conferring any of the degrees upon any one who is in the habit of becoming intoxicated, or who makes it his business to manufacture or sell intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage."

The Report on Correspondence (170 pp.) was presented by Bro. ELISHA L. McLALLEN, his first effort, but an exceedingly good one, although he confines himself to extracts and the briefest kind of comments. He calls it his "first and last report," but we are glad to see that he was re-appointed.

He objects to Grand Lodge certificates: but he, in common with most others in States in which they are not used, misapprehends their object. It is not to assist one in proving himself to be a mason, but it is the "voucher" required in the last charge at the installation of a Master of his "having been initiated in a regular lodge": clandestine masons may pass the best kind of an examination, but when required to produce "proper vouchers of their having been initiated in a regular lodge," they are detected: in brief, the certificate is intended to prove the *regularity of the lodge*, and not the *masonic character of the man*.

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1876.

A special meeting was held for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a church at Vinita.

At the Annual Meeting, five of the six chartered lodges represented, with delegates from two lodges *u. d.*: the Committee on Correspondence, for good reasons, excused from making a report: two charters granted: the Arkansas work and lectures adopted: the work exemplified.

The Grand Master (GRANVILLE MCPHERSON) forcibly sets forth some of the duties of a mason, well saying, that one who has passed through our ceremonies, and then neglects the plain duties devolved upon him, is as much of an imposter as one who gains admission without initiation in a regular lodge. He refers to the "negro question," saying the organizations are clandestine, and advises not to agitate the question, but to treat it *in silence*.

He reports that there are two lodges in the jurisdiction which have persistently refused to acknowledge the authority of the Grand Lodge, and he recommends, in view of all the facts (which we will not detail), that their charters be arrested, and accordingly the charters of Alpha Lodge, at Fort Gibson, and Flint Lodge, in Flint District, were arrested by the Grand Lodge.

He says the Grand Lodge has been recognized by eighteen or twenty of the Grand Lodges: recommends that steps be taken to form a Grand Lodge Library: announces several decisions; deprecates the use of "slang phrases" in our Proceedings; and gives his Brethren some most excellent advice; and asks them to go into an election at once, on account of the feeble state of his health and the arduous duties of his private vocation.

They did go into an immediate election and *re-elected him*. We have watched this young Grand Lodge with much anxiety, but as long as the present Grand Master and Grand Secretary remain at their posts, we shall have no fears for its success. The address of the Grand Master, and the report of the Grand Secretary, are exceedingly creditable to them, and show that they are *well* qualified to administer the affairs of a Grand Lodge.

IOWA.

Two hundred and forty-nine lodges represented: twenty-three charters granted and six dispensations renewed: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized: lodges forbidden to issue "begging circulars" without the consent of the Grand Master.

The Grand Master (HENRY W. ROTHEIL) calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to his duties, gives a statement of his official acts, and announces quite a number of decisions. He had refused, save in one case, all dispensations to confer degrees at irregular times.

We give the substance of some of his decisions:

1. The installation of his successor is the prerogative of every Master; and it belongs to him to fix the time for the ceremony, with which the lodge cannot interfere.

2. An *installed* Master only can make appointments of other officers; if a Master elect makes such appointments, and then fails to be installed, they become of no effect.

3. A Brother elected to office in a lodge, but not installed at the proper time, may rightfully demand to be installed at any time before the Grand Master has been called upon to order a new election; if the Brother neglects for an unreasonable time to present himself for installation, the Grand Master should be notified.

Grand Secretary PARVIN makes his usual report, full of valuable information and suggestions to his Grand Lodge. His report upon the library is exceedingly interesting; and we are much gratified to find that he says that the library becomes more and more appreciated each year.

The case mentioned by us last year, in which a lodge restored an expelled mason and continued to recognize him after his expulsion was confirmed by the Grand Lodge, was disposed of without discipline of the lodge, it appearing that its action was in accordance with the former law of the Grand Lodge, and in ignorance of a change of the law.

The Grand Lodge decided that a hall *leased* by a lodge, though not owned by it, may be dedicated; but that a hall occupied jointly by a lodge and a non-masonic organization, cannot be dedicated.

And that a mason expelled by a lodge in one jurisdiction cannot be restored in another.

It also voted to subscribe \$1,000 for the completion of the Washington monument, upon the same conditions on which other subscriptions are made.

A committee was appointed to revise the Constitution, and have their report printed and distributed to the lodges before the first of May following; but the Grand Secretary informs us in a note that the work could not be done, because no appropriation therefor was made: is the credit of the Grand Lodge too poor, or is there a Constitutional provision forbidding it?

The Report on Correspondence (142 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE.

He says:

"Eighteen years ago the writer hereof donned the armor and assumed the quill of the reporter and made his maiden essay before your Body. Again, but with sobered mind and far more hesitating step, he resumes them. Many things which then seemed important have since grown strangely commonplace, and others, then exceedingly clear, have since become clouded with doubt. Many a bright dream has lost its roseate hue, and the suns of many a fair morning have set in clouds. In glancing over that effort, he sees the names of scores of Brethren, leaders then, who have laid down their working tools and 'home have gone and ta'en their wages.' Of the Grand Masters then in office, we see only the names of Brothers Barber, of Arkansas, Hartsock, of Iowa, Heard, of Massachusetts, Pierson, of Minnesota, and Lewis, of New York; and of Grand Secretaries, only Brothers Sayre, of Alabama, Abell, of California, Parvin, of Iowa, Berry, of Maine, Hough, of New Jersey, Austin,

of New York, Caldwell, of Ohio, and Dove, of Virginia, remaining. Of the others, a few are still living, but the larger part have 'gone over to the majority.'

And since his report was written, Bro. DOVE, the senior of the Grand Secretaries, has also gone from among us.

In that "maiden essay" is the best statement of the duties and province of Committees on Correspondence that we have ever seen. When we commenced duty in this line, we adopted it as our general rule, and in spite of all the discussion of the question since, we have found no reason to change our opinion.

It is impossible, within any reasonable space, to review this report: we shall, therefore, select a few matters for quotation and discussion.

Referring to a report made in our Grand Lodge in 1875, in which it is stated that "The doctrine that a rejected candidate can apply only to the lodge that rejected, or with its consent, whatever may be his residence, is not universal," he says:

"We are glad to see that this truth is admitted by Bro. D., to whom, more than any other man, we believe we in the United States are indebted for the 'not-universal' doctrine alluded to. Everywhere else in the world, as in all former times, when a Master refused to take an Apprentice, the latter was allowed, within a reasonable time, to go wherever and apply to whomsoever he chose; and the fact of his rejection was not conclusive evidence of his unworthiness; since this unworthiness is, many times, inside instead of outside the lodge, and personal spite in the voter often supplies the lack of qualifications in the candidate. We know Bro. D. denies this, holding that we must not charge evil motives; but the fact that evil motives sometimes operate is known, and it is unfair and useless to deny it; and, for this reason, and because the rule is an innovation, unknown in older times, unjust, and in our opinion, unwise, we have always opposed it. It is argued that we have enough bad men in the lodges now, without making the way easier for those outside; we only have to reply that it is a pity these bad men inside should be allowed to keep better men than themselves out of other lodges where good men would be willing to receive them. And it is unfortunately too true that, in some lodges, a firm, positive, decided man, especially if a reformer in temperance, religion or morals, cannot avoid a black ball, and such should therefore be encouraged, rather than hindered, from applying where the standard is higher, and a purer moral atmosphere prevails. We rejoice to notice this even partial and halting recognition of the fact of the injustice and evil of this new law, and hope it may be the beginning of the letting in of light, which may restore the old way."

We never knew before that Bro. LANGRIDGE believes in metempsychosis! As this doctrine has been the established law of many Grand Lodges from a time that was years before we were born *this* time, it follows that if the Fraternity is indebted to us for it, it must be because we inhabited some other body a century or so ago, and helped make masonic laws! But we do not think that that should be called a "new law" which was the law of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts (in 1817 and before), Maine (in 1820), Missouri (in 1844), Ohio (in 1843), and other jurisdictions, before either of us was made a mason.

The argument against this law, derived from the fact that a candidate is sometimes rejected from improper motives, applies with equal force against

the law requiring a unanimous ballot. The case sometimes put, of a good man's being rejected by a single ball in a Maine lodge, and then going to Iowa and living there for years and yet kept from being a mason because the Maine lodge (by a single vote) refuses to consent, has its parallel in Iowa as well as elsewhere, in the case of the same man, if he continues to reside in the jurisdiction of the lodge rejecting him. It is wrong that one bad man shall keep a good man out of masonry for years; it is such a case that aroused the righteous indignation of a good Brother to say recently, that he was beginning to believe that it ought to take *more than one ball* to reject: "hard cases are the quick-sands of the law," but wholesome laws should not be repealed because they sometimes work injuriously; human laws are inevitably liable to such cases.

Bro. L. ably discusses the subject of "*Colored Masonry*," and we were intending to quote, but unless we take the whole, we cannot do justice to it, and so we must forbear; suffice it to say, that he arrives at the same general conclusions we reached in our report last year.

Replying to Bro. PIERSON, of Minnesota, upon the "Temperance question," he says:

"Which is true, and it is purer, and more temperate, and more moral (in the practices of its members, if not in its teachings) now than then because the tone of general morals is higher, because 'temperance lectures' in masonic reports, etc., and out of them, have awakened the hearts and consciences of masons, and caused a purer and sweeter atmosphere to prevail in the community; made drinking more disreputable, and led masons to think better of, and apply more earnestly to their own lives and daily habits the exalted teachings of the Order. There is no harm done in bringing innovations into masonry, if those innovations lead to purity of heart and life, and to an increased observance of the moralities and a dwarfing of these worse parts of our being, because such innovations are consonant with the life of masonry and help to

"Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws."

He concludes his report as follows:

"We have seen it stated somewhere that the meaning of the word 'IOWA' is '*Here we rest!*' If that is true, we cry 'IOWA!' with thankfulness, and yet with something of that spirit with which one lays down a pleasant romance, in which he has learned to know and love the shadowy beings who people its pages, and whom, as they pass away forever, he tenderly regards with a feeling akin to that which he would experience were they the living friends of a life-time. So in writing these reports, one comes to regard with sincere interest the Brethren whom he may never meet save in the pages of the books he reviews; but with a more tender sadness does he remember those whose names will appear no more in the gentle tourney of reporters, nor their faces in the gatherings of the Brotherhood.

"Feeling as one might who revisits, after an absence of years, the haunts of his early life, whence those he once knew had departed, or had ceased to remember him, we have come to this work. If any of those friends of the olden time remember us, and look upon this effort with interest, we shall be glad. If so, they will but reciprocate a feeling that has haunted us throughout our labor, seeming to bring them and the departed into the front seats of the assembly, before whom we present our effort, and whose approval will be our brightest reward."

Following the custom in Iowa, Bro. L. retires, and Bro. PARVIN comes to the front in his place. That custom is a good one in one particular: the other "Reporters" do not like to strike, with the sword of criticism, a Brother who cannot answer back, and so the Iowans probably escape with less blows than if they were returning thrusts dealt at themselves, rather than those dealt at one who has retired from the contest!

KANSAS, 1876.

A special meeting was held November 20, 1875, to attend the funeral of Past Grand Master RICHARD R. REES, a biographical sketch of whom, by the Grand Secretary, is given in these Proceedings. Bro. REES was in many respects a remarkable man: and his devotion to masonry won for him the love and respect of his Brethren.

At the Annual Communication ninety-seven lodges were represented: six charters and one dispensation granted: six lodges consolidated into three: two charters arrested: the Grand Lodges of Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized: the Grand Secretary directed to open correspondence with the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, Ireland and Germany, with a view to establish more intimate relations.

The address of the Grand Master (ISAAC B. SHARP) shows that he was a laborious and faithful officer. Deeming that the haste with which masons often receive the degrees is in the highest degree injurious to the craft, he had refused all requests for dispensations to shorten the time between the degrees. A lodge tried a member for gross unmasonic conduct and acquitted him: on appeal, the Grand Lodge, finding the evidence conclusive, sent it back for a new trial: the lodge delayed re-trying the case, and upon his inquiry, he was told that it was of no use, as the accused had a party in the lodge large enough to prevent a conviction and dared the lodge to bring him to trial, boasting of his power: the Grand Master ordered the trial to proceed, and the vote on the question of his guilt stood *seventeen to seventeen*; but *twenty* members appealed (showing, perhaps, that there was some error in the vote, which was taken by secret ballot, and not orally, as with us): the Grand Master suspended the charter and the Grand Lodge arrested it, expelled the accused, and granted a new charter to those members who seemed to have a sufficient appreciation of their masonic duties. We earnestly commend this case to the consideration of Bro. SINGLETON, as a practical reply to some of his arguments which we have quoted.

We give the substance of some of his decisions:

1. The printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge are official notice of its action.
2. When a summons has been served on a Brother and the case is continued, it is not necessary to serve a second summons.
3. When charges have been filed for non-payment of dues, a subsequent *partial* payment will not oust the lodge of its jurisdiction to try him on the charges.

4. A member, who is sentenced to a reprimand and refuses to attend and receive it, is not entitled to a dimit, but is liable to further discipline for such refusal.

5. The *granting* of a dimit severs the membership, although it may not have been issued: and a re-consideration of the vote by the lodge at a meeting long subsequent, does not re-instate the Brother to membership.

It is a general rule that a vote, which has not in the mean time been executed, may be re-considered at the *same* meeting: and many lodges provide in their by-laws, that it may be done at the *same or next* meeting: and the same principle applies: if a dimit is voted *and not issued*, and the vote granting it is re-considered within the time fixed by the by-laws, the dimit cannot then be issued, and the membership is not severed.

6. A vote suspending a Brother cannot be re-considered after it has been confirmed by the Grand Lodge on appeal.

7. A lodge cannot act upon the petition of a candidate for the degrees, who has been rejected in a foreign jurisdiction, without first obtaining the consent of the lodge which rejected him.

The Grand Secretary says:

"It is with some reluctance that I again present the subject of a Grand Lodge Library to you for your consideration, having done so on several occasions, and met with but little favor; but never wearying in well doing, and appreciating, as I do, the importance of this valuable auxiliary to our Grand Lodge, is my only apology for troubling you at this time. Kansas, I believe, is the only Grand Lodge that has not already done something in the way of a library. Our people are enterprising in everything of a secular character; why should we, as masons, neglect a matter of such vital importance to us as the accumulation of a good library?"

"In many of the States they have accumulated large libraries, and are adding daily new and rare works, and some of great value. Let us make a start at this session, and see what can be done.

"I desire at this time to present to you for your consideration, the question of reprinting the transactions of this Grand Lodge from the organization in 1855 to 1870, inclusive. The importance of this measure is certainly apparent to every leading mason in the jurisdiction, and especially to all Past and Present Grand Officers.

"I will state for your information, that we have not now, nor have we had for the last twelve or fifteen years, a full set of our Proceedings from the organization, hence have not been able to furnish new lodges, being organized from year to year, with full sets.

"It is desirable, and indeed necessary for the well being of our subordinates, that they have these transactions in order that the officers may be able to make themselves familiar with our laws, rules and regulations, and the various changes made from year to year in our by-laws; and also, that they may be the better posted in our own history as well as that of other jurisdictions. I trust this important matter will receive attention, and if deemed expedient, a reasonable appropriation made to commence the work."

The Grand Lodge authorized the binding of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges, and appropriated \$100.00 for the purchase of standard masonic works.

We are surprised at the statement that the Grand Lodge has no complete file of its own Proceedings. There are *two* in Maine, and we supposed that so young a Grand Lodge as Kansas still has a full supply: the necessity of the reprint is apparent, but the matter was referred to a committee and postponed till the next year. These Proceedings contain some 120 pages of

names, the expense of printing which would have paid for reprinting the proceedings of several of the early years.

One very important and delicate question came before the Grand Lodge. It had chartered a subordinate in the Indian Territory, which had refused to submit to the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge, and its charter was arrested by it as we have stated (see p. 347). The lodge, while admitting that it was still opposed to the formation of a Grand Lodge in that Territory, claimed that it did not act in a contumacious spirit, but felt compelled to continue its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Kansas, because that had failed to recognize the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory. The Grand Lodge again declined to recognize it, and adopted the following resolutions reported by the Committee on Jurisprudence:

"In view of the action taken by this Grand Lodge, your committee are of the opinion that Alpha Lodge was under no legal obligation to transfer its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory before this Grand Lodge, to which Alpha Lodge is Subordinate, had formally recognized it; and while we maintain and defend the doctrine of Exclusive Territorial Jurisdiction, as now understood and substantially settled on the American Continent, we believe that no Grand Lodge should recognize any new Grand Lodge until ample time and opportunity had been afforded to investigate fully the claims of the new aspirant for Grand Lodge honors.

"Therefore your committee would respectfully recommend that the action of Alpha Lodge, be and is hereby approved and sustained, and further, we will continue during the present condition of affairs to bear this lodge on our Register of Lodges, and exercise jurisdiction over, said Alpha Lodge."

We think the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory should have complained directly to the Grand Lodge of Kansas, instead of arresting the charter of Alpha Lodge. We agree with the committee, that every Grand Lodge should have a reasonable time for examination before recognizing a new Grand Lodge; but we hold that after that reasonable time has elapsed, subordinate lodges in the new jurisdiction are bound to become of the obedience of the new Grand Lodge: we cannot, therefore, endorse the broad terms of the above extract.

The "Colored Grand Lodges" and the "Grand Lodge of Ontario" are discussed at length, and with much ability, and are all held to be clandestine.

The Report on Correspondence (141 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN H. BROWN, who, LANGRIDGE says, puts more SUGAR than LEMON into his reports: that may be, for our genial Brother has not much acid in his disposition; but he can deal heavy blows at abuses, nevertheless: witness the following:

"Sincerely approving the sentiments of the foregoing extracts, we commend them to the consideration of every Brother in this jurisdiction. The last mentioned evil—for it is nothing less—we have exposed again and again; yet men are found at home who are base enough to prostitute masonry to promote their business operations in a manner disgraceful to themselves and dishonorable to the Fraternity. This practice can only be abated when Brethren will resolutely put down all such pretenders, and if needs be, expel them from the ranks. When a man's masonry rises no higher and goes no further than his business, 'tis time he was counted out from the midst of those who comprehend its principles and seriously endeavor to illustrate them by their lives."

Of our report last year, he says:

"We think his experiment, in giving a condensed abstract of the proceedings, without making extended quotations, is good; it makes a much more readable, interesting report, and more likely to be read; some people have a terrible repugnance to reading quotations."

There is great force in the following:

"Masonic charity pertains to the Brother, not to his lodge; the lodge has no right to assume his duties, nor limit nor supersede by legislation his prerogatives. He stands under a most solemn obligation to be charitable to all men, and, by the very spirit of that obligation, he is made the sole judge of the merits of each case presented and of his ability to contribute means of relief. Any lodge or society, therefore, which assumes the appropriate functions of the individual mason, nullifies that obligation and does him a moral wrong. Nay, more; it deprives the Brother of the intense satisfaction of doing good in person, and ends by rendering him indifferent to suffering and misery without, as well as within, the gate. The cause of all this is patent; the lodge transcends its powers; the Brother foregoes his most binding obligations. Now, the remedy is not far to seek. Let lodges attend to their own affairs and leave each Brother to perform his peculiar duties without the threat of force, fine, suspension, or expulsion, and three-fourths of existing masonic legislation will become obsolete and the spirit of uncharitableness cease in the main to exist. One thing is sure; a purely moral institution can receive no aid from legislation destitute of public sanction. Force does not beget genuine charity, nor is it engendered by the terrors of expulsion.

"The records of by-gone centuries contain few cases of individual delinquency. This can be accounted for only by reference to the following considerations:

"*First*, none but suitable persons were made masons; *secondly*, the candidate was thoroughly instructed at every step in the duties growing out of his obligations; *thirdly*, he was constantly pointed to the moral law within, rather than to a book of statutes, as an incitement to high attainments as a man and mason.

"Would it not be wise—and the question is put to those who set a high value on the prosperity, present and future, of our Institution—would it not vastly conduce to that prosperity, once more to recur to ancient practices, time-honored usages, instead of piling statute upon statute, and employing the law of might to enforce the behests of the law of love?"

Still we must have a sure revenue to an amount sufficient to pay the running expenses of the lodge, and, therefore, dues are a necessity. When masonry was introduced into Maine (in 1769), dues were as much a recognized feature of the Institution as a lodge organization was.

KENTUCKY, 1876.

Four hundred and forty-three chartered lodges and twenty-eight U. D. represented: Grand Master PILLANS, of Alabama, received with the usual honors: a large number of Representatives received in appropriate form, among them R. M. FAIRLEIGH, Representative of our Grand Lodge: twenty-one charters granted, and eight dispensations continued and two granted.

The Grand Master (JOHN H. LEATHERS) says:

"The general depression of the times, which has affected every portion of our country, has not spared masonic work. Accessions to our Order have not been as large as in previous years, and the aggregate membership of subordinate lodges reported this year will probably be smaller than any number reported for the past five years, yet, while we may not be able to boast

of large additions to our numbers, we have no ground for alarm; on the contrary, we have cause for hearty congratulation that the Order is in a healthy and flourishing condition, and peace and harmony prevail among our lodges."

A large part of his address, as well as much of the business of the session, was devoted to the "Widows' and Orphans' Home." The proposition to issue bonds and provide for the payment of the interest by an increase of fifty cents in the membership tax, failed to receive a majority of votes of the lodges, 174 voting for it, 195 against it, and 126 not voting.

The Grand Master says that the Louisville masons have paid in to the treasury of the Home (not including subscriptions to the Endowment Fund), \$96,616.59, and masons outside of Louisville, \$52,194.05; while the Endowment Fund, including the magnificent donations of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, amounts to \$138,461.72, the income of which is about \$10,000 a year. It has had 185 widows and orphans in it since it was opened, and now has 128, all that can comfortably be accommodated. As the income gives only twenty-two cents a day for each inmate, the Grand Master says, it is evident that they have reached *the crisis* in the history of the Home: and in concluding his remarks upon this subject, he most eloquently says:

"The Architect estimates that it will require about forty-five thousand dollars to finish the building and fit it for occupation. The work is of too great magnitude to attempt to carry it on further by the voluntary contributions of the craft. The Grand Lodge must now assume the responsibility of providing, by legislation, the means to complete and endow this great work, or bear the ignominy of its failure.

"If Kentucky masonry is satisfied with what has been done, and can rest content to do no more, then discharge all the workmen now engaged upon the unfinished portions of the building and there let it stand in its huge proportions, unfinished and desolate, and in sad contrast to the finished portions of the Home with its one hundred and twenty-eight happy inmates.

"Great as is the glory reflected upon the Order by what has been done, it were far better for the name of masonry in Kentucky that a stone had never been laid than to stop where we are. It is the great work of the Craft and its proudest achievement. Completed—an imperishable monument of masonic benevolence and charity. Unfinished—a shame and reproach to men who had the noble and generous impulses to devise a scheme which their indifference prevented them from carrying out.

"Its bleak, unadorned and tenantless walls cry out at this hour for the means to make it the habitation of those who, by the decrees of fate, are compelled to bear cheerless poverty and an unprotected and defenseless existence. From every part of the Commonwealth, almost from every lodge, comes the plaint of the helpless infant, or the wail of the broken hearted widow, begging for bread to feed and a home to shelter. These cries come not from strangers; they are from the loved ones of our Brethren who have been called to the Grand Lodge above, and who departed hence strong in the faith and hope that we who are left behind when they are gone would protect and defend their dear ones. These children, these widows, are the bequest to us of dead Brethren, and mercy and justice, aside from all the solemn obligations of our Order, call us, aye, demand us, at this hour to prove worthy of the confidence of our dead and worthy the sublime principles of masonry."

The Directors report that it will require about \$100,000 to repay what has been borrowed from the Endowment Fund and finish and furnish the building; and the Endowment Fund needs increasing: as they believe the proposition for a tax was defeated on account of the objection to issuing bonds,

they recommend that a tax of \$1.00 for each member be assessed annually for five years. But the Grand Lodge, by a vote of 261 lodges to 160, voted to submit the plan to a vote of the lodges. The plan was, however, afterwards modified so that the proposition was submitted to a general vote; the lodges were to vote on December 27, 1876, and the result was to be determined by the majority of the whole number of votes thrown for or against it.

We learn from the Kentucky Freemason that 5,184 votes were thrown for the proposition and 3,408 against it, throwing out 189 votes for and 201 against it on account of informalities. Less than half the members in the State voted: and even in Louisville a very small vote was thrown, so that the measure was carried by the votes of the country lodges. We sincerely trust that the danger has passed, and that this noble charity will receive the success it so richly deserves.

We copy the following decisions:

"3. A Brother in good standing in his lodge, but who confesses, on his death-bed, to the Master, in his official capacity, when in the full possession of all his faculties, that he has been guilty of a crime unknown to any person, but which, if known, would have subjected him to the penalties of the civil law, and expulsion from his lodge, should not be buried with masonic honors.

"4. The burial service for the dead is part of the labor of the lodge. Therefore, it is improper to call from 'Labor to Refreshment' when the lodge leaves its hall to follow the remains of a deceased Brother to their last resting place.

"7. The right to dimit from his lodge is said to be an inherent right belonging to every mason, and if an inherent right, a vote should not be taken on the application for a dimit, the petitioner being clear of the books and no charges against him. When a Brother makes application for a dimit, and no objections are interposed, the Master should instruct the Secretary to make the record and to issue the certificate.

"15. A suspended mason, against whom charges have been preferred, has a right to be admitted into the lodge during his trial.

"25. A Chapter Past Master cannot exercise in a symbolic lodge any function pertaining to the office and attributes of the Master, and cannot, consequently, install a newly elected Master.

"32. There is no limit to the time when charges would be barred, or when charges could not be preferred against a mason who has, at any time, committed an offense against masonry.

"35. Any by-law of a lodge prohibiting a Master Mason from voting at the annual election of officers, or from holding office, for being in arrears for dues, is unconstitutional. No Brother can be deprived of such rights on account of his failure to pay dues, until he has been regularly suspended."

The following resolutions of the Grand Chapter were presented and read:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter would most respectfully request the Grand Lodge of Kentucky to instruct the Secretaries of the Subordinate Lodges under her jurisdiction to notify the Chapters, within whose territorial jurisdiction they may be located, of the suspension or expulsion of any member or members in their respective lodges; also, of the restoration of such suspended or expelled members to good standing.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter be directed to present a copy of these resolutions to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky during its present Grand Annual Communication."

And thereupon it was voted,

"That the Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges be directed to send to the Chapter, in whose jurisdiction said lodges may be situated, the names of all brothers who may be suspended, expelled, and re-instated."

The following in regard to reprinting the Proceedings was adopted; but we fear that, without the assistance of the Grand Lodge, the project will fail:

"Whereas, The early proceedings of this Grand Lodge, in complete file, is not in the possession of the Grand Lodge, and it is doubtful if any one person has a complete file of said proceedings; and,

"Whereas, It is of great importance that a reprint should be issued under the supervision of some brother who has labored diligently to ascertain the facts in the matter, and is competent to edit, in a manner creditable to the Grand Lodge, a reprint of those Proceedings,

"Resolved, That our worthy Brother James W. Staton be the authorized editor of the reprint.

"Resolved, That this authority to reprint said proceedings shall not cause any expense to this Grand Lodge.

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary shall give Brother James W. Staton such use of the records, in the possession of the Grand Lodge, as is necessary to aid him in said reprint."

The following resolutions in relation to "the Kentucky Freemason" were adopted:

"Whereas, Grand Chaplain H. A. M. Henderson has assumed the proprietorship of the Kentucky Freemason for the first time, and we have full assurance from this fact, that its business matters and editorial control will be conducted in a satisfactory manner to its patrons; and,

"Whereas, Brother Henderson is embarrassed in its publication by the tardiness of its subscribers in meeting its claims and the public patronage extended to it; therefore,

"Resolved, That we respectfully urge those indebted to speedily discharge all dues, and thereby relieve the publisher from present embarrassments. That we recommend each lodge to take at least one copy, and that each brother take one copy, and that the Worshipful Master of each lodge be requested to appoint an active brother to canvass for subscribers, and report to the publisher the result of such solicitation by the 1st of January, 1877; and that they urge all brethren in arrears to promptly pay their arrearages.

"Resolved, That the Grand Officers are requested to employ its columns in communicating such matters as are of current interest to the Craft."

The Report on Correspondence (88 pp.) was presented by Bro. THOMAS TOPP. His comments are not numerous, but they are sound and discriminating.

Of the Ohio "Colored Masonry" question, he says:

"Brethren of Ohio, we beseech you, do not adopt a policy or deliverance so indirect and inconclusive as the one recommended by your committee! We are especially interested in the results of your action and deliberations in this matter; for the *Colored Grand Lodge of Ohio*, "so-called," has flooded our section and jurisdiction with charters under which colored lodges, believed by us to be clandestine, have been organized. The members of those lodges are treated by us with *aversion*, not because they are *negroes* but as counterfeiters and impostors, and so the Grand Lodge of Ohio in its past deliverances has taught us to consider them. By your neglect and that of neighboring Grand Lodges this evil has grown to proportions quite too large to be ignored, and as suffering from such neglect we had a right to claim prompt and conclusive action in the premises. For the sake of these deluded negroes, for the promotion of justice, for the sake of harmony, and

for the good of masonry, we implore you to decide the question of *legitimacy* presented to you! If the colored lodges of Ohio are "true and perfect" take charge of them and introduce them to the masonic world as your true and legitimate children, if they are not so, proclaim the fact and let these claimants of masonic rights be known and recognized as *impostors*. There can be no evasion or compromise in this matter, at least ought not to be, and we ask for *positive* deliverances suited to the emergency. We have no antipathy against negroes on account of race or color. Have no aversion to recognizing any *free-born* as a mason, if assured that he is truly and legitimately entitled to such recognition, and conducts himself as a mason."

And of a decision in Illinois:

"He decides that the Tyler of a lodge has the *right* to vote! And pray why not, if a member in good standing in his lodge? We never heard the right disputed before."

Of the proposition to recognize the Grand Orient of Hungary, he well says:

"On the principle which, for some years past, has governed this Grand Lodge, and which is at the foundation of our system of masonic government, namely, that we can only enter into correspondence and official relations with bodies which are in all respects our peers, that is to say, sovereign and supreme in their respective jurisdictions, we can only decline the proffered interchange of Representatives.

"If there were any hope that a recommendation on our part would be heeded, we should advise the Grand Orient to turn over its lodges to the existing Grand Lodge: acknowledge that as the supreme and sole authority for the Symbolic Degrees; dissolve itself back into the Supreme Council and make a regulation that all candidates for the advanced grades must previously have received the first three degrees in some regular lodge, and then the difficulty would be solved.

"If the American Grand Lodges will stand together on this question these divided authorities on matters pertaining to subordinate lodges will soon disappear."

The Proceedings of our Grand Lodge had not been received.

LOUISIANA, 1877.

Seventy-eight lodges represented: three charters granted, and one surrendered: and an immense amount of routine business transacted.

The Grand Master (JOHN G. FLEMING) calls attention to the relations of the Grand Lodge with the Grand Lodge of Canada, and urges further action; thereupon, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Master be, and is hereby authorized to appoint a Grand Representative of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, near the Grand East of Canada, as an evidence of our friendly and brotherly feelings towards our Brethren of that jurisdiction, and hope that no misunderstanding may ever occur to mar the pleasant relations that have heretofore existed between us."

He had decided that a lodge has no power to grant a new trial; but others being of a different opinion, he allowed a lodge to vote upon the question. He was still of his first opinion, and the matter was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who asked till the next session to make their report. Unless there is some special provision in their Constitution, we think the Grand Master is correct. In the grant of powers from the Grand Lodge to a subor-

minate, we do not find this power; the general principle is that a subordinate tribunal cannot grant a new trial in a case once closed, unless affirmatively authorized so to do.

Grand Secretary BATCHELOR submits his usual full and detailed report. He had had bound 81 volumes of Proceedings for the library, to which 144 volumes in all, had been added during the year.

The Grand Lodge unanimously adopted the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas, Many of the constituent lodges are laboring under embarrassing effects, ascribable to the 'edict on life membership,' (adopted February 16th, 1870), as follows: 'That to encourage the establishment of a system of life membership in lodges, the amount of dues to the Grand Lodge, for life members be remitted, if so created for a continuous service of not less than fifteen years;' and which, in the opinion of your committee, not only conduces to the subversion of the interests of the Grand Lodge, but incites in its operation consequential detriment to prosperity in the constituent lodges throughout the jurisdiction; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the edict quoted, and all edicts or resolutions concurring therewith, be repealed."

It seems that we had good grounds for fears expressed by us heretofore, that a system of life membership might become a source of much trouble, especially if given for so short a term of service as fifteen years.

A question that is becoming of interest, in view of the tendency of lodges to run in debt, came before the Grand Lodge. A member of a lodge having complained that a dimit had been granted to a former member, "without his having paid his *pro rata* indebtedness of the lodge, and that the action of the lodge was contrary to the ancient usages of the Fraternity; that the vote to dimit should have been unanimous," the committee reported as follows, and the Grand Lodge adopted their report:

"These objections we do not think valid. It is true that the lodge may, and generally should, require the Brother applying for a dimit to pay his dues and his proportion of all liabilities of the lodge, should it be involved in debt. But so far from its being imperative on the lodge so to do, this Grand Lodge, on the unanimous recommendation of your Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, in 1870 (see page 122, printed Proceedings of 1870), unanimously held 'that a lodge may grant a dimit without the dues and proportion of the liabilities of the lodge having been paid, for the reason, among others, that it is a part of the internal affairs of the lodge, which should be left to their own discretion.' The dimission amounts in such cases to a remission of the indebtedness of the Brother.

"So far as any unanimity of the vote is concerned, this is only required to allow the *withdrawal* of the application for the dimit, and has no reference to the action of the lodge on the question of *granting* or *withholding* the dimit."

If a lodge is not incorporated, every member is liable to the creditor for all its debts, contracted under its by-laws, whether by his consent or not, and all contracted by his consent, whether according to the by-laws or not, during his membership; and this liability continues until the debt is paid, although he may cease to be a member of the lodge: the only safe course is to keep out of debt.

The Grand Master receiving an invitation, while the Grand Lodge was in

session, from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to attend its Centennial Anniversary, read it to the Grand Lodge, which thereupon adopted the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana acknowledges with marked satisfaction, the reception of an invitation to M. W. Grand Master Jno. G. Fleming, to be present at the Centennial Celebration of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to be holden at Boston, on the eighth day of March, proximo, and tenders their well wishes to their revered sister on the auspicious occasion, with the hope that each decade of the new century may progressively add to its influence and enlightenment."

The Report on Correspondence (181 pp.) was prepared by Bros. G. H. BRAUGHN and ERNEST MOREL, the latter reviewing the Proceedings of only certain foreign Grand Bodies, and the former preparing the most of the report: it was his first effort, but he well sustains the reputation gained by his Grand Lodge from the reports of his able predecessors: it is a very full abstract of the Proceedings, prepared with much care and labor, and interspersed with brief comments.

In his review of Maine, he devotes two pages to Grand Master Moore's address, approving everything, save one decision, which is somewhat affected by our own Constitution.

Of our own Grand Secretary, he says :

"We wish Bro. BERRY an unlimited number of years in which to serve his Grand Lodge, and enjoy life. He is a capable and faithful officer."

He thinks our experiment last year of rendering an "epitomized" report was a very successful one: we quote his opinion, because others have expressed a preference for a report of the old style.

He thinks Grand Master FLEMING, in his discussion of the Ohio question, did not as we said last year, use language that "deserved the charge of severity." We thought he did, and think so yet, but as it is a matter of opinion, we will not insist that others shall think so too. In this connection, he says:

"If by 'implication' he has reflected upon the *motive* of one of our 'Ohio Brethren,' (*not all*), he has simply, *squarely* and honestly repeated that which had been publicly discussed in masonic ranks for some time past."

Yes, but publicly discussing it did not make it *true*, and from a pretty intimate acquaintance with the Brother referred to, we must insist that great injustice has been done him, and wickedness of motive has been imputed to him without reason, as he really believed he was right, and, so believing, advocated his views with zeal, and without fear of the consequences.

MANITOBA, 1876.

A Special Communication was held in August, 1875, at which a revised Constitution was adopted, and the corner stone of the new market building in Winnipeg was laid in ample form.

At the Annual Communication the three lodges were represented: two charters were granted: the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island recognized.

The Grand Master (W. C. CLARK) was absent, having been called out of the Province, but sent in his address, giving an account of his official acts. He announces that his Grand Lodge had been recognized by *eighteen* of the American Grand Lodges: Maine is not included in this number, as she had not then been heard from.

Among his decisions is the following, in which we concur:

"2. Is it proper to ask a visiting Brother, 'Are you free by birth?' And how should the W. M. act if the answer be in the negative?"

"Answer.—It is a proper masonic question. In case the question should be in the negative, I decided that the conferring of the degree in a regularly constituted lodge *ipso facto* entitles the recipient to all the privileges of that degree. That when facts are overlooked or suppressed, the degree is not invalid on that account; masonry cannot withdraw any privilege conferred except for *post facto* cause, and then only after due trial; should any be admitted to the privileges of masonry contrary to the ancient landmarks, that is the fault of the conferring authority, but cannot operate to the prejudice of the recipient."

The D. G. Master (W. N. KENNEDY) made a report, in which he states that he had visited the lodges, and adds:

"The utmost good feeling and harmony seem to have existed during the year among all the members and among all the lodges. I am glad to observe that the custom of visiting from lodge to lodge is generally observed. The more we see of each other the stronger the bond of union between us. The ancient landmarks seem to have been observed, and a desire, I think, has been manifested to make our new Grand Lodge, although small in numbers, worthy of a place among the sisterhood of Grand Lodges throughout the world."

The Grand Lecturer reports that two of the lodges use the work of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the others the "Ancient York" work, as used in the Maritime Provinces and New England: and the Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution in reference thereto:

"Resolved, That the lodges at present forming the Grand Lodge are hereby confirmed in the work as now worked by them, subject to the provisions of the Constitution."

A committee reported an "Address to Grand Lodges," which was approved: but as our Grand Lodge has already extended recognition, we quote only a portion of it, as setting forth sound principles of masonic law:

"3d. That according to the well understood and clearly established and recognized principles of masonic jurisprudence, each and every separate and distinct State, Territory, Kingdom or Province, through its Grand Lodge, may have, hold and exercise full sovereign and supreme jurisdiction in, for and over such State, Territory, Kingdom or Province, and whereas such right is accorded by all the Grand Lodges of the world, excepting that of Hamburg, the Fraternity in Manitoba, acting upon their undoubted rights, have organized themselves into a sovereign Grand Lodge, to have, hold and exercise forever supreme masonic jurisdiction in and over the said Province of Manitoba."

* * * * *

"Lastly, for the reasons already stated, and for other local and important ones, all the lodges now working in this Province, as set forth in the accompanying printed Proceedings, in peace, love and harmony, and in accordance with the example of the formation of the Grand Lodge of England and other

Grand Lodges throughout the world, and following the example of the sister Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario (at the time of its formation the United Province of Canada), and British Columbia, whose Grand Lodges are now acknowledged throughout the world, and also in conformity to the well established customs and general usages of our Fraternity, proceeded to form, and did form, on the 12th day of May, A. I. 5875, the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; and we beg respectfully to repeat our petition that you, as a Grand Lodge, will extend to the same fraternal recognition, and establish therewith fraternal correspondence and communication."

MARYLAND, 1876.

We are glad to find that at the Semi-annual Communication the Grand Master (JOHN H. B. LATROBE) was able to report a continued improvement in the financial condition of the Grand Lodge: he says:

"Ever since the Grand Master, honored as he has been by successive re-elections to his high office, has occupied the East, the leading topic of his annual and semi-annual address has been the pecuniary affairs of the Grand Lodge. From what might be called utter insolvency five years ago, they have gradually improved, until now, without a dollar of floating indebtedness, and meeting, punctually, the interest on its mortgages and the ground-rent on the Temple, its credit is equal to that of any other public institution, so far, at least, as its reputation for ability to meet any obligation it may now please to incur, is concerned. Indeed, at one time, the Board of Managers felt authorized to present a plan looking to the resumption of the payment of some part at least, of the interest on its stock; and although a falling off in the receipts from the Temple building, as great as it was unexpected, disappointed the expectations of the Grand Master in this respect, yet the hope of being able to do this, sooner or later, is by no means given up. Until it is accomplished, the Grand Lodge must remain subject to well merited reproach."

He states that very much of the improvement is due to the Deputy Grand Master, FRANCIS BURNS, who had carried out the plan devised for extricating the Grand Lodge from its difficulties, and who had been "wealthy and willing enough to supply from his own purse temporary deficiencies"—two qualities not always found in combination!

The Grand Master relates one incident, which is worth copying in spite of its length:

"Among the many persons who apply for aid to the Grand Master, under the impression that he has an inexhaustible treasury at his command, was a lady, the widow of a Master Mason, who was not only in great need of pecuniary assistance, but whose still greater trouble grew out of her separation from her son, a lad of some twelve years old, perhaps, who, in the chances of the times, had been taken from her, and was residing in a remote district of Louisiana, where he was represented to be in a pitiable condition. The mother's immediate wants were in some degree relieved, on application to the lodges of the city; but she was still in misery about her child. She would have gone to him, could she have obtained the means to make the long and expensive journey. In her great trouble, the lady asked the Grand Master if there was nothing that he could do to help her; and at last, to satisfy her for the moment, and, at least, give her something to hope for, the Grand Master wrote from her lips an account of her situation, and enclosing the lady's address, sent the letter directed to 'The Grand Master of the State of Louisiana, at New Orleans.' Many weeks elapsed, and the calls of the mother to

know if there was any news, and the uniform answer that had to be given that there was none, became at last painful; and the Grand Master began to regret, almost, that he had raised hopes that seemed to be doomed to disappointment; when, one day the lady appeared, as happy a woman as the Grand Master had ever seen in his office;—and her boy was at her side. She had come to thank the masons for the blessing they had bestowed on her in restoring him. The rest of the story is soon told: the Grand Master of Louisiana had, after a good deal of difficulty, found the child, whose condition was fully as destitute as the mother had described, in a remote part of the State, had employed the agency of the nearest lodge, and in due time the little fellow, 'ragged and bare' almost, was sent to New Orleans; here the Grand Master clothed him respectably and furnished him with a through ticket to Baltimore, and the money for his expenses on the road; and in a day or two after his arrival here the Grand Master received a letter from his M. W. Brother, in Louisiana, speaking in the most gratifying manner of the bright intelligence of the waif thus restored to a happy mother. This anecdote of masonry would be imperfect were the name of the Grand Master of Louisiana not to be mentioned. It is M. W. John G. Fleming."

The Grand Master of Louisiana refers to it in his address, for the purpose of saying that the funds were furnished by the Relief Lodge; still the incident is no less creditable to Bro. FLEMING's goodness of heart.

The Grand Lodge established a Relief Lodge in Baltimore, composed of one delegate from each lodge in the city.

At the Annual Communication, seventy-seven lodges were represented: one charter was granted: a motion was made that a dispensation for a new lodge be continued, but the Grand Master decided that the motion was unconstitutional, we presume on account of some peculiar provision in the Constitution of that Grand Lodge: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized, and the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario pronounced illegal, and the lodges and masons of its obedience refused recognition: arrangements for the formation of a library at the Temple commenced: a form for a code of by-laws for lodges adopted.

The Grand Master (JOHN H. B. LATROBE) delivered a brief address, in which he announces the death of LAWRENCE SANGSTON, Past Senior Grand Warden, who had been an active and valuable member of the Grand Lodge: gives a full account of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge: states that in consequence of a recent law, a heavy tax is liable to be laid upon the Temple, which will impose a grievous burden upon the Fraternity, which, however, he hopes to avoid.

Documents relating to the formation of a Grand Lodge in Cuba were presented by him, and upon his recommendation the matter was referred to the Committee on Correspondence, to report at the next meeting.

The Report on Correspondence (93 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN S. TYSON. We can remember when this Grand Lodge took the lead in these reports; and we have often and deeply regretted that her financial embarrassment, growing out of the erection of the Temple, compelled the abandonment of them; and we rejoice proportionally to find this report, not only because it indicates returning prosperity, but also because it sustains her old reputation, although it is briefer than former reports were.

Speaking of the Grand Lodge's reversing the sentence of a subordinate lodge without declaring him re-instated in membership, he says :

"We consider this position utterly untenable, and are confident that the very few jurisdictions which continue to hold to it must sooner or later yield to reason and common sense."

And of opening a Grand Lodge :

"In the form of opening we notice that a lodge of Master Masons was first 'opened in due form,' and afterwards (it having been ascertained that a quorum of the Grand Lodge was present), the Grand Lodge was 'opened in ample form.' Very *ample* indeed we should say—and we ask for information what was the name of that Master Masons' Lodge? and whence came it? and whither did it go?"

And of erecting Masonic Temples :

"We regret to learn that our Brethren in Florida are about to build a Temple in the way proposed—that is to say, *a la Maryland*, and *a la mode*. We hope they will first consult our Grand Master Latrobe for information *how not to do it*, and then consult Grand Master Thorne, of New York, who will tell them *how to do it*."

* * * * *

"If we were asked for advice, we would say to the Board of Trustees—Do not buy a lot until you get the full amount of money necessary to pay for it, and do not lay the corner stone until you have enough funds secured to complete the building and furnish it. As to the subordinate lodges which may be requested to contribute—it would never do for us to give them any advice (even if asked) contrary to the wishes of their own Grand Lodge, otherwise we might have a word to say."

He gives quite a full review of Maine, but he will be shocked to find that it has been a cause of much amusement; and for fear he may not understand it, we will add that he styles the Chairman of your Committee, *Rev. Josiah H. Drummond*! Since this appeared, we have been surprised to see how punctilious some of our friends are to give us the benefit of the title.

In reply to us, he says :

"We are so surprised to find a single case in which Bro. Drummond is not logical, that we cannot resist the temptation to point out that one case. On page 140 of his report, he considers the effect of a regulation requiring a vote of '*a majority of those present*,' and says: 'The language can scarcely have any other meaning than "*present and voting*," otherwise those not voting, in *fact do vote*.'

"To our mind Bro. Drummond is clearly wrong. We see no absurdity whatever in adhering to the literal meaning; on the contrary it is a wise regulation to require that an election shall not be by a mere majority of those voting. And that those who are *not for* should be counted *against* the candidate or candidates."

We still think the rule a foolish one, and that, if Brethren elect *not* to vote, they should not be *counted as voting*.

In reply to Bro. DIEHL, he says :

"The undersigned is a lawyer, and Bro. Diehl will therefore excuse the liberty we take of informing him that while he is right in reference to the power of the Supreme Court, he is mistaken in supposing that power to be founded on, or regulated by *common law*. On the contrary, it is regulated by express statute, and the Constitution of the United States. A naked right of appeal without restrictions is a right to have the whole case tried over again (or as the lawyers say, '*de novo*'), and the appellate court has the same

extent of authority in rendering judgment and affixing penalty, as the original court. In Maryland, our Constitution restricts the inquiry, on appeal, to the evidence and proceedings in the original trial, but our Grand Lodge has always taken such action in each case as seemed proper, whether by confirming, reversing or altering the judgments or the sentence, or by sending back for a new trial."

* * * * *

"We are amused at the *naivete* of the qualification—'at least not in Utah.' Does Bro. Diehl mean by this that in Utah the Brethren have clearer eyes to see the truth than those who dwell outside of the 'promised land?' Or does he mean that their vision is dimmed? We personally agree with him as to the 'Landmark' question, but differ from him theologically, and (as a good mason should), 'agree to disagree.' We do not, however, utterly despair of his ultimate conversion to the orthodox faith, as he evidently believes in the immortality of the soul—at least of Humboldt's soul—and in fact of Humboldt's eyes, which he says '*look upon us while we write.*' Wouldn't Humboldt be '*ashamed of his humble countryman*' if he knew this?

"Did Humboldt believe in the immortality of the soul? He may have said that he did not, but we believe that he did. It is a human instinct so to believe, and it will manifest itself, even unconsciously sometimes, as in the case of Bro. Diehl."

MASSACHUSETTS, 1876.

At the March Communication, a new charter was granted to Aconengua Lodge, of Valparaiso, Chili, to replace one destroyed by fire: Bro. WILLIAM SUTTON presented the Grand Lodge a Square and Compasses of solid silver, and Bro. DANA Z. SMITH an ancient pitcher covered with masonic emblems, for which the thanks of the Grand Lodge were tendered to the respective donors.

Two parties, who had received the degrees elsewhere after having been rejected by lodges in Massachusetts, were healed.

But the most important business transacted was the adoption, by a vote of 263 to 59, of the proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for the appointment of a Board of "Commissioners of Trials" for the trial of charges against Brethren accused of masonic offenses. It was first amended by providing that the lodge may in all cases take jurisdiction, if it shall by a majority vote so determine. This removes one great objection to the plan: it was maturely considered and fully discussed, and while very serious objections still remained in the minds of many, it received a very large vote in its favor: we shall watch its operation with much interest. As the same causes for adopting this course exist, to some extent, in this State, we deem it important to copy the provision, that the Brethren may become acquainted with it:

"SECTION 1. The Grand Master shall annually appoint a Board of five members of the Grand Lodge, to be styled *Commissioners of Trials*; but he may in his discretion appoint a Special Board of Commissioners for the trial of any given cause. All Commissioners shall be Past or Present Masters. The first named of said Board shall be the President thereof, and three members shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of the President the Board may elect a President *pro tempore*. Whenever a member of a lodge, or a Brother under this jurisdiction, shall be accused of any offense, which, if proved, would subject him to expulsion or suspension from the rights and

privileges of masonry, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted agreeably to the following rules:

"I. The accusation shall be made in writing, with specifications of the offense, under the signature of a Master Mason, and, if the accused is a member of any lodge within the jurisdiction, shall be given in charge to the Master thereof, who shall summon his lodge to act upon the accusation. If the lodge by a majority vote of its members present determine that the charges require investigation, then the accusation shall be given in charge to the President or President *pro tempore* of the Board, who, under direction of the Board, shall cause the accused to be served with an attested copy of the charges, together with a summons to appear, at a time and place to be named in said summons, and make such answer to the charges and accusations as he may desire. The summons shall be served upon the accused fourteen days, at least, before the return day thereof. Such appearance may be made in person before the President or President *pro tempore*, or by filing an answer in writing with such President. If the residence of the accused be out of the Commonwealth, and unknown, the Commissioners may proceed to examine the charges and accusation *ex parte*; but if known, and out of the Commonwealth, a summons shall be sent him, by mail or otherwise, sixty days, at least, before the time appointed for his appearance. The service and the return thereof shall be according to regulations to be made by the Commissioners, and, when so made, shall be conclusive.

"In case of unaffiliated or sojourning masons the accusation made as aforesaid shall be given in charge to the President or President *pro tempore* of the Board, and if the Board of Commissioners shall determine that the charges require investigation, the Board shall thereafter proceed in the same manner as above required in the case of an affiliated mason whose lodge has determined that the charges require investigation.

"II. The examination upon the charges and accusation shall be had at some convenient place and time, to be designated by the Commissioners, of which due notice shall be given, and no visitors shall be admitted, except as counsel or witnesses. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commissioners, the testimony may be taken by the President or President *pro tempore*, who shall reduce the same to writing, to be submitted to the Board. Witnesses, if masons, shall testify on their honor as such. Other witnesses shall be duly sworn before their testimony is taken.

"III. Any Brother duly authorized may appear as counsel in support of, or in opposition to, the charges during the taking of the testimony and in the argument of the cause.

"IV. A full record of the Proceedings in each case, whatever may be the result thereof, including the testimony taken, the action of the Commissioners thereon, and the sentence, if any, imposed upon the accused, to be signed by the Commissioners acting in such case, shall be transmitted to the Recording Grand Secretary, by him to be placed on file and presented to the Grand Lodge at the next Quarterly Communication. The action of the Commissioners, including the sentence, if any, imposed upon the respondent, if approved, shall stand as the judgment of the Grand Lodge. The finding of the Commissioners shall be subject to correction or review by the Grand Lodge, who may order a new trial, or otherwise dispose of the case.

"V. Any lodge may, notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, proceed to try any Brother, subject to its jurisdiction, against whom such an accusation as is therein contemplated has been made, *provided* such lodge, by a majority vote, at the next Stated Communication after the accusation shall have been presented, shall decide in favor of such a trial. In such case all the proceedings in respect to service upon the respondent, the time, place and method of trial, including the sentence, the record and the report to the Grand Lodge, shall conform to the foregoing rules, so far as the same shall be applicable.

"SEC. 2. Any five members of a lodge, or the District Deputy Grand Master, may impeach the Master of said lodge before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges; and if, in his opinion, they are

well founded and of a character to justify the proceeding, he may suspend the delinquent and summon him to appear for trial before said Commissioners, or such Special Commissioners as the Grand Master may appoint. The foregoing rules, as far as the same shall be applicable, shall be observed in the trial of a Master of a lodge before such Commissioners.

"SEC. 3. The Commissioners shall receive for their services, and for necessary expenses in each case, such compensation as the Grand Master shall determine and allow, upon the certificate of the Commissioners."

At the June Communication, the portrait of Past Grand Master SERENO D. NICKERSON was presented by Winslow Lewis Lodge: one charter was granted: "THE TRESTLE BOARD," as prepared by a committee, was unanimously adopted as the only authorized Trestle Board for the use of lodges in that jurisdiction.

At the September Communication, Past Grand Master HEARD called attention of the Grand Lodge to the fact that the day was the *fiftieth* anniversary of the installation of R. W. Bro. LUCIUS R. PAIGE, Past Deputy Grand Master, as the Master of his lodge, and the Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution, a fitting tribute to a worthy man and mason:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge congratulates our R. W. Brother, the Rev. Lucius R. Paige, D. D., that his life has been spared beyond the term of threescore years and ten; and, more especially, that it has been distinguished by a conscientious discharge of the duties belonging to the religious teacher, the upright citizen, and faithful mason."

Bro. PAIGE responded in remarks of much interest to the Brethren in that jurisdiction.

A Brother who had been rejected in one lodge, and then made in another without the proper recommendation, was healed. He was a member of other Masonic Bodies, and a delicate question arises as to his *status* in them. If the Grand Lodge had declared him clandestine and left the matter there, he would of course have lost all position in the other Bodies: but as the Grand Lodge healed him, we are inclined to the opinion that that cured the irregularity of his making, so that his standing in the other Bodies remains unimpaired.

Two charters were granted.

A lodge in Palermo, Italy, having seceded from the Grand Orient, petitioned to become subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, but the petition was dismissed. We take the following from the report of the committee, as maintaining the same principles supported by us in the Quebec discussion:

"In masonry the right of independence of the masons of each political country has always been admitted. Their national organizations rest on the same footing and are governed by the like principles of international law with those existing among separate nations. When the organization of the Freemasons of a country has been once recognized by other Grand Lodges, the sovereignty and exclusive jurisdiction of that Body in that territory are recognized and admitted; and it would be a breach of comity to hold intercourse with, and a breach of faith to recognize, any rebellious or rival authority within the bounds, while the political organization of the country remains unchanged. This has been the rule with our State Grand Lodges and has been the foundation principle governing the action of the Masonic Bodies in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, the two Canadas, and the Grand

Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, in relation thereto. Also it has been the rule of conduct among the craft in the various nations of Europe. It is too well settled to be doubted."

The proposition of the Grand Lodge of Ohio was also discussed by the committee, from whose report we take the following:

"The proposition before the Grand Lodge of Ohio is that they shall break the unity of Ohio, and cede a part of their jurisdiction to the 'African Lodge.'

"While making citizens of African descent Freemasons on lawful grounds is a right of the Ohio masons, yet we may without offense inquire whether any Grand Lodge has the right to make two Grand Lodges in a State, and thus break the unity of the Brethren there, which should exist irrespective of creed, race, national birth, or color? whether, if one creates by its vote the African Grand Lodge, it can masonically make a color test, and exclude whites from the African Grand Lodge, or, *vice versa*, exclude those of African descent from the present Grand Lodge, which thereafter would be only half Grand.

"Our opinion is that a distinction founded on color as 'black,' or race as 'African,' is in contravention of the Ancient Landmarks, is not masonic, and would be void.

"If we are right in this view, then the evil of making two Grand Lodges of equal and co-ordinate powers in one State has no relief, because one may lawfully compete with the other—recognize him whom the other suspends, charter where the other refuses, make where the other rejects, and thus precipitate masonry into the horrors of a divided and ineffective jurisdiction over its own lodges and members and a competitive struggle for candidates. Wherever competing Grand Lodges have existed in a community, the standard of masonry has been lowered as a consequence of rivalry, and masonic subordination been sadly demoralized.

"Masonic experience has settled that the only safe and prudent line of division for jurisdiction is territorial; in accordance with this masonry is organized. A personal test, to divide jurisdictions, is exactly against the equality of Freemasonry. A lodge, indeed, may be authorized to work in a foreign language because its members do not speak English, but the work must be the standard of the Grand Lodge, and any mason can qualify himself for participation by acquiring the tongue the work is performed in."

The committee made an exceedingly able and interesting report in relation to "African Lodge," and the questions connected with it; we cannot quote the whole, as we would like, but select the following extracts:

"There is no distinction in this Grand Lodge grounded upon color. Masonry is a social institution, and the lodges regulate the admissions they severally make. We know of a good many men of African descent who have received regular masonic degrees in lodges under this jurisdiction, and who do obtain thereby all the benefits thereof. At this time, in this Grand Lodge, there sits a Brother of this descent, who has been a respected member for several years in virtue of his rank as Warden of one of our most respectable subordinate lodges.

"We have had and received in our subordinate lodges visiting masons of regular standing in their own jurisdictions who were of African descent.

"We state these things merely that our position may not be misconceived, and our objections to masonic irregularities be scoffed down on the pretence that we are opposing a class on account of their color."

* * * * *

"The date of this charter was after the treaty of peace with England, in 1783, by which the independence and sovereignty of these States were recognized. It was also eight years after the Massachusetts Grand Lodge was formed (March 8, 1777), and had declared the masonic independence of the

masons of this Commonwealth, whereby the duties of self-government were assumed by the masons of this Commonwealth, which they have continued to exercise to the present time. Thus this charter proceeded from a foreign source, which had no political authority in the country, where alone it was directed to be used, and which had no masonic right there; for the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts had been for years in the possession of the masons of the Commonwealth. It is admitted that this charter was never recognized by any lodge in Massachusetts. Certainly, after the evacuation of Boston, March 17, 1776, there is no pretence that England had any control in Massachusetts."

* * * * *

"It will be noticed that the petition of 1869 pretends that in 1775 Prince Hall and others were made masons in an army traveling lodge at Boston. It is somewhat singular that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, October 1, 1773, passed a vote that 'no traveling lodge had the right in this jurisdiction to make masons of any citizens,' and that Gen. Joseph Warren was the Provincial Grand Master at the time of this vote. The name of the Army lodge is not given where Prince Hall got his masonry."

* * * * *

"No pretence is made that any of them ever sat in a local lodge, and were they citizens of Massachusetts, as the petition would infer, no British Army lodge had the right to make them. Consequently, if made at all, as individuals they were irregular and clandestine under the Provincial Grand Lodge rule, and remained so when this Grand Lodge had declared its independence from British masonic rule."

* * * * *

"We recapitulate these facts, because they point to inevitable conclusions as to Prince Hall and his associates:

- "1. No evidence that they were made masons in any masonic lodge.
- "2. If made, they were irregularly made.
- "3. They never had any American authority for constituting a lodge.
- "4. Their charter from England was granted at a time when all American masonic authority agrees that the Grand Lodge of England had no power to make lodges in the United States, after the acknowledgment of our independence, November 30, 1782, and the treaty of peace made November 3, 1783.
- "5. The Grand Lodge of England dropped African Lodge from their list in 1813. Said lodge does not appear to have worked since Prince Hall's death in 1807, except this, that in 1827 parties calling themselves African Lodge, No. 459, repudiated the Grand Lodge of England.
- "6. The Grand Lodge of England did not delegate to African Lodge any power to constitute other lodges, or to work elsewhere than in Boston.
- "7. No masonic authority exists for any of the organizations since 1807, whether pseudo lodges or Grand Lodges; and no evidence of the masonry of any of their members has come to our knowledge.
- "8. Neither English nor any other masonic authority exists, nor has at any time existed, for these colored lodges located out of Boston to make masons or practice Freemasonry. Each of them began its existence in defiance of the masonic community of the State where located, and continues unrecognized by the regular masons of the State."

At the Annual Communication, one hundred and forty-two lodges were represented: two charters granted: three other dispensations reported granted by the Grand Master: one charter surrendered: the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario pronounced a spurious body.

The address of the Grand Master (PERCIVAL L. EVERETT,) is a strictly business document. The debt had been reduced \$9,000 during the year, being now about \$291,000: the number of initiates had fallen off 225, and

the membership 657: [but our table, taken from the official statements and tables in the Proceedings of the two years, shows an *increase* in membership of 185]: we learn from this address that the manner of "healing" is for the Grand Master to issue a special warrant to some Brother, who solemnly re-obligates the party in the several degrees in the body of a lodge.

The death of WENDELL T. DAVIS, Past Sen. Gr. Warden, was announced, and a fitting tribute paid to his memory, as well as to the memory of Bro. JOHN DOVE, late Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

BRO. OTIS E. WELD presented to the Grand Lodge the statue of WARREN, by Henry Dexter, the original of the copy in marble which stands at the base of Bunker Hill Monument.

At each of the four sessions \$500 was placed in the hands of the Committee on Charity for distribution, who say that the calls during the year had been more numerous than usual.

In view of the large number of cases presented calling for "healing," a committee was appointed to consider and determine whether an amendment to the Constitution might not be made to remedy the evils of which complaint was made.

A resolution was adopted that the Grand Lodge celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of the declaration of its independence by Massachusetts Grand Lodge by which it became sovereign and independent.

The "Commissioners of Trials" made reports in two cases, and their recommendations were unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge. A reading of the reports impresses us *very strongly* that for impartiality, freedom from bias, intelligent application of the law to the facts, and ability to weigh the evidence properly, this tribunal is unsurpassed, if equalled, by any other provided for in any jurisdiction. The objections, on the ground of centralizing power, and of the liability to harsh judgments, are not sustained in these two cases: the expense was very moderate, and was borne by the Grand Lodge.

As one of the cases is important in many respects, and was sharply contested by able counsel, we devote some space to it, fearing similar ones may arise in this jurisdiction. There were two specifications, one for embezzling the funds of his lodge, of which he was Secretary, to the amount of \$1,416.36, between June 25, 1860, and June 1, 1876; and the other for intoxication at various times during the twelve months preceding the date of the charge. The Commission say:

"The counsel for the respondent moved to dismiss the complaint, for the reason that no 'time or place was alleged' and for 'a want of definiteness, as required by the common law of the land, and as repugnant to masonic law and usage.' This motion was overruled. Whether a motion to dismiss, if made in a criminal court under the same circumstances, and based upon the same facts, would or would not have prevailed, was not within the province of the Commissioners to determine. It is, however, sufficient, under the masonic law and usage of this jurisdiction, and our sister jurisdictions throughout the country, if the specification allege the act or neglect, or series of acts or neglects, relied upon in the complaint, with substantial accuracy and defin-

iteness, embracing time, place and any other element necessary to constitute the offense, whether that offense be a crime at common law, a statutory crime, or such an act as falls within the designation of a masonic offense. In the judgment of the Commissioners, both specifications of the complaint were sufficient, inasmuch as they set forth with substantial certainty, for a Masonic Tribunal, in the first case, the crime of embezzlement, and, in the second, a clear masonic offense."

The respondent was Secretary during all the time covered by the first specification: his accounts were examined annually, but evidently with little care, and when balances were found in his hands, he was ordered to pay them over to the Treasurer, which he invariably did. Finally, the Master examined his accounts, found there was a deficit of \$175, for which he gave his check: but a subsequent examination by the Master, showed that there must be a still further deficit: the matter was brought before the lodge, and the Secretary requested that the Past Masters be a committee to make an examination: this was done, and a deficit of \$1,400 was found: the Secretary was a man of very careless habits in respect to keeping accounts and the use of money, and this was well known to the various Masters of the lodge and the Finance Committees, who had examined his accounts.

The Commission say:

"Upon the whole evidence bearing upon the specification, the Commissioners were unanimously of the opinion that the intent on the part of the respondent to wrong or defraud the lodge of the moneys entrusted to him was wanting, or, in other words, that the evidence failed to prove such intent beyond a reasonable doubt; and upon the first specification the respondent was adjudged not guilty."

They decided that under the specification, the respondent could not be tried for not keeping his accounts as Secretary properly, and for not accounting for and paying over the money.

He was convicted on the second specification, and indefinitely suspended.

After the installation of the Grand Officers, the "Grand Feast" was held. The speeches at the table are reported in full, in the Proceedings, and are exceedingly interesting. Every living Past Grand Master was present, and responded to a sentiment.

"The Centennial" was celebrated on the afternoon of March 8, 1877, one hundred years from the day on which Massachusetts Grand Lodge declared itself free and independent, and sovereign in Massachusetts. In the Proceedings for March, 1877, a full account of the celebration is given, with the address by Gr. Master EVERETT, the oration by Bro. CHAS. LEVI WOODBURY, and the speeches at the table. The Gr. Masters of New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and Connecticut were all there. The Chairman of your Committee was also fortunate enough to be there.

It is well known that when the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts calls together her sons on such occasions, she has an array of talent and ability that cannot be excelled; but in addition to that, there is scarcely an organization of any kind in which there exists a stronger bond of union or a greater degree of fraternal affection; it follows that it is a source of great instruction and

enjoyment to meet with them. This state of things, we have no doubt, is the result of their habit of frequently meeting together at their "Grand Feasts" and similar occasions; we wish their example could be universally followed.

MICHIGAN, 1876.

This Grand Lodge meets in January, and formerly we were accustomed to receive its Proceedings in season for review in our report of the same year; but for two or three years they have been received too late: the Proceedings reviewed are more than fifteen months old.

A special session was held May 29, 1875, to lay the corner stone of a public library building in Detroit: the Grand Master delivered an excellent and appropriate address.

At the Annual Communication, two hundred and ninety-seven chartered lodges and twelve U. D. represented: thirteen charters granted: three dispensations continued: a code of by-laws for lodges U. D. adopted: a *per capita* tax of ten cents ordered: no Report on Correspondence.

The address of the Grand Master (GEORGE H. DURAND) is chiefly confined to matters of business, but contains some most excellent remarks upon "Social Relations in Masonry."

He decided that a person with but one eye cannot be made a mason: but the Grand Lodge, upon an exhaustive report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, reversed the decision.

He decided that a lodge may attend the funeral of a Brother, as mourners, although the funeral ceremonies are performed by other organizations: the committee reported somewhat at length, that the decision should not be approved: but the Grand Lodge sustained the position of the Grand Master.

We are inclined to believe that the decision of the Grand Lodge is correct in both cases. We have no doubt as to the first: and we can see no valid objection to a lodge's meeting for the funeral of a Brother, and performing the ceremony at the hall, and then following his remains to the grave in the capacity of mourners.

MINNESOTA, 1877.

We last year noticed the extraordinary promptness with which Bro. PIERSON got out the Proceedings. He has repeated it, thus showing that it was not merely accidental last year. The session closed this year the *eleventh* of January, and on the *fourth* of February (the same *date* as last year) we received the Proceedings—a pamphlet of over 250 pages—in Maine.

One hundred and five lodges represented: five charters granted: new "regalia" for the Grand Officers ordered: two copies of the "reprint" distributed to each lodge.

The address of the Grand Master (JAMES C. BRADEN) is exclusively devoted to business.

He says that the Grand Lodge seal had been lithographed and impressions had been used by private parties for personal correspondence. The Grand Lodge forbade its use save for the attestation of official documents.

We are sorry to find that the late Grand Secretary had neglected the business of his office, failing to write up the Grand Lodge books or the Register (for which he was paid by a special appropriation), and, worse than all, had failed to account for and pay over some \$1,000 of Grand Lodge funds. He was suspended from all the rights of masonry and ordered to be summoned at the next Grand Lodge to answer to charges.

Among his decisions is one that a candidate, who has lost the sight of one eye, is eligible: the committee reported the other way, but the Grand Lodge sustained the decision: referring to Michigan, it will be seen that upon this question, the two Grand Masters differed from each other, and the two committees differed from each other, but the two Grand Lodges agreed.

The Grand Orator (E. W. DURANT) delivered an interesting address, which is published in the Appendix.

The Grand Secretary says he has furnished the Proceedings to all public and masonic libraries, which have made application, but he declined to furnish them to private individuals, unless stamps to pay the postage accompanied the application. It does not seem that any complaint will be found with so reasonable condition as that!

But the matter of absorbing interest was the question in relation to "Colored Masonry." The year before it was referred to a committee of three, each of whom made a separate report and submitted resolutions.

BRO. PIERSON takes substantially the same views as we advanced last year, and the following resolutions submitted by him were adopted by a vote of 321 to 6:

"1st.—*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Minnesota declines to recognize the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, located in Boston, Massachusetts, for the reason of its irregular formation.

"2d.—*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge cannot recognize charters as having any validity in this State, except those issued by its authority, and that it cannot issue charters except to such masons as are of its obedience.

"3d.—*Resolved*, That color is neither a bar to, nor a recommendation for the reception of masonic degrees in this jurisdiction, and that it is perfectly competent for any lodge in this jurisdiction to make masons of any parties possessing the required qualifications, viz: 'By being a man, free-born, of lawful age, of good report, and well recommended.'

BRO. GOODRICH submitted a remarkable report, quite a parallel to BRO. CALDWELL'S "New Day, New Duty"—only on the other side of the question. He first proves (?) that in England none below the rank of "gentleman" were "free-born," in the sense of the term in which we are bound to use it! That only *eleven* of the "precious cargo shipped on board the May Flower" were free men!!

He admits that if the charter of African Lodge had been in the hands of Gen. WARREN, "it would have clothed him and his associates with ample authority to make masons," but in the hands of PRINCE HALL, it was worthless! Why? because WARREN was a "Master in Israel," while HALL was "neither free-born, a free man or a citizen." It is true that he neither offers nor suggests any proof of either assertion. But, unfortunately for his argument, history is against him.

He says, further, "There are no colored masons in these United States, neither have there been, nor can there be, until children born of colored parents, since the adoption of our Federal Constitution, touching the questions of slavery, freedom and citizenship, shall attain their majority and be made masons in some lawfully constituted lodge!" We have Bro. WOODBURY's authority to the contrary (see p. 368); and if that was not sufficient to satisfy us, we have sat in the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts with a colored mason. "*It is*" is always an overwhelming answer to "*it cannot be.*" We may remark that the Brother we have referred to was a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by virtue of her Constitution, and, therefore, a citizen of the United States by virtue of its Constitution.

He says that the statement that "Prince Hall was made a mason in an army lodge, is 'not worthy of credence.'" The reason is, that if it is true, the officers and members of that lodge violated their obligations and forfeited their charter. *A non sequitur*: for the rule he cites did not apply to this lodge; and it, and many others, *did* constantly make masons of civilians.

Bro. G. says again, PRINCE HALL appears to have been illiterate and a vagrant: he was no vagrant and not so illiterate; for we have seen a copy of his petition in the archives of Massachusetts, the original of which is in his handwriting, which is as good English and as correctly written as the report we now have under consideration.

Bro. G. returns again to "Prince Hall as a Freed Man," and quotes from some Massachusetts Statutes. In the petition to which we have referred, HALL styles himself a "black free man": he represents that "three of our Brethren, FREE CITIZENS of the town of Boston," had been kidnapped and sold into slavery, and asks for the passage of a law to prevent such acts; a law was passed for the purpose, in which these men were recognized as free-men and as citizens of the Commonwealth: the petition was dated February 27, 1788, and the law was passed at the session of that year.

This reminds us that a letter was published in a paper printed in Portland, in which it is said that the three men thus kidnapped were returned at some time the same year. The letter states that they were carried to St. Bartholomew and offered for sale: that one of them was a Freemason: that the merchant to whom they were offered was also a mason: that the negro told him his story: that he bailed them on allegation that they were free-men and had been kidnapped: that he sent to Boston for evidence, which arriving and

proving their statement to be true, they were liberated: and that they were introduced to the writer of the letter by PRINCE HALL, "who is one of the head men among the blacks in this town."

BRO. GRISWOLD submitted a report, that while he had no doubt of the legitimacy of Prince Hall Grand Lodge, he would recommend that, in deference, *formal* recognition be deferred for the present. He submitted an argument in support of his position. He claims that African Lodge was a regular lodge: that when it was chartered, the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction had not been established, inasmuch as there were then *two* Grand Lodges in Massachusetts, one of which, it is true, *claimed* exclusive jurisdiction in that State: that one lodge was competent to form a Grand Lodge.

He says St. John's Grand Lodge was formed in 1733 by one lodge: he is in error; St. John's Grand Lodge was a Provincial Grand Lodge, organized under authority of a warrant to HENRY PRICE, as Provincial Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge formed the subordinate lodge. We are aware that it has been claimed that the deputation to PRICE was a forgery: no evidence, that would avail anything in a court of law, has been produced to sustain this claim; but even if it was true, it does not affect this argument.

But the fatal defect in his argument is, that African Lodge did not undertake to act as a Grand Lodge. But PRINCE HALL, *without any authority*, created two more lodges, and the three formed the Grand Lodge. African Lodge and PRINCE HALL, as its Master, were acting under a Constitution, which declared that every lodge not created by the warrant of the Grand Master was clandestine. These two lodges, therefore, under the very Constitution by which African Lodge was formed, were clandestine: and, consequently, the Grand Lodge which they assisted in forming was also clandestine.

The Report on Correspondence (155 pp.) was presented by Bro. A. T. C. PIERSON. We have devoted so much space already to this Grand Lodge that we must be brief. He gives the following reasons for printing this report before the session of the Grand Lodge:

"During the annual session, which lasts two or three or more days, the representatives are exclusively engaged with masonic matters; during a lull in the business, they are apt to open a copy of the report,—we have known parties to read in church even during sermon time,—the eye rests upon a decision; a funny extract; a scrap of masonic history; a story; an application of law; a verse of poetry; one of Corson's jokes; a selection from one of Brown's or Henderson's sermons; a case, similar to one in his own lodge that is undetermined; an incident of charity; the objects, the demands, the advantages, the results of our rites in different localities, presented in an eloquent extract and in a phase or language different from that heretofore seen; the attention is aroused, and although the next article may be a dry disquisition upon, to him, an uninteresting matter, but as variety is disclosed, he will continue his examination, surprised that he has neglected such reports in the past, and resolve for the future."

He devotes four pages to Maine, but we find but one matter calling for notice. He is in doubt about our statement that Massachusetts Grand Lodge put forth the doctrine of *exclusive* territorial jurisdiction in 1782; if he will

examine the document to which we referred him, he will find that we are correct.

But he holds that, in 1808, the "American doctrine" had become so generally and firmly established, that the formation of "Prince Hall" Grand Lodge must be held to be unlawful.

MISSOURI, 1876.

It is with feelings of the profoundest grief that we announce the death of GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Four days ago (April 11), the telegraph brought the news of the burning of the Southern Hotel in St. Louis, and that Bro. GOULEY perished in the catastrophe: and while we are writing these lines, the craft in Missouri are performing the last sad rites over his mortal remains.

That dispatch carried sorrow wide spread, for in every State in this Union, Bro. GOULEY had friends whose hearts ache and whose tears flow on account of his sudden, sad end. It is terrible to see a strong man, in the prime of life and in the full vigor of health, struck down instantly by the grim messenger: but how inexpressibly more terrible it must be to see such a man, awaiting a certain death—before our eyes and within the sound of our voice, and we powerless to save him!

Bro. GOULEY was born in Wilmington, Delaware, February 15, 1832: after receiving a good academic education, he studied law and was admitted to the bar, but never entered upon the active practice of his profession: he was connected with one of the departments in Washington for a time, and was also private Secretary of the late STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS: in about 1860 he went to St. Louis, where he was for some years engaged in mercantile pursuits: in 1864, he became assistant Grand Secretary to ANTHONY O'SULLIVAN, and on Bro. O'SULLIVAN's death, in 1866, he became Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Missouri, and since then, we believe, he has given all his time to masonic duties.

He was made a mason while in Washington: joined Missouri Lodge, No. 1, of which he was Senior Warden and acting Master in 1865, and Master in 1866. He received the Chapter degrees in Washington Chapter, D. C., in 1867; joined St. Louis Chapter, No. 8, in 1859 or 1860, of which he was afterwards Secretary and King for several years. We cannot tell when he received the Council degrees and Commandery orders; his name first appears in the published list of members of St. Louis Commandery, No. 1, in 1864, when he was Grand Sword Bearer in the Grand Commandery, and the same year was elected Grand Generalissimo, the next Deputy Grand Commander, and the next two years Grand Commander, after which he became Grand

Recorder. He was, for the first time, Commander of his Commandery after he had been Grand Commander.

He first appeared in the Grand Lodge in May, 1865, as Senior Warden and acting Master of his lodge, and was Deputy Grand Secretary; he was a member the next year and was appointed Deputy Grand Master; in consequence of the illness of the Grand Secretary, he prepared the Reports on Correspondence in both the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and at once took his place among the ablest in that department of masonic labor; in these reports he reviewed the first ones prepared by us; the time of holding the Grand Lodge was changed to October, and before the time came Bro. O'SULLIVAN died, and Bro. GOULEY was appointed Grand Secretary in his place by the Grand Master, then elected by the Grand Lodge and re-elected annually ever since.

From 1866 to 1876, inclusive, he prepared the Reports on Correspondence in all the Grand Bodies of Missouri.

He edited and published the *St. Louis Freemason* several years: his health failing in consequence of overwork, he transferred the *Freemason* to "*The Voice of Masonry*," published in Chicago, to which he has since been a constant contributor.

The manner of his death was terrible in the extreme. He and his wife occupied a room on the fifth story of the hotel: she was awakened by the smoke and aroused him, and they made preparations to leave: soon the smoke became suffocating, and she placed a wet towel over her face and left the room, supposing he had followed her example and was with her; she found the stairs and called to him to come on, and a voice, she supposed to be his, answered from the stairs below her, "Come"; she went on, and arriving in the light, found that she had mistaken another for her husband, and that he was not with her: she started to return, but was led by force down and out into safety. The next that is known of Bro. GOULEY, he was standing at the open window of his room, waiting for rescue by ladders, and evidently expecting it. He waited there, in plain sight of those in the street, for, it is said, more than half an hour. When it became too hot in the room, he got out of the window, with his feet hanging down, and called for water to be thrown upon him: this was attempted, but the stream did not reach his feet. Then, when the flames were scorching him and the smoke was suffocating him, he threw his arms up over his head, and fell forward into the street, crushed and dead.

Since the foregoing was written, we have learned that he was buried by his lodge, assisted by the Grand Master, who read the service. The escort was four Commanderies, various organizations of Odd Fellows, the Military, and the Knights of St. Patrick, all of whom were represented in very large numbers. The eulogy was pronounced by a Past Master of the lodge, whom Bro. GOULEY had once requested to do it. "Few men," says one of the local papers, "that have died in St. Louis, have been the recipients of such *post mortem* homage as was paid to the deceased mason, GEORGE FRANK GOULEY,

and few masons have been escorted to their long home by so many non-masonic citizens."

His remains were sent to Wilmington, Delaware, for burial, and the funeral there took place Saturday, April 21st. The body was received at Philadelphia by the Grand Master, ROBERT CLARK, Bros. THOMAS R. PATTON, CHARLES E. MEYER, and others; a large representation of masons from Delaware and Pennsylvania also attended the funeral.

The following incident is related as happening at the funeral in St. Louis:

"When the Knights Templar were giving the grand honors over the body of their late comrade, a beautiful butterfly arose from the casket, fluttered a moment over it, and then darted into the vault and was seen no more—a striking symbol of the flight of our deceased Brother's soul to the realms of immortality."

His eulogist thus relates the manner in which the request, to which we have alluded, was made:

"Shortly after the demise of our lamented Brother, John D. Daggett, late Grand Treasurer of our Grand Lodge, in company with a number of masonic and other friends, some of whom I see now before me, and while commenting upon the loss which we had then recently sustained, Brother Gouley spoke to this effect: 'When my time shall have come I want no long, suffering sickness or struggle; I desire to be spared in health and usefulness to the last moment; but when I am gone'—using his very gesture at the moment—'when I am gone, I desire Missouri Lodge, No. 1, to bury me.' Then changing from the impressiveness of his manner, and pleasantly turning to me, in the freedom of personal intimacy, he added: 'John, you pronounce my eulogy.' Far too lightly, my Brethren, as I now think of it, I replied as we joined hands, 'Yes, Frank, I will.' It may be that his remark as to his eulogy was not made in full earnestness: most certainly, so far as regarded myself, but little import was attached to it at the moment. But now, sir, as the recollection of that remark comes back upon me, I would be precluded from silence on this occasion, even though feeble may be the effort to comply with his request."

We substitute the following, from the same source, for what we had written in relation to his traits of character:

"As a masonic journalist, he was among the most efficient of his day. His knowledge of Masonic Jurisprudence was varied, and erudite his interpretation of its laws; on this point his opinion was everywhere sought and respected. The high position with which he was honored by our Grand Lodge, and which by his long continuance in it he alike honored, was the best evidence of his masonic ability, integrity and efficiency; as a general writer, while he may have lacked the pathos which would influence impulse, his mind was analytical and acute, his comprehension broad, his purposes honest and true. As a speaker he was eloquent, but it was the eloquence of intellect and of mighty will, not the persuasive tones which might stir sentiment or touch the springs of emotion. He sought to guide the mind, not to move the heart. His speeches were logical, strong, cogent, forcible. As a debater he was a powerful adversary, but still ever was he the courteous opponent. There was no sacrifice which he would not make for a friend, yet no personal bias could swerve him from what he considered a straight line of duty. He was laudably ambitious; his every effort was made as he conceived for the greatest good of his fellow-men. He was courageously firm in the advocacy of truth, and he possessed that indomitable pluck which would have led him to a martyr's end, rather than yield his conviction of right; yet, tenacious as he was of these convictions, he never dogmatically forced them upon others.

This combination of vigorous intellect, generous friendship, laudable ambition and dauntless courage which formed his character, are very rarely found united. In all these characteristics he was great; he was great in all the elements which go to make a strong, useful, honest man. In his death, the masonic fraternity of Missouri have lost one of their most useful—yes, I say, they have lost the most useful—of their members; for wherever the English tongue is spoken and masonry exists, there must be the impress of his labors be found in its behalf. In his demise his *confrères* have lost a good, able, loving instructor, his friends a genial companion, society a worthy member, the State a respected citizen; and although his daily labors will no longer be present with us, yet the world is better that he had lived."

We believe this sketch of him eminently just, and not over-wrought. In the death of Bro. GOULEY, the Fraternity, the world over, have sustained an immense loss: and they mingle their tears with those of their Brethren of Missouri.

He sleeps peacefully on the banks of the Brandywine; but he lives in the hearts of his Brethren and in his deeds. Hail and Farewell.

One hundred and eighty-three lodges represented: several representatives received and acknowledged; among them, M. W. XENOPHON RYLAND, for Maine: Bro. PARVIN, of Iowa, received with appropriate honors: the work exemplified by the Grand Lecturer: an "eloquent address" delivered by Bro. WILLIAM C. FOREMAN, Gr. Orator, and ordered to be published for distribution among the lodges, but it is not found in the Proceedings: the Grand Master requested to place all decisions, as soon as made, in the hands of the Committee on Masonic Law: seven charters and six dispensations granted, and one refused: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming and Prince Edward Island recognized.

The address of the Grand Master (JAMES E. CADLE) is devoted to his official acts, with a brief reference to the duties and responsibilities of the members of the Grand Lodge.

From the large number of matters presented by him, we take the following:

"My attention has been called to the frequent practice of lodges sending out circulars for hall building, and other purposes. There is too much of this for the good of masonry. Lodges should be required to lay their claim before the Grand Master and have his approval, before appealing to the fraternity for aid in hall building."

* * * * *

"Another matter that has caused no little trouble in this jurisdiction, is the heavy debts frequently contracted by lodges for building halls and other purposes, and left hanging on the lodge until its usefulness and vitality are destroyed, and the lodge dies, or its charter is arrested, leaving the membership in a sadly demoralized condition. I believe this evil could be greatly lessened, by the Grand Lodge requiring every lodge to provide for the payment of its debts; and permit no hall to be dedicated to masonry, virtue, and universal benevolence, until provision has been made for the certain extinguishment of all debts."

* * * * *

"On the 20th day of November I received notice that suit had been instituted against the Masonic Hall Association, and fearing the result would affect the Grand Lodge under the double liability law, I wrote Brother

Anderson, Grand Lodge Attorney, to look into the matter. On the 6th of April notice was served on me of a motion in the United States Court for an execution against the Grand Lodge as stockholder in the Masonic Hall Association, under the double liability law. The case, by arrangement, was managed by Judge Dryden, Brother Anderson being sick at the time. On the 26th of April, the case was decided against the Grand Lodge and an execution ordered. To save the humiliating spectacle of an auction sale of Grand Lodge property, I authorized Brothers Loker and Gouley to negotiate a loan and pay the execution. The judgment, interest and cost have all been paid off, amounting to \$1,772.25."

The Grand Lodge adopted his recommendation as to the first; and as to the second, adopted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That no lodge shall be permitted to contract debts, or to engage in enterprises for building halls, until sufficient available means shall have been secured to complete the same."

The third matter grows out of an attempt to erect a masonic hall. We copy it as a warning, for we find, to our surprise, quite an inclination in Grand Lodges to undertake the same thing. We judge there must be several suits against the Grand Lodge, as we notice it paid \$1,750.00 as Attorney's fees during the year.

BRO. GOULEY was not able to be present on account of illness: but his reports and books were all ready, and the Grand Lodge was not hindered or delayed on his account. His request to be excused from attendance was granted, and a vote of sympathy in his affliction was unanimously passed.

None of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges having been bound since 1870, he had completed the files and had them bound, thus adding 157 volumes to the library.

The Grand Master stated that the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for certain years, which he specified, had not been printed, and recommended that it be done: the committee to which his address was referred concurred with him, and their report was accepted: but the Committee on Ways and Means reported in favor of reprinting *all* the early Proceedings up to 1838 inclusive, and their recommendation was adopted; this was wise, for, in fact, the Proceedings for all the years specified by the Grand Master *had* been printed, while those for five other years never had been.

BRO. GOULEY, with much labor and care, prepared a list of all the lodges which had gone off of the register of the Grand Lodge in the fifty-five years since its organization: they number 144, of which 33 had their charters arrested, 53 died during the war, 26 became subordinates of other Grand Lodges, and 32 surrendered their charters or consolidated with other lodges; of the 26, 14 were in Illinois, 4 in Iowa, 2 in Wisconsin, 2 in Kansas, and one each in Oregon, Nebraska and Utah.

The Report on Correspondence (67 pp.) was again prepared by Bro. GOULEY. It is with a heavy heart that we enter upon a review of it: we have often differed from Bro. GOULEY on important questions, and have had very many animated discussions with him, but they have never adversely affected our

personal relations, but, on the contrary, have more strongly cemented the bonds of our friendship.

BRO. GOULEY strongly objects to the "law of perpetual jurisdiction," but it seems to us that he gives away his case in admitting that when objection is made after election and before initiation, the lodge has jurisdiction over the candidate until it waives it. But he is manifestly in error in saying that only Arkansas and a very few others adhere to the doctrine: we have examined to some extent, and we find a large majority of the Grand Lodges in the same category.

He holds that a blank is not a ballot, although he says his Grand Lodge has decided the other way—bad for his Grand Lodge: he objects to requiring Masters and Wardens to wear their jewels in Grand Lodge, which in most Grand Lodges is "more honored in the breach than in the observance": he says that by personal observation and experience he is satisfied that the principal use, to which the published lists of members of lodges are applied, is to furnish a directory to traveling impostors.

In his review of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, he says:

"The Grand Lodge has not been recognized by any of the Grand Lodges that we are aware of, nor is it probable they will be until first recognized by Arkansas, which may, however, take place at the next session. Under no circumstances, however, can we recommend a recognition, until she repeals her mandate compelling Alpha and Flint Lodges (chartered by Kansas) to join her. This she has no right to do in violation of old and well established international masonic law. She may invite them to affiliate, but she cannot compel them."

We understand the old and well established masonic international law to be precisely the other way: not long ago, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania laid it down as a rule, that she would not recognize a Grand Lodge for any jurisdiction, until it had obtained the allegiance of all the lodges in that jurisdiction, and so had really become sovereign.

In his review of Maine, he says:

"He granted dispensations for four new lodges, one of which bears the euphonious name of 'Negutiquit,' which our good Brother Drummond classes among the beautiful Indian names of the departed 'Lo' family. Well, perhaps the same reverence for the noble red man will influence our Pacific slope brethren to name a lodge after 'Shack Nasty Mack,' or some of 'Sitting Bull's' squaws, but we think not, for the further West one goes, the less he feels like embracing the Indian or anything that belongs to him, having so often seen him in 'real life' so different from the sentimental romance of Mr. Fenimore Cooper."

The lodges are named for the old name of the place where they are located, and not from any of the "Lo" family—squaws or otherwise.

He quotes all the decisions of our Grand Master, agreeing with all except the seventeenth and twenty-fourth, and objecting to those on grounds not tenable (as he presumes the case may be) under our laws.

In reference to the dedication of halls, he says:

"We do not agree that the ceremony of dedicating a lodge room implies an ownership of it, any more than that the Grand Lodge owns all the halls it

dedicates, or the buildings of which it lays the corner stones. We hold that every lodge room should be dedicated, no matter whether occupied or owned by another party or not. The dedication is simply a ceremony, adopted in ancient times, as a necessary qualification to the assembly of the lodge, and applies only to the time and place of its meetings, without any reference whatever to primary or absolute ownership."

We had marked various other matters for extract and comment, but his recent sad death is constantly in our mind, and we have no heart to commence a discussion which our Brother can no longer continue.

MONTANA, 1876.

All the seventeen lodges represented: one charter granted and one restored: and the usual routine business transacted.

The Proceedings are printed in admirable shape and (as usual) are embellished with the portrait of the retiring Grand Master.

The Grand Master (HARRY R. COMLY) forcibly discusses the duties of masons and the influence of masonry upon the world. His official acts had been few. He decides that an objection to advancement stops the candidate and holds good until the objection is withdrawn; but in view of the liability of this rule to abuse, he urges that the Grand Lodge modify it, so that such an objection shall be only equivalent to a rejection by ballot: the Grand Lodge adopted his recommendation.

The Grand Secretary reports that the reprint of the early Proceedings had been completed.

The records of all the subordinate lodges were before the Grand Lodge and were carefully examined by a committee and all errors and inaccuracies pointed out. As a whole, the report shows that the records had been remarkably well kept. The most important error was the omission to record the commission by which special deputies were authorized to constitute lodges and install officers: while such a record is important, it has been the custom in Maine to have these matters in the Grand Lodge records rather than the lodge records. The officer commissioned makes his return to the Grand Master, who reports to the Grand Lodge the fact of the commission and of the duty authorized by it having been performed.

A report in favor of forming a "Masonic Benevolent Association" was made and accepted: but the committee was discharged without any further action.

A proposition that there should be but one ballot for the degrees was defeated.

The Brethren were quite expeditious this year in selecting the place for the next session of the Grand Lodge, as the yeas and nays were called only three times to accomplish it.

BRO. CORNELIUS HEDGES submitted another of his most admirable Reports on Correspondence (123 pp.), in which there are but *two* extracts, and one of

them is our report of last year on "Colored Masonry," our "Statistics," and remarks on "Non-payment of Dues," in all of which he "cordially concurs."

He does not believe in creating permanent Grand Lodge funds, with the view of paying Grand Lodge expenses from the income, as it seems to him to be "a very unwise and oppressive scheme of taxing the present generation for the benefit of a future one, that in all probability will be much better able to support itself." And we presume he would be equally opposed to creating a debt for future generations to pay. He says that the revolt in Ontario is "without right, reason, or any decent excuse."

In relation to dues, he says that, in modern society, organization has taken the place of individual action, and its superiority can no more be denied than civilization itself. This is true, so far as the *amount* of relief is concerned, but at the same time it makes charity a matter of business, and deprives the giver of the blessing: in other words, the kindly influence upon the individual, his personal responsibility for his fellow, and his interest in the work are lost; and as these are the peculiar features of masonic charity, we are inclined to lament the introduction of the business system, although we admit its superiority in other respects.

In noticing the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, he says that the system of submitting amendments to the lodges for ratification has disastrously failed in all the jurisdictions in which it has been tried. To this we add, that it is a departure from the old system of masonic government, and is a mere attempt at a feeble imitation of a Federal Constitution, and ought to have been expected to "fail disastrously."

He does not agree with Bro. SINGLETON, that a Grand Lodge should not finally decide cases, but should send them back for a new trial. The observation of Bro. HEDGES convinces him that few cases should be sent back for re-hearing; and that justice is more speedily and effectually reached, in most cases, by the Grand Lodge finally disposing of the matter itself.

And this reminds us that in one thing Bro. SINGLETON may have forgotten his early teachings, as the Ahiman Rezon of his mother Grand Lodge (Virginia), published in 1818, contains a general regulation, adopted in 1799 (see p. 114), that "should any Brother, resident in Virginia, who may not belong to any lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge deport himself so immorally as to merit the reprobation of his Brethren, *the subordinate lodge nearest to the place of his residence*, shall have the power to take cognizance of such reprehensible conduct, in the same manner as if the said Brother were a member of that lodge." As the same law is given in DOVE's Text Book, and in all the editions (1847, 1854 and 1866), we think Bro. SINGLETON must have "so received it."

He says Grand Master MOORE's address "is moderate in proportions, and excellent in substance and sentiment."

We would be glad to quote his remarks upon "Intemperance," but the

opening sentence gives his position and we quote only that: "We do believe that it is the part of masonic duty, now and forever, to fight intemperance of every kind, not only in the use of drink but of everything else."

He well says, that when a Brother has pleaded guilty to a charge, it is ridiculous trifling to take a vote whether he is guilty or not.

He says that in Montana, the ballot on advancement is not limited to *proficiency*, but extends to the "moral, intellectual and masonic qualifications of the applicant."

NEBRASKA, 1875.

Forty-nine lodges represented: six charters granted: one dispensation continued: the State divided into seven "Custodian Districts": Orphan School Fund \$7,011.41: the Grand Lodge of Wyoming recognized: the recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory referred to the Grand Master with power: recognition of the Grand Orients of Hungary and of Brazil refused: a fine oration delivered by WILLIAM H. MORRIS, Grand Orator: the lodges recommended to change their by-laws so as to require no fee for affiliation: a District Deputy Grand Master appointed for each "Custodian District."

The address of the Grand Master (FRANK WELCH) is quite brief, and is devoted to local matters. One decision, we quote, wondering how any different practice could prevail:

"Money accompanying a petition should not be passed into the treasury of a lodge before a favorable ballot."

A special committee upon the subject, recommended the printing only of the result of the report of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, and a brief abstract of the accounts; the omission of lists of members; the stereotyping of the Proceedings; and the publication in full of the Report on Correspondence, believing them beneficial and calculated to produce a fraternal feeling between jurisdictions, and that Nebraska has no occasion to regret a comparison of her reports with those of other Grand Lodges. The Grand Lodge adopted the recommendations; and we are sure it has no cause for regrets.

The Grand Lodge decided that a by-law of a lodge, requiring a two-thirds vote in financial matters, is valid.

A resolution that representatives of lodges, chartered at that session, be permitted to vote, was properly defeated: they had not been constituted.

An invitation to visit the Penitentiary was accepted, presumably because the invitation stipulated that they were to return at three—involving a detention of not more than two hours, at the worst.

It was correctly decided that when an entire new Code of Constitution and By-Laws is adopted, no repealing clause is necessary to supercede the old code.

The thanks of the Grand Lodge were extended to Gen. ORD, of the U. S.

Army, and his command, "for the sustaining care extended to the suffering masons of Nebraska during the past year."

The District Deputy Grand Masters were, *by resolution*, made members of the Grand Lodge, with seats and votes therein. The Grand Secretary (Bro. BOWEN) raised the objection that they could not be members of the Grand Lodge by mere resolution: but the Grand Lodge overruled the objection. We think the objection was well taken: the Constitution provides who shall compose the Grand Lodge and cannot be amended by a resolution; but changing the composition of the Grand Lodge *does* amend the Constitution, and, therefore, it cannot be done by resolution.

The Report on Correspondence (144 pp.) was presented by Bro. J. N. WISE. We cannot devote much space to it, as we have two years of Nebraska in this report. His quotations are exceedingly well selected, his criticisms courteous and just, and his discussions sound: and in a careful reading of it we find but little calling for dissent.

He says Grand Master CARGILL made a good year's record for himself. Referring to his suspending a mason from all the rights and benefits of masonry, until the meeting of the Grand Lodge, Bro. B. asks if this is one of the "ancient prerogatives" of the Grand Master: we cannot tell, and in this State it is immaterial, for our Constitution expressly gives that power to the Grand Master.

NEBRASKA, 1876.

Fifty-four lodges represented: "Orphan Fund" \$7,715.10: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized: three charters granted and one dispensation continued: one charter surrendered: the Grand Orator, JAMES LAIRD, delivered an exceedingly good oration.

The Grand Master (ALFRED M. HASTINGS) congratulates the craft upon the prevalence, with few exceptions, of peace, harmony and prosperity.

It seems that the action of the Grand Lodge the year before, in creating the office of District Deputy Grand Master, gave two officers, the Deputy and the Custodian, to each District: the Grand Master doubted the power of the Grand Lodge to do that, and such seems to have been its final conclusion, for it repealed the resolution creating the office, re-considered the vote accepting the report on credentials, and struck the Deputies from the list of members.

He decided, contrary to the practice in that State, that no Brother can be expelled for non-payment of dues; nor suspended without due trial: the Grand Lodge sustained these decisions, and pronounced several expulsions and suspensions void in consequence.

He also decided that not less than seven members form a quorum for the transaction of business: we do not perceive how this can be sustained in the absence of express law: the Committee on Jurisprudence have it under consideration.

He also decided that the Master can exclude temporarily a member from the lodge, but it can be justified only upon grounds warranting charges for unmasonic conduct. But suppose the Brother is insane and disorderly? We think that a member may be excluded when he is in a condition to disturb the lodge: but we doubt whether one can legally be excluded on the ground of unmasonic conduct until after conviction; if it was a gross case, and the Brother notoriously guilty even, it would be better for the Master to close the lodge, if the Brethren objected to sitting with him, than trench upon the rights of a member.

The Grand Secretary expresses great mortification at the delay in the issuing of the Proceedings the year before. We did not receive them in season for our review, and expressed surprise in our report, as we have always been in the habit of receiving them promptly.

Permission was given to lodges to appear in full clothing to celebrate the centennial fourth of July.

The Grand Lodge decided, upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, that one lodge is legally and masonically bound to refund money paid by another lodge, for the relief of its members. All other Grand Lodges, so far as we have observed, have decided the other way.

Each lodge was authorized and recommended to collect one dollar from each of its members, for the erection of a mausoleum to the memory of Washington.

The Report on Correspondence (79 pp.) was again presented by Bro. J. N. WISE.

He insists that when a lodge restores a suspended member, he is thereby restored to membership; that it cannot restore him without restoring him to membership, and he pertinently asks, if this is not so, how it is that *removing* the suspension *destroys* the membership?

He relates an instance of complication arising out of one lodge's doing the work for another. A lodge in Nebraska requested a lodge in Iowa to confer the third degree on a candidate for it. The Iowa lodge did so, had the candidate sign the by-laws, and the Master decided he was a member of that lodge. The Nebraska lodge decided that he was a member of their lodge and sent a protest to the Iowa lodge: but the Grand Master of Iowa decided that the Iowa lodge was right: and as it had *possession*, the Nebraska lodge had no rights to be respected.

He extracts half a page from Grand Master MOORE's address, which he says are "sensible remarks" upon the secret ballot. He objects to the decision that dues accrue during suspension from membership.

NEVADA, 1876.

We had sent to the printer, as our notice of Nevada, a letter from the Grand Secretary to Bro. GOULEY, stating that no Annual Communication had been

held in 1875, on account of the fire in Virginia City, when we were delighted beyond measure to receive the Proceedings of 1876, in the old familiar form, and looking as natural as ever.

There was a special session Oct. 12, 1875, to lay the corner stone of Masonic Hall, at which an oration was delivered by Bro. CHAS. E. DeLONG, and a poem by Bro. ROBERT H. TAYLOR, but the minutes and both productions were destroyed by the fire, and cannot be replaced.

Another "special" was held August 2, 1876, at Gold Hill, to lay a corner stone.

At the Annual Communication, eighteen lodges were represented: one dispensation continued: the time for the Annual Communication changed to the second Tuesday in June: GEORGE ROBINSON accredited and received with Grand Honors, as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine: a seal for the Grand Master ordered, and the Grand Secretary directed to send an impression of it to the other Grand Lodges: the Grand Lodges of Indian Territory, Dakota, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming recognized.

The Grand Master says that on May 19, 1875, the building occupied by the Masonic Bodies of Virginia City was burned, and the library of the Grand Lodge nearly destroyed: thereupon, the Bodies met in Odd Fellow's Hall; but on September 3, 1875, that was burned, and the lodges lost their books, papers, records and paraphernalia: then came the fire on October 22, 1875, "which bore away almost the entire city of Virginia in an appalling volume of flame and cloud of smoke," and destroyed "all the books, papers, records and property of the Grand Lodge, except its funds in bank and its jewels." In consequence, no Annual Communication was held, as the fire occurred but a few weeks before the Grand Lodge was to meet: at first it was intended to hold a session in June, 1876, but it was finally concluded to wait till the stated time.

The Grand Master, ROBERT W. BOLLEN, gives a succinct account of his official action, and a statement of his decisions made during the two years: he says the condition of the lodges, as to membership and financial condition, is prosperous; that eight of the lodges (two of them jointly) have halls of which they are justly proud; and that proper care has been exercised in the selection of candidates, and a healthful emulation exists as to the work.

On Sept. 8, 1875, after the burning of Odd Fellows' Hall, he convened, by request, Virginia Lodge, No. 3, on the summit of Mt. Davidson: it was the regular communication, and as there was a vast gathering present, and, therefore, it was impossible to declare that all present were masons, the lodge was opened without form. "Nearly every Grand Lodge in the United States, and nearly every nation upon the face of the globe, was represented in the assemblage. The occasion was profoundly interesting, and the memory thereof will not cease in masonic history." "The enemies of Freemasonry, who had pretended to discover Providential design in the successive burnings

of lodge rooms, were sorely discomforted. It was a proud day for masons and masonry."

He had intended to appeal for aid, especially as the fire happened in the beginning of winter; but upon consultation with the masons of Virginia City, he found the large majority opposed to it, insisting that they were able to overcome the difficulties without help from abroad, and he says it has been well proved that the people of that city were adequate to such a task. While we admire their pluck, we think the occasion demanded that aid from their Brethren in other jurisdictions, which they would have been happy to render.

The Constitution was amended upon recommendation of the Grand Master, so that an objection after ballot is not perpetual, but has the force of a black ball.

He also calls attention to certain vices prevalent, for which the perpetrators should be disciplined: he says habitual intoxication among members of the craft is doing much to destroy confidence in the moral professions of masons: that gambling is alarmingly prevalent: that profanity is noticeable: and that in many cases, Brethren, maintaining visiting relations with the same lodge, deny to each other the common courtesies of life. All these offences, he says, should be speedily and effectually punished: and all good masons will concur with him.

He granted permission to the President of a masonic association, to bury a deceased Brother with masonic honors, which the Grand Lodge properly disapproved: he also gave permission to certain Brethren to form a Board of Masonic Relief and to hold lodges of instruction, which the Grand Lodge also disapproved for want of authority, but we are utterly unable to see upon what their decision is based.

He made certain decisions in regard to non-affiliates, which, under the general masonic law, are sound; but the Grand Lodge, following the "new departure" of New York, disapproved, and adopted, as far as is practicable, until the next session, the New York law in relation to granting dimitts, and the *status* of non-affiliates.

Among his decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge, are the following:

1. A W. Master elect must receive the Past Master's degree before being finally installed.

We dissent from this in the general terms in which it is stated. The long practice has been that a Master may be installed by his predecessor and enter upon the discharge of his duties, and afterwards receive that degree as instruction. The ceremonies practiced here from time immemorial (so far as that expression can be used in relation to oral traditions), expressly recognize the same thing: the degree may be conferred upon "a Master in the chair."

2. Any Master Mason, member of a constituent lodge, is eligible to any appointive office in the Grand Lodge.

And they become, as in Maine and other Eastern States, members of the

Grand Lodge by such appointment and installation. The same rule applies here to the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

3. Special assessments cannot be levied by a lodge, unless they are specially authorized by the by-laws.

A lodge is masonically and legally bound to pay its debts, incurred within the sphere of its authority: and if the funds derived from its dues are not sufficient, we hold, in the absence of by-laws, that it may lay an assessment, and, moreover, is legally and masonically bound to do so, unless the deficiencies are supplied voluntarily. But assessments for other than the legitimate expenses of a lodge, or to pay a debt, are not justifiable, even when the by-laws provide that assessments may be laid.

4. A man blind in one eye cannot be made a mason.

We think that the one who *first* made this decision was blind in *both* eyes, mentally; but it may be that *we* are in that condition, and, therefore, cannot see the reasons for it!

The Report on Correspondence (140 pp.) was presented, as usual, by Bro. ROBERT H. TAYLOR. We find that one reason given by the Grand Master for not holding a special session of the Grand Lodge, was, that his reluctance to the publication of Proceedings, "without the embellishment of one of Bro. TAYLOR's inimitable reports, was well nigh insurmountable:" a just compliment, in which all who read those reports will concur.

The brief time given us for a review of these Proceedings precludes the notice of this report to which its value entitles it.

He too, suffered by the fire, in his work: the fire in May destroyed all the Proceedings received, which he had carefully read and fully arranged for review: a duplicate set, sent in answer to a circular, with a large portion of his report, ready for the printer, shared the same fate, in the October fire. For these reasons, our Proceedings for 1875 are not reviewed.

He also adds a digest (14 pp.) of the decisions compiled from the various Proceedings.

We had marked various matters for quotation and discussion, but we conclude to surrender all our remaining space to his account of the meeting of Virginia Lodge on Mt. Davidson:

"The meeting referred to was a *stated* communication of *Virginia* Lodge, No. 3, and was held on the 8th day of September, 1875. The Masonic Hall, in Virginia, was burned in May; the lodges then removed to Odd Fellows Hall, which was burned a few days before the meeting on the mountain. Bro. Albert Hires, the Worshipful Master of *Virginia* Lodge, at the solicitation of many masons, and with the approval of the Grand Master, M. W. Robert W. Bollen, notified the members to meet in regular communication at the summit of Mt. Davidson, which is seven thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven feet above the level of the sea, and nearly seventeen hundred feet above the city of Virginia.

"The summit of the mountain is a pointed mass of broken granite, yet almost upon the very apex, and a little west of it, where there is a sort of basin, surrounded by cliffs, the lodge was held. A rude altar of stone had been erected, whereon rested the three great lights, and beside it the representative of the three lesser lights; rude chairs of rough granite had also been

built for the Master and Wardens, while the Brethren found ample accommodations in the way of seats by availing themselves of stone slabs and boulders which nature had profusely there provided.

"Around that altar were gathered over three hundred masons, who, in the heat of the mid-day sun, had toiled up the rugged mountain side to witness and assist at the opening of a masonic lodge at a place so unusual in our times and there overlooking a city of twenty thousand people, on a summit from which the country for the radius of perhaps a hundred miles is visible, with its towns, lakes, mountains, valleys, hoisting works, quartz mills and railroads, the lodge was opened and its regular business was transacted. The M. W. Grand Master, by special invitation, presided.

"A row of pickets, designated by white badges on their left arms, were stationed all around the summit. They were near each other, so that none could pass or re-pass without permission. In that way the approach of cowans and eaves-droppers was effectually guarded against. As the lodge was opened, the white emblem of the craft was thrown to the breeze from the flagstaff on the summit, and as the wind unwrapt its folds, and displayed the square, compasses and letter G, thereon emblazoned, it was greeted by three cheers that rang out upon the clear air like clarion blasts. An opening ode was sung by the lodge quartette, composed of Bros. E. J. Passmore, George N. Eells, C. L. Foster and George W. Dorwin, and a brief prayer was offered by Rev. Bro. J. D. Hammond.

"The Grand Master made a very feeling address, thanking the Brethren for the invitation extended to him to preside on the occasion. He gave accounts of some preliminary meetings which had been held on the coast on the top of hills: of one near Ragtown, where the Brethren had come together in that way to raise money and provisions for suffering immigrants, and over which meeting he had the honor to preside; of a similar gathering in 1851, in Eureka, and of another at Auburn, California. But none of these were gatherings like the present, and he again thanked the Brethren that he had been called upon to preside over their deliberations.

"After the regular business of the lodge had been transacted, and under the head of the 'Good of Masonry,' Bro. Charles E. DeLong, late United States Minister to Japan (who died October 26, 1876), was called upon, and responded very happily. He sketched the surroundings within which they had erected their altar. Beneath them was the wealth of Ophir, and around them the tumult of trade, etc., etc. He told them how in Japan he had assisted in welding the link in masonry which made the chain complete around the world. Up to that time there had been one land where the craft was not known. Now there was none. Masonry belted the globe. The lights of the altar had been lighted, and now there were six lodges in the Empire, and the institution was rapidly spreading.

"Bro. R. H. Taylor (to whom a subpoena *duces tecum* had previously been directed by the Worshipful Master) was then called upon, and responded by reading the following:

- "The Lord unto the prophet said,
 'Upon the mountain's topmost round,
 Far as its breezy limits spread,
 Shall be most holy ground.' *
 "Neath God's blue dome, on lofty hills,
 Whose crests first catch the morning heat—
 Whose heights the evening glory fills—
 The craft were wont to meet.
 "There, far above the busy mart,
 And from its care and turmoil free,
 They learned the lessons of the heart,
 To 'work' and to 'agree.'

* * * EZEKIEL xliii.—'Upon the top of the mountain, the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy.'"

"Oh! sacred hills of olden time,
Whose hoary crags resist the gale,
Ye have a history sublime,
That ages cannot pale!

"Again, to-day, the sons of light,
As did their sires of olden days,
Upon the mountain's dizzy height,
Their mystic banner raise.

"Again, above the busy marts,
Where human feet have seldom trod,
We raise our voices and our hearts
In reverence to God.

"Almighty Father! by whose will
The mountains rise, and worlds do move,
Thy blessing grant; descend and fill
Each Mason's heart with love.

"Brothers E. A. Sherman, Thomas H. Williams, R. M. Daggett, M. W. John C. Currie and M. W. George W. Hopkins, followed in brief and happily expressed remarks.

"A touching prayer was then offered by Rev. Bro. S. P. Kelly; 'Auld Lang Syne' was sung in full chorus; the lodge was closed, and at about 5 o'clock P. M., the concourse wended their way down the mountain side. And though doubtless weary upon arriving at their homes, all agreed that they had enjoyed and been benefited by the exercises of the day, which, with its many pleasant incidents, will never be by them forgotten."

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1876.

Seventeen lodges represented: receipts \$1,350 and expenses about \$1,200: \$100 placed at the disposal of the Library Committee: the work exemplified: two charters granted: the Grand Lodge of Dakota recognized: the so called Grand Lodge of Ontario declared irregular and clandestine: a "Funeral Service" adopted, but not made exclusive: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (ROBERT T. CLINCH) calls attention of Grand Lodge to the Ontario matter, giving as reasons why it is an irregular body, that the Province is occupied by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and that the new body was unmasonically formed by *individuals*, and not by lodges. He devotes the remainder of his address to matters of merely local interest.

The Board of General Purposes report that harmony and prosperity continue to prevail: that the lodges are perfecting themselves in the work: that the craft have responded most generously to the many calls for benevolence and charity: and that no disputes of any kind have come before them.

A large number of Representatives were received and accredited.

Tributes of respect were paid to the memory of ALDIS BERNARD, formerly Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Canada.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1876.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Bro. JOHN A. HARRIS, Grand Secretary, for advance sheets containing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and

a few pages of the Report on Correspondence, for which we judge the publication of the proceedings has been delayed.

The Semi-annual Communication was held at Manchester for the exemplification of the work.

At the Annual Communication, fifty-nine lodges were represented: the usual routine business was transacted.

The Grand Master, in a brief address, announces the deaths of Past Grand Masters DANIEL BALCH and ISRAEL HUNT; of Past Deputy Grand Master JACOB HANSON; and of Past Senior Grand Warden JOHN B. FISH.

The District Deputies (with one exception) made full reports, referring specifically to each lodge. From them, we gather that the lodges generally are in a healthy condition, doing a fair amount of work, and, with few exceptions, free from debt.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported that a rejected candidate "was ever afterwards precluded from the right to be made a mason in any other lodge," without consent of the rejecting lodge. "The rule, which forbids one Master to supplant another in his work, was established long before jurisdictional lines were established, and it applies to this case."

The Reports of the Committee on Appeals in this Grand Lodge are full and valuable. We take the following from them:

"One of the members of this lodge seasonably moved an adjournment for one month. The W. Master erred in entertaining the motion.

"Every intelligent mason by this time ought to know that a Blue Lodge, sitting at the trial of a Brother, is not a Yankee town meeting, which adjourns upon motion, and by major vote, but a court of criminal jurisdiction. A court rises and sits, not upon the motion of a juror or witness, and by major vote, but upon the order of the presiding judge.

"A special communication of a Blue Lodge, held for trial, is called by the Master, and not by the lodge. The power and the prerogative is his, not theirs; they cannot direct him when to call it, nor can they control him as to its postponement. All suggestions looking to that end must be addressed to him. He must act under his oath, and is answerable to the supreme masonic authority, the Grand Lodge, for any perversion of the grave trusts committed to his keeping."

* * * * *

"We have yet to learn that it is a good cause for a dimit that a member who has been drunk more or less for twenty years thinks that a committee should have been raised to investigate his case before he was reprimanded for a gross offense, in the regular course of procedure under the Constitution.

"We have had occasion to say that Freemasonry is a law unto itself; that 'prohibition,' 'license' and 'regulation' are alike unknown to our institution; but that by the fundamental law, older than all Grand Constitutions, temperance—'keeping within due bounds'—is the sacred duty of every mason. Drunkenness is one of the crying evils of our land, alike in high and in low places. The 'ruin it has made' meets us everywhere; the waves cast up its wrecks on every shore. If the accused told the truth in relation to his drinking associates within the fold, their existence therein has been a shame and a reproach to the Order, and enough to make it a by-word. It is time that it was distinctly understood by every member of the Craft that either the vile, drunken, depraved and immoral, or the decent men, should be driven from the Order.

"The tenets of Freemasonry are as pure as Heaven's own light; but the

mire which is cast upon them by those from whom better things are to be expected too often befoils it in the eyes of the world."

A curious case came before the Grand Lodge. A member filed charges against a lodge for taking usurious interest from him upon a note he had given to it. He desired an extension, when the note became due, and agreed to pay the lodge the same rate of interest (more than allowed by law) which it was paying for money to replace that which he owed them. The Grand Lodge rightly decided in favor of the lodge.

NEW JERSEY, 1877.

Representation, 130 out of 144 lodges: two charters granted, and one petition for restoration of a charter denied: a lodge of instruction held during the session: a steel plate engraving of Grand Secretary HOUGH* ordered to be placed in the Proceedings: Grand Master CLARK of Pennsylvania, and P. G. Master SIMONS of New York, received with appropriate honors: a motion was adopted to place in the Proceedings of the present year, the portrait of DANIEL COX, but it is not in any copy which we have seen.*

The Grand Master (MARSHALL B. SMITH) delivered a practical, business-like address.

He announced the following decisions, all of which were approved by the Grand Lodge:

"1. Any assembly of men in the State of New Jersey, professing to be a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and not acting under a warrant from this Grand Lodge, or under a dispensation issued by the Grand Master thereof, is spurious and clandestine, and therefore destitute of all masonic character or standing.

"2. No lodge or lodges, in this jurisdiction, can appear *as such* in a civic procession, except for the purpose of assisting the Grand Lodge, or its proper officers, in some masonic ceremony recognized by the usages and regulations of the craft.

"3. It is not proper for masons, as such, to participate in the *dedication* of any room or building, no portion of which is to be used for masonic purposes.

"4. The Past Masters and Wardens of a lodge are not entitled, by the Constitution, to be represented by proxies in the Grand Lodge.

"5. The practice of inviting officers from other jurisdictions to exemplify their work on actual candidates, tends to promote confusion, and is hereby prohibited.

"6. A Worshipful Master has no authority to remove permanently an appointed officer who has been duly installed. He may, however, deprive of his functions any appointed officer who is guilty of any misconduct, and fill the office temporarily at each communication of the lodge.

"7. Committees are appointed by the actual or acting Worshipful Master. A resolution naming the members of a committee, trenches upon the prerogatives of the presiding officer, and is out of order.

"8. It is improper and unmasonic to *print* the names of suspended or expelled masons in circulars issued by lodges.

"9. A candidate rejected by a lodge in another jurisdiction, cannot legally

* Later copies contain admirable portraits of each.

be made a mason in New Jersey without the consent of the lodge which rejected him.

"10. The Brother who proposes a candidate should not be placed on the Committee of Investigation.

"11. When a Master Mason's application for affiliation has been rejected by a lodge, the dimit which accompanied his application must be returned to him, without any additional writing or endorsement thereon.

"12. Freemasonry being professedly, as it always should be in reality, a moral no less than a social institution, any flagrant or willful violation of the moral law is a wrong done to the Fraternity, and therefore a masonic offense; and a Brother thus offending is liable to charges.

"13. A District Deputy Grand Master—representing as he does, for specific purposes, the Grand Master—cannot, in this jurisdiction, be suspended by his lodge during the term of office for which he was appointed."

We have formerly held to the same views as are expressed in the second, but, as stated elsewhere in this report, we have modified them.

The ninth recognizes the doctrine of "perpetual jurisdiction" over rejected candidates.

The Grand Master had issued an edict forbidding recognition of any masons of the obedience of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and his action was confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

He calls attention to the impropriety of publishing, in the newspapers, accounts of matters happening within the lodge, such as what work was done, and how it was done, and enforces the duty of secrecy, circumspection and silence.

His remarks upon the "improper use of the ballot," and "suspension for non-payment of dues," are sound and judicious.

The Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary, District Deputy Grand Masters, and Grand Instructors, all make reports, which show the prevalence of harmony, a good degree of prosperity, and a fair degree of interest among the craft.

BRO. SIMONS was called upon to make a statement in regard to the legality of the Grand Lodge of Cuba; the matter was discussed and referred to the Committee on Correspondence to examine and report upon specially next year.

The Report on Correspondence (133 pp.) was presented by BRO. ALEXANDER FULLERTON. Though he makes but few comments and those brief, his report is very readable and interesting.

Speaking of the regulation in California, which amounts to imposing a fine for non-attendance at masonic funerals, he says:

"The Grand Master observes that the effect of this will be to bring Brethren who have been derelict in the duty of attending funerals, to a realizing sense of its importance. It may be so; yet the substitution of economy for respect, as a motive for attending the burial of a Brother, is hardly in keeping with the fraternal sentiment. The consciousness, too, of having saved their money would impart an incongruous cheerfulness to the faces of the mourners, while the absentees would be grieving because of their fines."

And of the Junior Warden's duties:

"Is it quite true that the Junior Warden can be expected to supervise the Brethren between lodge meetings, or that such is the meaning of the clause in the list of his duties? Would not a Junior Warden who understood 'refreshment' to mean the weeks or months between the closing of a lodge and its re-opening, and watched over each Brother in his social, personal and domestic habits with ceaseless vigilance, become an intolerable nuisance? He would certainly never get to the West."

Of masonic colleges:

"There is no reason why the daughters of masons should learn arithmetic, geography, &c., &c., separate from other girls, unless masons are more competent to teach, or masons' daughters more quick to learn. Neither is in fact true. If masonic charity desires to expend itself in education, let it found scholarship in some thoroughly established institution of learning, place its beneficiaries on these, and so secure for them, at less expense, a broader, fuller, and more perfect culture. It is obvious that the \$20,000 which the college in question claims to be worth, would be far more productive in this way than in feebly sustaining an inferior and struggling establishment. The whole business is analogous to the unhappily-increasing foundation of denominational hospitals—Presbyterian, Unitarian, Jewish, &c. One consistent step further would lead to a 'Socinian ward,' a 'Supra-Lapsarian free-bed,' or a 'Progressive Israelite infirmary.' In the Masonic Female College, we should have a 'Chapter dormitory,' an 'A. and A. Rite school room,' and a 'Sovereign Prince of Rose Croix de Harodim and Knight of the Eagle and Pelican dining hall.' The proper way to test a principle is to show its results when logically carried out, and when they are preposterous, there is clearly an absurdity in the principle. But we are writing a review, and not an essay. It is time to pause."

Of the necessity of having men of education for Grand Lecturers:

"If gifted with merely mechanical memories, and if not men of general culture, they are unable to perceive verbal, grammatical, rhetorical, and historical errors; and if, in addition, marked by either perverseness or conceit, they are unwilling to correct them. Between incompetency and indisposition, a whole State runs the risk of perpetuating mistake, solecism, or nonsense. The ignorant are unimproved, and the educated are revolted. What can be more aggravating to a scholar protesting against some hideous blunder in grammar or in rhetoric, than to be told that it is 'standard work?' And who is the 'standard,' and where did he get his 'work?' It turns out to be the R. W. Bro. Brown, who learned it from plain Bro. Jones—excellent Brethren, no doubt, and devoted to the Fraternity, but innocent of grammar as of guile, and unskillful with the pen as with the sword. Imagine Bro. Brown gifted with obstinacy and crowned with authority, and then picture the consternation of his educated pupils!"

We perceive that he has fallen into the error of supposing that the object of requiring visitors to produce a certificate, is to aid them in proving themselves to be masons; not so; the object is to know that *they hail from a legal lodge*; the state of things in Ontario illustrates the importance of the requirement.

He takes exceptions to a regulation of Montana, that the character of reports of Investigating Committee shall not be recorded, and that a ballot must be had, whether the report is favorable or unfavorable. We think that, upon reflection, he will change his views: the report is not action upon the petition, but only information to the Brethren how to act upon it: if the Secretary should inform a rejected candidate "Bros. A., B. and C. reported unfavorably upon your petition," he would be expelled at once, and Bro.

FULLERTON would say "Amen:" with what propriety, then, can he record the same thing in a book, which often must fall into the hands of profanes, and from which, on that account, all matters "not proper to be written" are rigorously excluded?

NEW YORK, 1876.

Representation, 663 lodges out of 715: twelve charters granted; Grand Master MARSHALL B. SMITH of New Jersey, and Past Grand Masters BRUEN of New Jersey, BOYCE of Montana, and DRUMMOND of Maine, received and welcomed with the usual honors.

The Grand Master (ELWOOD E. THORNE) confines his address almost entirely to a detailed statement of his official action, and of matters requiring the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

In noticing complaints that lodges are tardy in sending in their returns, however, he insists that more care should be taken in the selection of members and of officers, and to see that suitable proficiency is made in one degree before another is conferred, firmly believing that if this was done there would be less cause for discipline.

He also pays a tribute to the memory of Past G. Master WINSLOW LEWIS.

He announces that the relations with the Grand Orient of France and the German Grand Lodges are unchanged.

From his remarks in relation to the Masonic Temple we judge that ill feelings have grown up, as he complains that the acts of the Trustees have been criticised in the public prints and the heavy debt attributed to bad management: and even that the Trustees (who are the elective Grand Officers) have been the subjects of "most unsparing and scandalous abuse," and in closing, he says:

"And finally, Brethren, in a few hours I shall put off the robes of office, and again take my place in the ranks. I feel deeply indebted to those who have been officially associated with me during the past year, for cheerful services rendered me, and to those of my staff I owe especial gratitude for the hearty co-operation with which they have met all my efforts to promote the good of the fraternity; while I thank the Brethren most cordially and sincerely for the *exalted honors* conferred upon me, and most thoroughly appreciate the privilege of standing in line with my many respected predecessors, I feel that you will pardon me a few words of admonition at parting. If the tenets of this great Institution of Freemasonry are not mere idle words; if our covenants are not simply ropes of sand, to be subscribed to at one moment and utterly disregarded the next; if to be a mason is to be in brotherly union and fellowship with the craft universal; if to accept office at your hands means honor and confidence; then the anonymous and disgraceful slanders to which your present Grand Officers have been subjected must receive your unqualified condemnation; for otherwise not only will the moral status of our order be lowered, but the time will not be far distant when any man who respects himself and desires to leave an untarnished name to his descendants, will seek rather the obscurity of the humblest among us than desire or accept a position which of itself should command respect from every Brother loyal to the principles of our beloved Institution. Think well of this matter, Brethren, for it is a grave one and brought before you in all kindness, and when

your verdict is rendered, let it be such that all may understand that the tricks and devices of mere politicians are not what we learn from our masonic ritual, and not what the Grand Lodge of New York give countenance to or practice. Again thanking you, and wishing the craft all harmony and prosperity, I bid you God speed in every good and perfect work."

We deeply regret that there should be cause for such an admonition: but it enforces a lesson that all should heed—to avoid laying burdens on the craft which may give rise to a state of things which may make such an admonition necessary.

The Trustees had employed Bros. ROBERT H. THOMAS and E. M. L. EHLERS to examine the accounts, and they report the receipts and expenditures from the inception of the enterprise in detail. The total receipts and expenditures for the Temple are nearly \$1,000,000, of which about \$800,000 remains as a debt. The total rents for the year were about \$52,000, which are expected to be increased the coming year to some \$58,000, from which must be deducted the running expenses.

The masonic bodies generally pay \$400 a year rent, and members of the Commanderies three dollars a year for each "closet" for their costume.

The committee to whom the reports were referred say they "are firmly of the opinion that we commenced the erection of this edifice several years before common prudence would have dictated it," and "the work, too, has been done on a scale of magnificence far beyond our ability to pay."

We call attention to this matter to warn other Grand Lodges and all other bodies against similar enterprises, to engage in which there is now so strong a tendency. We have no fear that our Brethren of New York will break down under their load, heavy as it may be: we know their ability, pluck and energy too well: and in what we have said we mean no reflection upon them: but they will not object to the use of their admitted mistake to prevent its imitation by others.

From the report of the Commissioners of Appeals, adopted by the Grand Lodge, we take the following, which we commend to the attention of Bros. SINGLETON and DIEHL:

"The Constitution confers upon the Grand Lodge judicial powers, and such judicial powers may be exercised; and are, 1. Original. 2. Appellate, embracing all matters of controversy and discipline over which it has or has not original jurisdiction. When the Grand Lodge is exercising its appellate function, in the hearing of a masonic appeal, it is purely and simply a judicial body, a masonic court of appeals, of ultimate resort, and every duly accredited representative to it is performing, in the consideration of the case before it, an independent judicial act in determining it; and the judgment of the court upon the appeal before it becomes the law of the case, and of the jurisdiction.

"The office of an appeal is to bring before such tribunal for review and correction any errors of fact or of law, which are by the record assigned and alleged to have been committed by the subordinate lodge in the trial, and from whose judgment the appeal is taken, so that justice may be done to all parties.

"The Grand Lodge has in its code prescribed that a masonic trial should be conducted in all respects, as near as may be, like the trial of an action at

law in a Court of Record; and be governed by the same general rules; and by the 75th section of its statutes declared, that all appeals taken in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution and Statutes shall be conducted, as far as the same may be applicable, in accordance with such rules and forms as may be adopted by it.

"Now, 'the Court of Appeals is a Court of last resort in this State, of exclusive appellate jurisdiction; and it may reverse, affirm, or modify the judgment appealed from, in whole or in part, and as to any or all of the parties; and its judgment shall be remitted to the court below to be enforced according to law.'

"If appeals before the Grand Lodge, sitting as an appellate judicial body, are to be conducted in all respects, as near as may be, like the same proceeding at law, or in equity in a Court of Record, then this body has, in virtue of its fundamental law, the right to reverse, affirm, or modify any judgment or proceeding in appeal brought up before it for review, and to remit its judgment to the lodge below to be carried into effect."

* * * * *

"There must be an inherent power, as there is a constitutional right, vested in the Grand Lodge, as the highest judicial authority in the jurisdiction over the acts and proceedings of subordinate lodges in their disciplinary powers and functions, to compel them by appropriate proceedings in the nature of mandamus if necessary, to observe and obey the law which alike creates and controls them as courts and bodies of subordinate judicial masonic authority; and to controvene any assumed prerogative in setting up a standard of morals, conduct, or practice for itself or its members, which is not in accord or harmony with the established masonic, moral or civil standards and tests.

"And while the commission would not recommend any vigorous or unusual course with respect to the dealings of the Grand Lodge with the lodges under its jurisdiction, still it does not hesitate to declare the power and duty of the Grand Lodge in the premises, whenever the occasion demands its exercise."

The Grand Master made quite a number of decisions, but most of them dependent upon local law. While most of the decisions were approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence and the Grand Lodge, yet the committee differed from the Grand Master in respect to some, and the Grand Lodge sustained the Grand Master and overruled the committee in some; overruled the Grand Master and sustained the committee in others; and in others, overruled both the Grand Master and the committee!

Will our Brethren in New York allow us to suggest, that in consequence of the haste in which decisions are passed upon both by the committee and the Grand Lodge, they do not have the authority which the decisions of that Grand Lodge have had and ought to have. The decisions are announced by the Grand Master in Grand Lodge, are referred to a committee, who report on them the next day or the one following, and the Grand Lodge act *instantly* on their report, upon hearing it read, neither the committee or the Grand Lodge having had time to examine the decisions with the necessary care. For this reason, we think they should not be acted upon by the Grand Lodge until the next session, save in exceptional cases.

The reports of the Deputies are full and many of them very interesting. One of them, Bro. CHARLES W. BROWN, had visited all his lodges (16) once, some of them twice, and a few three times; *at each he had delivered an address.* He announces one thing which will put our Keystone Brethren on the *qui vive*

—that Long Island hopes to be able to prove shortly, "its right to be recognized as the cradle of American masonry," and the "first source of masonic light on this entire continent." It will require pretty strong proof, after Boston has stood unchallenged as the "cradle" for nearly four generations, to move it either to Philadelphia or Long Island.

The Report on Correspondence (116 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN W. SIMONS, who reviews, in his genial and happy, yet able manner, the proceedings of the American and of many of the foreign Grand Lodges.

He thinks we misapprehended the position of New York in our remarks concerning the A. & A. Rite: but we were not considering the position of *New York*, but of his predecessor (Bro. GIBSON): he will see that we fully concur in his views that a Grand Lodge cannot recognize, as a peer, a body subordinate, in any respect, to another.

He says that the declaration of his Grand Lodge in 1786, is, without doubt, the earliest assertion of Grand Lodge jurisdiction: we think he will have to modify that, for it was asserted by Massachusetts Grand Lodge in 1782, in these words:

"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*, give power to erect lodges of Ancient Masonry, 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."

He says that in New York an appeal is allowed from the lodge to the Grand Master and *from him to the Grand Lodge!* He justifies it on the ground that otherwise, a Brother suspended the day after the close of the Grand Lodge, would have to wait a year before his case is finally decided; but it puzzles us to see how a decision by the Grand Master in vacation, from which either party may appeal to the Grand Lodge, shortens the time!

But what authority does Bro. SIMONS find in the ancient laws and usages of the craft for this double appeal?

NORTH CAROLINA, 1876.

Representation, 161 lodges out of 240: two charters renewed; five granted, and one dispensation continued; one charter arrested and seven declared forfeited for non-payment of dues for two years: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (GEORGE W. BLOUNT) says the preceding year had been one of great trial to the people of that State, and much suffering and distress had been the result; and of course masonry had suffered also; but fruitful harvests had in a measure assuaged their anxieties, and he was hoping for a renewal of prosperity in masonic matters; we earnestly unite in his hopes.

He had been obliged to discipline two lodges, one of which, after the arrest of its charter, acknowledged the wrong it had committed and made a public recantation, whereupon the charter was restored. He says some of the lodges deny the authority of the Grand Lodge, but we think a few such examples, as he made, will cure them of that.

In the following decision he states the law so plainly, justly and concisely that we copy it, although the question has been much discussed of late :

"3. A. was tried and convicted by his lodge and sentence voted; he takes an appeal to the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge sustains the appeal, finding that the charge was frivolous, not affecting masonic character, and reverses the judgment of the lodge; what is the status of A ?

"I answer that he stands acquitted and entitled to the privileges of his lodge as though no trial had been had. The appeal vacates the judgment and the sustaining of the appeal by the Grand Lodge is vindication of the accused. It is a mistake to suppose that this is a restoration by the Grand Lodge, for until approved by the Grand Lodge after appeal, the action of the lodge is not complete. *Restoration* implies deprivation previously existing. If a Brother is tried and expelled, and the sentence is *confirmed*, the law says he may be restored by the lodge expelling or by the Grand Lodge, upon his own petition and such evidence of penitence and reformation as to it may appear satisfactory. If he choose to apply to the Grand Lodge and is *restored*, this action of the Grand Lodge does not work a restoration to membership in his lodge. To obtain that he must petition regularly for affiliation, and be admitted by unanimous ballot."

The Grand Master made some startling statements as to the manner in which the work is performed in many lodges, and a committee was appointed to mature a plan for the dissemination of the standard work and the supervision of the lodges, which, as we understand it, under the present system receive no official visitation whatever.

The Grand Secretary says :

"The ninetieth Annual Communication now commencing brings us to the close of another year and completes the ninth decade since this body started on a new career in 1787. In reviewing the year's work in our jurisdiction, I discover no marked evidences either of general progress or retard in the workings of our lodges, save such as may be hereinafter specially intimated. A few hundred have been added to the membership of the lodges, while some of our most faithful and active laborers have ceased their work and entered upon their final reward. Seven new lodges have been added to our register, while nine, I regret to say, have disappeared from it."

The loss of the lodges, he says, is attributed to financial embarrassment. He says the demand for the new code had not been equal to the necessity for its use in the lodges: they seemed to prefer to write to the Grand Master or Grand Secretary for information rather than purchase the book.

The Orphan Asylum at Oxford was maintained during the year: another was started at another place, was soon removed to another place, and finally the children were taken to Oxford, though some had to be discharged. It was determined to concentrate the work at Oxford the coming year, and to appeal to the State for an annual appropriation in support of the Asylum, for which the Grand Lodge voted \$2,000, as last year. This is a noble work, and there being no similar institution in the State, it ought to receive the generous sup-

port of all citizens. The Grand Master of Odd Fellows sent in a communication in regard to it, and it was hoped that that Order would unite with the masons in giving it aid.

We find one case which surprises us: a Brother was expelled by a lodge for a mere business matter, as we understand the committee, which the lodge ought not to have "entertained for one moment": but as the papers "were regular, and the Brother stands expelled, we have no right to interfere." It seems to us that if the papers set out no masonic offense, even if they are regular, the Grand Lodge is bound to "interfere" and do justice.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1870.

A special session was held August 31, 1875, to lay the corner stone of the Masonic Temple at Halifax, the proceedings of which are given in full. There was a large assemblage of the craft, and the occasion was one of much interest.

At the annual session, forty-five of the sixty lodges represented: five charters granted: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming, Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized.

The Grand Master (J. WIMBURN LAWRIE) gives a brief account of his visit to New York to attend the dedication of the Masonic Temple, and of his official acts. He had refused to sanction a by-law of a lodge requiring a vote of the lodge on an application for a dimit, correctly holding that a right to vote upon the question recognizes the right to vote to refuse the dimit, to which he holds every member is entitled, unless charges are preferred against him and sustained. Yet a man's general character may be of that sort, that the lodge would be unwilling to recommend him to another, and yet be unable to sustain charges against him. We think the correct rule is, that a member, free of the books and not under charges, is entitled to a *discharge from membership*, whenever he calls for it, but can have a *recommendation* only by vote of the lodge.

The District Deputies make full and detailed reports: one of them makes several valuable suggestions; that care be taken in the election of Secretaries, as most of the irregularities which he had found, were due to the inexperience of that officer; that the names of Brethren present at each meeting be recorded, or, better still, that the old system be revived, of having a registry book, in which all present should enter their names, so that the attendance might be ascertained; that Deputies should examine particularly what disposition had been made of the funds; that the practice of presenting the retiring Master a Past Master's jewel, is a reprehensible use of the funds; that the practice of publishing masonic matters in the newspapers is to be deprecated; and that lodges which act directly upon applications for relief are more frequently deceived than those who have a Committee on Charity.

The lodge whose by-law the Grand Master refused to sanction, was in the same District, and it seems that it received the Deputy's suggestions as well as the decision of the Grand Master, with such ill-grace, that the Deputy presented the matter to the Grand Lodge, which voted not to sustain the lodge in its action, but the Master having disclaimed any intention of treating the Grand Master or the Deputy without "proper respect," no further action was taken. We hope the words "proper respect" may not have an equivocal meaning: Bro. FRIZZELL, of Tennessee, tells of a good clergyman, who, during the late war, was accustomed to pray fervently for peace, but invariably qualified his petition with the words "but, of course, upon *proper principles*:" it is quite certain that his brother clergymen in the North would have uttered a hearty *amen* to what was *said*, but a vigorous *dissent* from what was *meant*!

The "Committee on Masonic Documents" report the recovery of all the minute books of both Provincial Grand Lodges from their organization to the formation of the Grand Lodge.

A resolution was adopted requiring the Master of a lodge to give the reasons for refusing to admit a visitor, and giving the latter an appeal to the Grand Lodge: also refusing to hold masonic intercourse with the so called Grand Lodge of Ontario.

The Report on Correspondence (94 pp.) was presented by Bro. FRASER W. DAKIN. It is chiefly confined to a *résumé* of the Proceedings, with extracts of matters of interest, and but occasional brief comments.

He thinks there is too great a disposition to flaunt the banners and paraphernalia of masonry before the eyes of the profane; that if our Ohio Brethren are wise in their generation, they will allow the "colored question" to rest until all can unite under one Grand Lodge, and thus avoid destroying Grand Lodge sovereignty: holds that suspension for non-payment of dues is contrary to the true spirit of masonry, and that "striking from the roll," and thus leaving the Brother a non-affiliate, instead of suspending him, is equally effectual, and is much less repugnant to the masonic mind: and very forcibly states the effect of hurrying the work as "bad for the candidate, worse for the lodge, and worst for the craft"—words which we wish were written in letters of light on the wall of every lodge room in the world.

OHIO, 1876.

Representation, 441 lodges: five charters granted and one dispensation continued: and the usual routine business transacted.

The address of the Grand Master (CHARLES A. WOODWARD) is brief, giving a very concise and clear account of his official acts. He says peace and harmony have prevailed. He gives a brief account of the centennial celebration of American Union Lodge, and recommends that the oration of RICHARD VAUX and the historical address of CORNELIUS MOORE be published with the Proceedings, but the Grand Lodge took no action thereon.

He defined "Unmasonic Conduct" as follows: "Masonry requires its votaries to be good men and true, and any conduct unbecoming a good man and true mason is unmasonic conduct."

The report of the committee in relation to the recognition of the "Colored Grand Lodge" was, of course, the matter of interest. The matter was warmly discussed, and finally a question of order was raised in reference to the constitutionality of the proposed action. The Grand Master decided that it was in order: an appeal was taken from his decision and was sustained by a vote of 389 to 329, and thus the subject was disposed of. There are some curious things about this vote; some lodges threw *three* votes, some *two* and some *one*, while nearly fifty lodges, reported as represented, did not vote at all! If each lodge had thrown *three* votes on the side on which its vote was thrown (three lodges being divided), the vote would have been about 618 to 577, a narrower margin actually and proportionally than in the vote thrown—so narrow, indeed, as to be overcome by less than one-third of the lodges which did not vote.

An attempt was made to revive the subject by an amendment to the Constitution, but it failed to be seconded by a majority vote.

BRO. JOHN D. CALDWELL presented the Report on Correspondence (80 pp.). It is devoted to the "Colored Question"; no extracts can do it justice. He also gives a very interesting letter from HUGHAN, but its length precludes its insertion in our report.

A Special Grand Lodge was held November 15, 1876, to attend the funeral of Past Grand Master L. V. BIERCE.

OREGON, 1876.

The fifty-five chartered lodges and two U. D. represented: two charters granted: the Grand Lodges of Utah and Prince Edward Island recognized: "the Educational Fund," \$14,734.00.

The prominent feature of the address of the Grand Master (J. B. CONGLE), is his account of the re-union of the three Grand Lodges to which we have already referred. A full account of the proceedings, with the speeches, is given in the appendix. We wish we had space to give a full report of it. They had a clam bake, and the Grand Master says that it was an "immense success"; but we are disposed to question this somewhat, as he says "it was greatly enlivened by speeches"; on *this* coast a clam bake is not an "immense success," when it *can* be enlivened by speeches, as each guest is expected to dispose of bivalves until he is "too full for utterance," and his motto is "*Dum tacent, CLAM-ant*;" or as one wicked wag had it, "*De profundis, CLAM-ant*!"

The Grand Secretary reports that, during the twenty-six years of the existence of his Grand Lodge, *no lodge has failed to make its returns, pay its dues, and be represented in Grand Lodge*, except in the instance of a few lodges

which held back their returns and dues one year, until a question of Grand Lodge jurisdiction then pending was settled: a most remarkable record, and one indeed "worthy of mention."

The Grand Lodge adopted the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That no lodge shall receive the petition of a candidate for the degrees, who has previously been rejected in another lodge, without first obtaining the unanimous consent of such lodge.

"*Resolved*, That whenever one lodge shall request another to waive jurisdiction over an E. A. or F. C. that said request lay over one communication, and that the ballot be spread, and if clear the waiver granted; *provided*, however, that no previous objection to the advancement of the candidate shall have been made, in which case the request shall be withheld until such time as the objection has been waived by the objecting Brother, or ceases to exist either by reason of his death or by dismission from the lodge, in which event the ballot shall then be spread if no further objection is made.

"*Resolved*, That all Master Masons in good standing, members of subordinate lodges of this jurisdiction, shall have the right, when present, to ballot upon the petition of any person for the degrees of masonry in any lodge in this jurisdiction, and also the right to object to the advancement of any Brother."

In so far as the second makes an objection differ from a rejection, we hold that it is incorrect, believing, as Bro. CHADWICK well puts it, "The point is in the objection, not in the mode of making it."

The third resolution is founded in sound principle, but we do not share the confidence of the Grand Master who recommended it, that "other Grand Lodges will do the same," and masonry become universal.

The Grand Lodge decided that a Master has the constitutional privilege to suspend a member until the meeting of the Grand Lodge; and sustain the action of a Master in so doing. This must be by virtue of some express provision of the constitution peculiar to that Grand Lodge.

The Report on Correspondence (102 pp.) was submitted by Bro. S. F. CHADWICK. We have marked all his comments for notice, but must select and condense.

He is puzzled at the meaning of a "head-ache note," mentioned in the Arkansas Proceedings: we were in the same condition and gave it up, but Bro. S. says he endorsed one once which gave him both the head and heart ache, and we guess he has hit the nail on the head.

He thinks well of the plan of excluding all but members when the lodge is engaged in a trial, and of taking the question of "guilty or not guilty," by *vivâ voce*, instead of by secret ballot; both of which, in this jurisdiction, have worked well: he gives a brief, but very interesting account of the formation of the first lodge in Southern Oregon, in which he himself was the first initiate: he says that Multomah Lodge, No. 1, in Oregon (chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri), was the first on the Pacific coast, although Californians have claimed that the first was established in that State: and he gives Bro. DIEHL a pleasant hit, saying in reply to Bro. D's suggestion, that when they have another re-union "they will invite Utah," "Oh no, Bro. D., we could not have invited Utah, *we had our wives with us.*"

He is in favor of abolishing dues, saying that "the system of paying dues is no part of the ancient plan of masonry." We should like to have the proof of this assertion: in the most ancient lodge records we have ever seen, we found that "quarterages" were regularly paid: in the oldest allusions to lodges which we have read, we find mention of the same thing: and inasmuch as masonry in ancient times was more of a social and convivial institution than it is now, refreshments being had at every lodge as a matter of course, we have no doubt that each Brother paid his share of the "lawing." This statement has been made before Bro. CHADWICK made it: we have repeatedly challenged its truth and no one has undertaken to prove it; and, until some proof is offered, we suggest that it cannot be legitimately used as the basis of an argument.

He assumes, also, that "masonic burial" is a right, and argues from that, that a provision in reference to non-affiliates, similar to that in our Constitution, is unmasonic. We are not fully prepared to deny it: *if it is*, the reason is that another unmasonic law has come into general observance—that masonic burial can be performed only *by an organized lodge*. If masonic burial is work that can be done only *by a lodge*, the non-affiliate has no absolute right to it. What an *individual* mason is bound to do for another, we hold that he is bound to do for the *unaffiliate* as well as the *affiliate*: but the former has no right to the privileges which grow out of lodge organizations, and must depend upon the courtesy of his Brethren for them.

Quoting the statement of Bro. PIERSON, that "A mason may bring disgrace upon himself, but he *cannot* upon masonry," he says:

"This rendition of the case will not do. If a Body of masons tolerate the disgrace, as is often the case, the odium is shared by every member. Those who indulge are held responsible for the indulgence and the example, and those who do not indulge are held accountable for a want of sufficient moral character to enforce the edicts of masonry in such cases. And hence the whole institution is held to be weak and of little moral force."

And upon the same subject, he further well says:

"Intemperance has done more to bring masons into disrepute than all the prejudices from other sources combined against our order. Is there no remedy for it? Should a vow be taken, that it must be broken? It seems so. Men are not usually intemperate when they join a lodge. As the vice grows, discipline should keep pace with it, and every one who would thus disgrace the lodge, should feel that the lodge has the power to maintain the character its principles give it."

PENNSYLVANIA, 1875.

Representation, 211 lodges: financial matters occupied almost exclusively the attention of the Grand Lodge, but, we are very glad to find, they were in good condition.

At the annual meeting, the Grand Lodge ordered a subordinate to expel a Brother who had been Master of it, for being present in another lodge and witnessing the acceptance and initiation of a candidate, who had been re-

jected in his own lodge, without objecting or giving information of such objection.

The Grand Master had suspended the charter of a lodge in which six clandestine masons had been admitted as visitors, and as the lodge, when called upon in relation to the matter, defended its course, its charter was revoked.

The retiring Grand Master (ALFRED R. POTTER) made a brief address, in which he congratulates the Grand Lodge upon the success in refunding a seven-thirty loan in six per cent. bonds: and calls the attention of the craft to the powers and duties of District Deputies—a matter which he says seems to have been overlooked or forgotten.

The Report on Correspondence (150 pp.) was presented by Bros. E. COFFEE MITCHELL and JOHN C. UHLE, the latter reviewing from "Michigan to Wisconsin," and the former all the rest.

In the introduction, Bro. M. gives a letter from Bro. HUGHAN, of England, in which he announces the discovery of an edition of the "Pocket Companion" published in Dublin, by which he claims to prove the existence of a lodge in Philadelphia, constituted by DANIEL COXE under *English* authority, in 1730 or 1731. We have carefully considered the statements in the letter, and the evidence, in our opinion, utterly fails to prove what is claimed for it, but tends very strongly in the opposite direction. In the Companion, the Irish lodges, 37 in number, are first given: then the English lodges, numbered consecutively *after* the Irish lodges, so that the English Lodge No. 1 is No. 38 in this list. In it is "116, the Hoop in Water street, in Philadelphia, 1st Monday." This would be No. 79 in the English list. *In the same year* an edition of the "Companion" was published in London, but, says Bro. HUGHAN, "evidently a copy of the Dublin Book:" in that there is no mention of the Hoop Lodge, and No. 79 is a *blank*, as it is in the edition of the following year, while in the edition of the second year afterwards, No. 79 is a *London* lodge. The fact that the *London* edition omits this lodge, while copying in other matters from the Dublin book, shows that the editor of the former considered it an error in the latter; and as the London editor had the best means of knowledge, the omission is exceedingly significant. The most natural conclusion is that Hoop Lodge, if it existed at all, was a mere voluntary lodge, like *all* lodges, only a few years before. It is not difficult to conceive that the revolution of 1717 may not have been known and recognized in America in thirteen years after it took place. However, we do not undertake to say that a regularly chartered lodge did not exist in Philadelphia in 1730 or 1731, but only that Bro. HUGHAN's evidence does not show it, but tends to prove that the lodge in question was not chartered under English authority.

We should be glad to follow Bro. MITCHELL through his interesting report, but the matters discussed are those which we considered some two years ago—the result of the delay in issuing their proceedings.

In the same pamphlet is a special report of the Committee on Correspondence, by R. W. Bro. RICHARD VAUX, presented at the Quarterly Communication in March, 1876. The occasion of it is the expected presence in Philadelphia, during the centennial year, of masons from all over the world, and its aim is to determine whether those from certain jurisdictions can be recognized.

Several general propositions are put forward as fundamental truths, some of which we state in a condensed form :

1. Freemasonry is limited neither by latitude or longitude, but it may exist as an institution the world over.

2. It is subject to no laws but those which it makes for itself.

3. Profane governments cannot exercise any control over it, in its established organizations.

4. The establishment of a Grand Lodge is by masonic authority, solely and exclusively.

5. A Grand Lodge when established and its jurisdiction determined according to the principles of masonic jurisprudence, is the sovereign and sole masonic authority within the territory over which it asserts its supreme masonic dominion.

Our distinguished Brother had not borne in mind another law, superior to and often modifying the principles above enunciated. He seems to have overlooked the law that a man's duty as a citizen is paramount to his duty as a mason, if they come in conflict. We need no argument to show that the duties of a mason do not interfere with those he owes to God, his country or his neighbor. It necessarily follows that masonic law and authority may be affected and even controlled by the civil law. In many instances, also, the civil law has been engrafted into masonic law.

In one respect, we are not sure that we correctly understand him. He says that if the territory covered by a Grand Lodge is sub-divided, or the government is changed, the masonic jurisdiction is not ousted. It is a well-settled law of masonry, that the lodges in a sovereign State have the right to form a Grand Lodge for themselves, although they are in the former jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge; and if a new sovereign State is created by dividing an old one, the jurisdiction of the old Grand Lodge continues until a new one is formed, but the lodges *have the right to form one*. Bro. VAUX seems to deny this right, but we are not sure that he does. We can scarcely believe that he does, for Bro. MITCHELL, in his report in the same pamphlet, claims, *in effect*, that the masons of Pennsylvania *first* asserted this right: and it is matter of history that her parent Grand Lodge never consented to the formation of that Grand Lodge, but merely acquiesced in the claim of the Pennsylvania masons, and after many years recognized their Grand Lodge, not expressly and in formal resolution, but by acts.

Bro. VAUX claims that no Grand Lodge should recognize a new one until the Grand Lodge, out of whose jurisdiction the new Grand Lodge has demarked its limits, has recognized it. But he admits an exception, by saying that "if the Grand Lodge, from which the new Grand Lodge takes jurisdiction, fails or refuses to recognize it, the grounds for such refusal must be so utterly unmasonic and untenable that other Grand Lodges are not to be governed

thereby in their action in that case. But great caution is absolutely necessary." This exception really places the matter in the sound judgment of the other Grand Lodges, and makes the prior recognition of the parent Grand Lodge a matter of courtesy, rather than of necessity, or a condition precedent to general recognition.

However, we find no fault with his application of the principles enunciated. He says that they are incompatible with the existence of a General or Supreme Grand Lodge. Of course it needs no argument to show that if Grand Lodges are subordinate to a General Grand Lodge, they are not Sovereign and Supreme.

For the same reasons he holds that the eight so called Grand Lodges under the German Masonic Diet, are not sovereign and therefore are not *Grand Lodges*, but are unlawful, or, which is the same, clandestine: and he, therefore, concludes that no masonic intercourse with, or recognition of them can be had by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

He reports also that the Grand Orients of Italy, France, Brazil, Portugal, Hungary and Egypt, with several others, are not in such a masonic condition as to justify his Grand Lodge in recognizing them as Masonic Grand Lodges, "and such recognition is hereby withheld."

The report was accepted and approved by the Grand Lodge.

While we assent to the doctrine that the German Masonic Diet is an unlawful body and cannot be recognized, and while we would not consent to recognize as Sovereign Grand Lodges, and as peers of our own, the Grand Lodges, which are subordinate to the Diet, we cannot assent to the proposition that they and their subordinates are clandestine bodies, and their members clandestine masons; we hold, rather, that the attempted surrender of a part of their powers was void, and that they have the right to assert their independence, and that the subordinates chartered by them in their own jurisdiction are legal lodges, and the members of the latter good and true masons. We would not exchange representatives with them because of their entanglements with the Diet, but we consider that an error in government not so essential as to make the members of their lodges clandestine. Of course we can have no intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, on account of its violations of the International masonic law: but that is a distinct question.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1876.

As usual, the Proceedings are largely devoted to the financial transactions of the Grand Lodge, growing out of the erection of the Temple. The real estate stands at nearly \$2,000,000, and the debt, now funded at six per cent., is \$1,320,500.

The Committee on Library made an interesting report, showing great progress.

The revision of the "Ahiman Rezon" had attracted considerable interest,

and the matter was re-committed for a report in print, some time during the present year.

The address of the Grand Master (ROBERT CLARK) shows that the craft is prosperous, although fewer additions to their number had been made during the year, than in former years. He counsels them to adhere to the landmarks, and to allow no temporary excitement, or marked individual opinion to cause them to "engage in any attempt, by word or act, to oppose their imperative demands."

The Grand Lodge of Cuba was recognized. In relation to this, a special report of the Committee on Correspondence was submitted by Bro. RICHARD VAUX: while we concur in the main in the positions taken by him, there are a few which challenge discussion.

He premises that the fraternity in Pennsylvania, when the Grand Lodge was established, "had no masonic knowledge of what are now known as modern rites," but established a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and thereby established that the only rite it permitted to exist under its authority, was that described by its title. In granting charters, it circumscribed the labors of its subordinates to the "Ancient York Rite," exclusively.

From this he draws the conclusion (admitted by all) that that Grand Lodge can never consent to the exercise of masonic authority over the three symbolic degrees of Freemasonry, by any other than that described in her own title.

Nor will she tolerate, within her jurisdiction, any body of persons calling themselves Freemasons, and claiming jurisdiction over these three degrees, which has not derived its authority from her, and is not subordinate to her.

And she applies the same doctrine to all other jurisdictions.

He then proceeds to discuss the A. and A. Rite, although he admits that he knows "nothing of its internal affairs, its jurisprudence, history, or claim as a masonic institution." He naturally falls into fundamental errors which influence his whole reasoning.

He assumes that he knows that the difference in rites (as it is called) grows out of the A. and A. Rite, whereas it antedates the origin of that rite, and really has no connection with it. Without going into particulars, it is sufficient to say that they all are sprung from the same source, and all have the same fundamental principles; the difference, at any rate *primarily*, was a mere difference in work, or, speaking more accurately, in the manner of doing the work, which, however, was magnified into an *essential* difference. The result was, that we had (before the A. and A. Rite was organized), the Ancient Rite, the Modern Rite, the Scotch Rite, the French Rite, and perhaps a *second* Modern Rite. All of these professed the same fundamental principles, but differed in the manner of the work, and of course ultimately in other matters, but generally in those which are non-essential.

These differences in work are no more than might have been expected in different countries, when we remember that each Grand Lodge controlled its

own work and transmitted it orally. In England and the United States, the division was between the "Ancients" and "the Moderns:" and we apprehend that the term "Ancients," in the title of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was rather used in contradistinction to the term "Modern," than in its ordinary sense.

But the "Ancients" and the "Moderns" found that there was nothing so diverse in their institutions as to prevent them from uniting and fusing into one organization: in some States, it was done formally; in others, it was done as a mere matter of course, without any formal action; the former was the case in South Carolina, and the latter in Maine.

But in Louisiana, the question was between the York Rite, the Scotch Rite and the French Rite; and they found no difficulty in fraternizing and uniting under one Grand Lodge; and, unlike the case of the Ancients and Moderns, the lodges of the respective rites (so-called) still continue their peculiar mode of work; and having witnessed and being familiar with them all, we are able to say that there is scarcely more difference in the work in these respective "rites," than there is between the work in Pennsylvania and the work in Maine, both professing the York Rite; and in the general principles taught, there is no essential difference. The principles enunciated by Bro. VAUX, if carried out fully, would compel the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to refuse intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana—a result, from which we think he would shrink.

When the A. and A. Rite, as now organized, was promulgated in some other countries, the three symbolic degrees were connected with it, without due consideration, and the governing power over them merged in that of the rite, forming one series; whereas in this country, the so-called higher degrees were kept distinct. Bro. VAUX puts the supposition of the Council of the A. and A. Rite concluding to charter lodges in Pennsylvania; but if he had read the Constitutions of the Supreme Council, he would have seen that the supposition would have been just as apt, if he had applied it to the General Grand Chapter, or the Grand Encampment of the United States. The Supreme Councils in this country recognize and maintain the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty as fully and completely as any Grand Lodge in the world.

We regret that Bro. VAUX should have deemed it necessary to go outside of the question at issue. We all maintain the doctrine of exclusive and supreme Grand Lodge authority over the symbolic degrees: and refuse to recognize a Grand Lodge which is in any degree subservient to any other body. In like manner, the Supreme Councils are substantially agreed in refusing to recognize a Supreme Council which undertakes to unite with a Grand Lodge in a Grand Orient, and thus interfere with the symbolic lodges.

This doctrine does not at all interfere with the other doctrine, that Grand Lodges have full control of the mode of work, and cannot be called to account for it as long as they keep within the landmarks. They cannot be limited to

any particular rite, as long as they maintain the fundamental principles and the essential characteristics of the Institution. Louisiana has as full right to have her French lodges recognized as Pennsylvania has, in respect to her "Ancient" lodges.

We are surprised at one thing in Bro. VAUX's report: while announcing the doctrines we have stated, he, nevertheless, recommends the recognition of a Grand Lodge organized in part by lodges *holding their charter from a Supreme Council!*

The general Report on Correspondence (45 pp.) was also presented by Bro. VAUX. It contains a brief mention of some of the more important matters, with few comments.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1876.

Seven lodges represented: one charter granted: the new lodge constituted, and its officers installed and admitted to membership in the Grand Lodge: no Report on Correspondence.

The address of the Grand Master (JOHN YEO) is very brief; he had been called to perform but few official acts in the brief time between the organization of the Grand Lodge and this communication.

The routine business was transacted in an intelligent manner, and everything indicates that this young Grand Lodge has a useful and prosperous career before it.

QUEBEC, 1876.

A special and largely attended session was held July 18, 1876, for the purpose of attending the funeral of ALDIS BERNARD, Past Grand Master.

At the Annual Session, 53 of the 59 lodges were represented: three charters were granted and one dispensation continued: two of the so-called duplicate lodges had been consolidated with other lodges, and the same course was earnestly recommended by the Grand Lodge to be pursued in other similar cases.

The address of the Grand Master (JOHN H. GRAHAM) is an able and concise presentation of matters for the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

He announces the prevalence of peace, harmony and prosperity: pays a tribute to the memory of M. W. Bro. BERNARD, and others who had died during the year: urges the foundation of a Grand Lodge Library, and the preparation of a history of the craft in that Province: reminds the representatives of the necessity of restricting the use of lodge funds to their legitimate uses, and of their proper investment, and cautions them against over frequent, after-labor refreshment, at the expense of the lodge, and the extravagant fitting up of lodge rooms.

He regrets the death of the "*Masonic News*," for want of adequate support, and suggests that a quarterly might be supported.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri having recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec, "said recognition not to interfere with the vested rights of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland over such of their daughter lodges as may prefer to remain under their original warrants," the Grand Master advises that the recognition be not accepted.

We have before expressed our regret and surprise that Missouri should uphold this pernicious doctrine, and thus strike a deadly blow to Grand Lodge sovereignty. The principle is precisely the same as if Great Britain had qualified her recognition of our independence by saying, "but any inhabitant, who prefers it, shall still remain a subject of Great Britain, and not be amenable to the government of the United States!"

In this connection, the Grand Master states that the measures to secure the adhesion of the four English and Scotch Lodges had failed, as they all (though at first two of them agreed to do so) declined to send committees to meet the committee of the Grand Lodge. The committee to which the matter was referred, reported against accepting any conditional recognition, and recognizing the authority of any foreign Grand Lodge in its jurisdiction. This portion of the report was adopted by the Grand Lodge. The committee also reported a resolution that if the lodges in question did not give in their allegiance within six months, all masonic privileges should be withdrawn from them, and all connected with them; but this resolution, after "a long and very earnest debate," was rejected by a vote of 55 to 20.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec, but held that these lodges have the vested right to remain under the parent Grand Lodge; while the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania refuses to recognize Quebec, because she has not obtained undisputed jurisdiction over these lodges; but we trust the lodges will see the matter in its true light, and give in their adhesion to the Grand Lodge of Quebec: if they refuse, however, all the American Grand Lodges, save one or two, will sustain that Grand Lodge in maintaining its jurisdiction in its integrity.

RHODE ISLAND, 1876.

At the Festival Communication, the corner stone of the new City Hall, at Providence, was laid in the presence of a large concourse of the craft, and an immense gathering of people. An address of unusual excellence was delivered by HENRY W. RUGG, Grand Chaplain.

At the Semi-Annual Communication, the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island were recognized, and the Grand Secretary directed to endeavor to open masonic correspondence with the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland. The question of recognizing sundry Grand Orients was postponed.

The question whether anyone but the accused can appeal from the decision of a lodge came indirectly before the Grand Lodge, but it was not decided.

At the Annual Communication, the twenty-seven lodges were represented: four charters granted: committee appointed to consider the expediency of providing a commission for masonic trials: the corner stone of Providence County Court House laid by the Grand Lodge, with a brief address by Bro. WILLIAM N. ACKLEY.

The Grand Master (NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK) says that several rejected candidates had applied to the colored organizations and been initiated therein, and then had taken a charter and started a lodge composed of white men, but held under the authority of the colored Grand Lodge. In consequence, he had issued an edict, warning the craft against them. He said that some had applied to this lodge, supposing it to be regular, but ascertaining that it was not, had dropped the matter and refused to be initiated: and many of those who had been initiated, upon learning the facts, expressed their regrets. The Grand Master believes, that now their irregularity has been made known, the lodge will fall to pieces. In the mean time, lodges should examine closely visitors from Rhode Island, and look well to their certificates.

He takes the correct ground in relation to recognizing the Colored Grand Lodge of Ohio: commends "*The Repository*" to the craft: cautions against the flaunting of masonic emblems in public: and gives a succinct statement of his official acts.

The Committee on Correspondence make a brief special report, adopting and affirming the principles of the report of Bro. VAUX, of Pennsylvania, and in one respect going further; for they announce as a principle, without any exception, that in order for the "creation and lawful being" of a Grand Lodge, "there must be had the recognition of the Grand Body, out of whose former jurisdiction the new Grand Lodge claims to exercise jurisdiction."

This is contrary to the doctrine held by the large majority of Grand Lodges, and by the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island heretofore.

The committee sustain the conclusions of the report of Bro. VAUX, in relation to the German Grand Lodges. Further consideration of this question strengthens our convictions that Bro. V. has carried his argument too far. We do not believe that Grand Lodges may not form a league for their mutual protection, and that they may be represented in a Council to which they may delegate certain powers, provided that they do not surrender any essential parts of their sovereignty over their subordinate lodges: in other words, they may establish an authority to regulate the relations of Grand Lodges among themselves, without impairing the sovereignty of any one over those subject to its own government. Whether the German Grand Lodges have passed this limit, we do not know.

We, all the more, deny the doctrine that regular lodges become irregular or that their members become clandestine, because the Grand Lodge, under which they hail, surrenders a portion—even beyond the rule we have stated—of their sovereignty.

In this connection we desire to refer to one matter, which we intended to refer to in our review of Pennsylvania, but which we accidentally omitted. Bro. VAUX states that "the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has ever been so decided in the assertion of this principle of masonic jurisprudence, this law unto itself of Freemasonry, that it has refused, again and again, to be a participant even in considering the propriety of establishing a General Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the United States, because it might attempt to exercise power which solely and exclusively attaches to a sovereign and supreme Grand Lodge." We had supposed that Pennsylvania first originated the idea of a General Grand Lodge, and went so far as to designate the General Grand Master; and sent circulars to the other Grand Lodges, inviting their co-operation; while Massachusetts declined to give in her adhesion to the proposition. We may be in error; indeed, from Bro. VAUX's language, we should infer that we *must be* in error: and yet we are very confident that we have seen a copy of the circular alluded to, and, therefore, must continue in the same belief until our Pennsylvania Brethren shall deny it *expressly* rather than *by implication*. We also have supposed that, while Pennsylvania afterwards rejected the idea of a General Grand Lodge, she again changed her mind, and, since the commencement of the present century, proposed the same thing again. If we are correct, the force of Bro. VAUX's argument is greatly broken. We shall look with some interest for the publication of the early proceedings of his Grand Lodge, or, failing that, his answer to these suggestions.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1876.

Representation, 157 out of 180 lodges: four charters granted: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Prince Edward Island and Indian Territory recognized.

A special session was held June 8, 1876, to lay the corner stone of the Fort Moultrie monument: the same trowel was used which was used by La Fayette when he laid the corner stone of the De Kalb monument, in 1825; the blade is of silver and the handle of ivory, and had attached to it a musty gray ribbon, originally blue, which is said to have been tied to it by La Fayette himself.

The Grand Master (WILMOT G. DE SAUSSURE) says that within the craft, harmony had prevailed during the year; the work had progressed with reasonable satisfaction; the calls for assistance had been met, and their relations with other jurisdictions were fraternal and amicable.

In speaking of "the work," he says, upon MACKAY's authority, that their work is that promulgated by JOHN BARKER and derived indirectly from WEBB, and is substantially the "Webb work," which prevails in almost all the jurisdictions, Pennsylvania, however, being a notable exception, her work being similar to the English work; he makes particular mention of this, in

order to prevent confusion and misconception in examining visitors from that State, or in being examined there. We have recently witnessed their work, and find that his statements are correct: the work in Pennsylvania is almost wholly *narrative*.

He says that the District Deputy system, which was introduced many years ago, (but no officers appointed until recently,) was working well and received with satisfaction.

South Carolina disputes with Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, the honor of establishing the first *independent* Grand Lodge in America. Grand Master DE SAUSSURE, following MACKEY, says his Grand Lodge declared its independence in 1777, "and is one of the oldest, if not the oldest in America." The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was formed March 8, 1777; and 1787 has heretofore been generally accepted as the date of the formation or independence of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina; the *Athol* Grand Lodge was formed that year, but the Provincial Grand Lodge, formed in 1786, and re-organized in 1754, had, in fact, if not by express declaration, assumed the functions of an independent Grand Lodge some time before, but precisely *when* is not well settled.

MACKEY says that at the Annual Communication in 1777 (December), the Grand Lodge having previously elected BARNARD ELLIOT, he was duly installed "Grand Master of Masons in this State," this being the first time the word "State" was used instead of "Province." He says that this, together with the fact that the Grand Lodge ignored the Provincial Grand Master, EGERTON LEIGH, leads to the conclusion that the Grand Lodge then declared its independence, and that we should date its existence from that year. Bro. MACKEY does not give his authority nor refer to the record: he says the Quarterly Communication was held February 25, 1778, but that the record of the Annual Communication, in 1778, is wanting: ELLIOTT died in October preceding, and as no record or mention of the election of his successor in 1778, 1779 or 1780 can be found, the probability is that none was elected; this conclusion is strengthened by the fact, that in May, 1780, the British took possession of Charleston, and held it until December, 1782; and the masons, ignoring the election of ELLIOTT, revived the Provincial Grand Lodge, and in 1781, elected JOHN DEAS as Provincial Grand Master: no record can be found of a session in 1782, but probably there was one, or else early in 1783, as a new Grand Secretary signs the notices in the latter year; in the summons of the Grand Secretary, the Body is styled "The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of and for the State"; from that time forward the Grand Lodge maintained its existence; and we conclude that it must date its organization from 1783, or rather 1782, as we think that it met that year, assumed independence again and elected a new Grand Secretary. If it did organize as an independent body, in 1777, the organization died out: in North Carolina, a similar course was taken in

1777, but the organization being lost, the Grand Lodge re-organized in 1787, and now dates its existence from that year.

It should be said that all the early records of both Grand Lodges have been lost or destroyed, and the history of the Grand Lodges is taken from contemporaneous newspapers; and as the file of those from 1786 to 1793 is missing, the history is incomplete. The Grand Officers of the Ancient Grand Lodge, from its organization in 1787 to its first union with the old Grand Lodge in 1808, are known: the newspapers show that the old Grand Lodge celebrated St. John's Day in 1783, 1784 and 1785, and was incorporated in 1791, and it is known who its Grand Master was from 1787 to 1800; and this is about all that is known about it till 1808, when it had fifteen subordinates.

In 1808, the two Grand Lodges united, but a disruption soon followed, which was closed in 1817 and a permanent union effected.

But we must return to the Proceedings of 1876: the Grand Master recommended the celebration of its centennial anniversary, and the Grand Lodge voted to hold it in December, 1877, and appointed a Committee of Arrangements.

He had made several decisions, upon questions that we do not remember to have been before decided, and we state the substance of them:

1. There is no statute of limitations in masonry. It rests with the conscience of an accuser when to prefer charges. But if a Brother slumbers over a wrong done him, it may be just cause for the lodge to infer, at the trial, that it has been condoned.

2. A lodge, having imposed a sentence after due trial, has no authority to reconsider its finding.

3. A new trial, in case of expulsion, can be granted only by the Grand Lodge.

4. The failure of the Secretary to notify the accused of the result of the trial, does not operate upon him.

5. When the Grand Lodge, upon appeal, changes a sentence of indefinite suspension to definite suspension, the accused is not restored to membership in his lodge, at the expiration of his suspension.

6. Work may be done on the ground floor, but peculiar care must be exercised in tyling.

7. The dedication of a masonic hall is a masonic requirement, and not merely a masonic propriety.

8. In consolidating two lodges, no member can be excluded by a mere ballot, but only upon conviction upon charges.

9. The Brother throwing a black ballot, has no right to tell the candidate that he has done so.

The fifth is founded undoubtedly upon that constitutional provision, formerly a part of our law, that when the Grand Lodge reverses or modifies the sentence of a lodge upon appeal, the accused is not restored to membership. If not, we dissent from the decision, for the reasons often given in former reports. It was confirmed, but only on the strength of former decisions.

The seventh is not law in Maine, and most other jurisdictions.

In view of the loss of the early records, and "the almost inability to procure copies of the printed proceeding, prior to 1865," the Grand Master had prepared a digest of such matter as appeared to be of interest, and it was re-

ferred to a Special Committee to examine and report upon at the next annual meeting.

From the report of the financial agent, we find that the debt on the Temple is gradually decreasing, with the prospect of being entirely paid from the accruing revenues of the Grand Lodge; but it is done only by the payment of large dues by the lodges.

The District Deputies made reports, which show that they understand their duties and are faithfully performing them. If such continues to be the case, the system will be a success.

A Master of a lodge was tried for initiating a candidate who had lost a portion of his right leg, but had supplied the loss in such manner that he could place his foot in any position required by the ritual: he denied any intention of violating the law and insisted that he had not violated the spirit of it, and, therefore, could not conscientiously say that he was sorry for what he had done; the Grand Lodge held that he did violate the law and expelled him.

The Report on Correspondence (87 pp.) was prepared by the Grand Secretary, Bro. CHARLES INGLESBY: it was referred to the Committee on Correspondence, who reported that it deserved a careful perusal by the craft, and that it could be "justly termed the *sine quâ non* of Masonic Light." We fully agree with the committee in their estimate of the report.

We have devoted so much space to our review of these proceedings already, that we must pass this report with brief notice.

In his review of Maine, he dissents from two of the decisions:

One that "a second ballot cannot be ordered to correct a mistake at a preceding meeting—discovered after the lodge closed," remarking, "It seems a very harsh law that where injustice, through mistake, has been done an innocent candidate, the lodge will refuse to allow the mistake to be rectified, and the wrong remedied."

Yet a decision was made by his Grand Master and approved by his Grand Lodge, and correctly, too, that in a case in which a man was expelled, without receiving notice of the trial on account of a mistake, the lodge was powerless to remedy it. So in our case; the lodge did not *refuse* voluntarily, but had not the power: the main reason was that it could not be *masonically* known that a mistake had been made.

The other decision was that an objection after ballot has the same force as a black ball, and can no more be withdrawn after the rejection has been declared. It is sufficient that our Constitution provides that such an objection is equivalent to a rejection: but we hold that the provision is right: a member, by objecting, should get no greater advantage than if he had used the black ball, and it is just that he should have no less: in other words, if he fails to black ball a candidate, he may produce *the same result* by objecting.

He concurs that a mason should not be tried twice for the same offense.

As we thought would be the case, upon further consideration, he reverses his opinion expressed last year, that the Grand Lodge is the creature of the subordinates and has no power save what is expressly delegated to them; and agrees that the Grand Lodge is the supreme masonic authority.

TENNESSEE, 1876.

Representation, 348 lodges out of 399: nine charters granted and one declared forfeited: six dispensations granted and two continued: the work exemplified and the lectures passed: no Report on Correspondence: the Constitution published with the Proceedings.

The address of the Grand Master (J. C. CAWOOD) is very brief and confined to an enumeration of his official acts. He reports that seven of the Grand Visitors had made reports, but that they were too long to incorporate into his address, and they were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and are not published in the Proceedings: we think this omission is a mistake, as the publication of these reports would be productive of good in showing to lodges their condition: the report of the committee, to which these reports were referred, confirms these views: they find a general trouble with lodges as to non-payment of dues and a consequent deficiency of lodge funds, and a lack of masonic intelligence in consequence of there being no Lodge Libraries.

The committee approved a plan presented by a lodge for a mutual protection or life insurance company among the craft, and reported that the Grand Lodge recommend it to the favorable consideration of the lodges. The Grand Lodge wisely non-concurred in the report.

The following report of the Committee on Appeals, adopted by the Grand Lodge, we commend to the attention of the craft:

"The question involved in this case is whether or not a mason is justifiable in publicly proclaiming the errors or misdeeds of a brother mason, even when such brother has unquestionably been guilty of the same. The appellant was tried for traducing the good name of a brother in publicly proclaiming him a *liar*. In defense, he offered to prove that said brother *had* lied. The W. M. ruled out of order all evidence introduced for that purpose, and placed himself and the lodge upon the broad, high ground, that whatever might be the faults of a mason, they would not justify a brother in publicly proclaiming them, and in denouncing the culprit, *until he had been brought to trial and proved guilty*. In this, your committee believe, the Grand Lodge should concur. The W. M., in this case, certainly struck the key-note of our Order. It is the essential point in which masonry differs from the ordinary associations in civil life. In a court of civil law the defense offered by this appellant would be admissible, and for the simple reason that he is, from a legal standpoint, under no obligation to cover the faults and errors of his brother with the broad mantle of charity. With us the case is different. A solemn covenant, which is not to be lightly disregarded or forgotten, *must ever be paramount*. With us, 'to traduce' means not to 'willfully misrepresent, or defame,' but, in its broader, higher and primal sense, to 'represent as blamable, or condemn.' The lips of a mason should be sealed as to the errors of a brother, so far as the outside world is concerned. Only in the lodge, or in the sacred privacy of a personal interview, should such faults be plainly set forth and reform

demand. That failing, trial must be had and the unworthy brother expunged from an Order which he disgraces, after which all worthy men are justifiable in denouncing his crimes. We believe the Grand Lodge should emphatically proclaim this interpretation of our masonic obligations, and thereby stamp with its seal of disapproval the unfortunate habit of lightly discussing or carelessly proclaiming the supposed faults of brethren, into which many have thoughtlessly fallen, and which, in many cases, works irreparable injury. We therefore recommend that the appeal be dismissed, and the action of the lodge affirmed."

TEXAS, 1876 (JUNE).

Two hundred and twenty-five lodges represented: twenty charters granted and four dispensations continued: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Indian Territory and Wyoming recognized.

The Grand Master (JOSEPH D. SAYERS) refers to the growth of the Institution in that State since the formation of the Grand Lodge: he had felt compelled to grant several dispensations for new lodges, although he was satisfied that the number of lodges is already too great when compared with the number of members [the membership is about the same as in Maine, but the lodges are numbered up to 465, while 180 is our highest number].

A tax having been imposed by the Grand Lodge, one of the lodges refused to pay it on the ground that it was unconstitutional: the Grand Master urged the lodge to rescind its resolution, as, whether the tax was constitutional or not, the position of the lodge was untenable; but it voted to adhere to its former action, whereupon the Grand Master arrested its charter and the Grand Lodge annulled it.

It was decided that a refusal to waive jurisdiction is not equivalent to a rejection.

The Grand Master had attempted to obtain the statistics of the demised lodges, some seventy-five in number, and of unaffiliates: but the returns were so meagre that he did not think it worth while to make a record of them.

He gives an abstract of the reports of the District Deputies: from them it appears that harmony generally prevails; intemperance is occasionally complained of; and it is said there is a laxity in relation to the collection of dues.

In regard to the proposed recognition of the Colored Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, the following resolutions were adopted:

"That the Grand Lodge of Texas fraternally invites the Grand Lodge of Ohio to consider well, whether the substance it now has of masonic intercourse is not better than the shadow it proposes to reach after.

"That this Grand Lodge adheres firmly to the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction. Two Grand Lodges cannot occupy the same field in the American fraternity with its consent."

A Louisiana lodge having initiated a resident of Texas, by direction of its Grand Lodge remitted the fee to the Grand Lodge of Texas, which voted to remit the funds to Relief Lodge, No. 1, of New Orleans.

By some misapprehension the Grand Lodge of Ontario was recognized, al-

though the very next resolution was one of thanks to the Grand Lodge of Canada, for courtesies to Deputy Grand Master MARCUS F. MOTT.

The "Grand Lecturer System" was abolished: but from the report of the Deputies, it would seem that much good had been done by them, and that they had faithfully discharged their duties: the first visited ninety-one out of the ninety-two lodges in his District, and the failure of a steamer to make its trip was the cause of his not visiting that; the second visited 95 out of 101 in his District; the third visited 101 out of 102; the fourth 74 out of 87: their reports show that there was a necessity for their work.

A subordinate lodge having adopted a resolution affirming the new doctrine, that a Grand Lodge is the creature of its subordinates, the following conclusion, announced in an able report in 1861, were unanimously re-affirmed:

"1st. That a Grand Lodge is created by the craft at large, and that when delegates of lodges participated, they did so, not for their lodge as a society or corporation, but for all their Brethren who could not conveniently attend in person. 2d. That the powers of the Grand Lodge are not delegated by the lodges as such, but are absolutely vested in it by the fact of its organization. 3d. That inherently and necessarily it has full and entire control over masonry and lodges in its jurisdiction, subject only to the old landmarks and such regulations as are defined in them and in its own constitution. 4th. Whatever powers have been vested exclusively in the subordinate lodges by the landmarks, or by regulations of the Grand Lodge, can only be exercised by them and not by the Grand Lodge. All other powers not so vested in the subordinates, appertain to and may be exercised by the Grand Lodge, as it may deem best for the benefit of the craft, consistently with both justice and harmony."

BRO. E. H. CUSHING presented another of his most excellent Reports on Correspondence (103 pp.).

He says:

"The American reports show a generally prosperous condition of things. Harmony for the most part characterizes the institution. Some questions of importance are discussed. Among them is, The proper thing to be done with non-affiliates, and The proper thing, likewise, to do with members who do not pay dues. All the remedies are being tried by one or another jurisdiction, but the weight of the argument regarding membership is in favor of permitting non-affiliants full liberty to enjoy such masonic rights as do not appertain to the lodge. The best and most widely followed practice regarding non-payment of dues is simply to drop the member from the rolls, and regard him as a non-affiliant, requiring that he shall pay up if he applies again for membership, and be restored by ballot."

* * * * *

"The object of a funeral is to bury the dead. While we should willingly attend to this duty, and always willingly do attend to it, yet if others have, or think they have, a superior claim to officiate, we should always as willingly resign it to them. There need be, there must be no unseemly disputes, nor need there be any double ceremony. We even go further and say, when there are religious services by the church, there need be and should be no masonic ceremonies connected therewith. One ceremony is all-sufficient."

He is strongly in favor of "abolishing the degree of Past Master," and we had intended to quote his views upon the question: but we have not space; as it is no degree at all, as far as the lodge is concerned, but only a part of the ceremony of the installation of a Master, we do not see the need of

abolishing it any more than the rest of that ceremony. As for the argument that two-thirds of the Grand Lodge may know nothing about it, and therefore it is not under the control of the Grand Lodge, facts do not sustain him, for it has been under the control of Grand Lodges for nearly a century at least, and they have legislated about it, all there was any necessity for, and intelligently too. But he is unjust to it in one thing: he speaks of the trouble it made in New York, when *it never made any!* Heap your sarcasm and invective upon it, Bro. C., but don't accuse it of crimes it never committed, or of intentions it cannot, from its nature, entertain. It is true, that if a Master of a lodge v. d. can get along without it, the Master of a chartered lodge can; and the same is true of installation, of which it is a part, and yet we install the one and do not the other—and we believe the same rule prevails in Texas. Seriously, Bro. C., don't you think you are "making a big boo for so young a colt?"

In reply to remarks in our report in 1875, in relation to the powers of the Grand Master in the Grand Lodge, he says:

"To which we say—perhaps! Let him not be arbitrary, whatever he does. Lodge and Grand Lodge duty to the presiding officer is conditional upon his plumbing the law."

But who, save himself, can decide whether he "plumbs the law"? We notice that a Texas lodge voted that the Grand Master did not "plumb the law" in a certain case, and the result was, *it lost its charter*. It acted upon the implication contained in the extract just made—and then *ceased to act!*

In reply to what we said in relation to lodges holding the charters under which they were organized, he asks:

"We beg to ask Bro. Drummond whether he considers chartered corporations a parallel to chartered lodges, and if so, how far? And again, we beg to ask him whether any lodge in Maine would be justified in withdrawing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and attaching itself to the Grand Lodge for example of Canada, or England, or the Grand Orient of France! If it can, 'it may pass under the government of another Grand Lodge as readily as a native citizen of Maine may change his residence,' and if not, then it cannot. The position is wrong, and has been so decided in nearly parallel questions by almost all the Grand Lodges. The lodges of Maine should have charters from their Grand Lodge, or they are not regularly constituted."

They are parallel in the principles applicable to their creation. A charter is a grant of power. Indeed, many of our lodges held civil charters from the Legislature of Massachusetts, when Maine was made a State, and they have acted under those civil charters ever since, and their right to do so has never been questioned. The grant of power creates a corporation and after it is organized, it becomes and continues to be an artificial being, until its charter is revoked; in the same manner, the grant of a charter to a lodge and its organization under it, create an artificial being which can exercise its function until that charter is revoked by competent authority.

To the second question we say yes, under the same circumstances in which an individual can do so: if a lodge, with its territorial jurisdiction, is trans-

ferred to Canada, it may pass under the jurisdiction of the proper Grand Lodge as readily as the individuals, who reside upon the territory transferred, pass under the civil government. If all the members of a lodge move into another jurisdiction, taking their charter, and the Grand Lodge there recognizes them as a lodge, their allegiance is changed; practically this cannot be done, for most Grand Lodges *locate* the lodge; but if a charter was granted to persons to hold a lodge where they chose, and they are constituted under it, they might, with the consent of the Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over the place where they should do so, locate anywhere.

If Bro. C. will examine, he will find that he is in error in saying that the opposite has been decided by nearly all the Grand Lodges.

Having "answered his conundrums," we wish to propound a few to him. In the case mentioned, does the new Grand Lodge grant and issue the charters *before* or *after* the old ones are surrendered? If *before*, can a lodge legally have two charters from two Grand Lodges at the same time? If *after*, to whom is the charter granted? To the lodge, or the individuals of which it was composed? And to whom is it issued? If *to the lodge*, what makes it a lodge after it has surrendered its charter? If to the individuals composing the old lodge, is it not a new lodge, requiring to be constituted under its charter before it can act as a lodge?

These questions may seem hypercritical, but their object is to call attention to the fact that the grant of a charter is an act of *creation*, and the surrender of a charter is an act of *death*; and that the charter is the mere *evidence* of the *grant* by which the lodge was *created*; the destruction of the document only takes away the *evidence* of the grant, while the grant remains in full force; while the surrender of the charter is an act of dissolution by giving up the grant, and the essence of the act is in the *vote to surrender*, and not in the *delivery of the document*.

We perceive that Bro. C., in his report, favors the view that power is delegated to the Grand Lodge by the lodges; but as the contrary doctrine was unanimously sustained by his Grand Lodge, we presume he changed his mind after he had made his report and heard the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence.

There are many other things in this report we would like to notice, but time and space fail.

TEXAS, 1876 (DECEMBER).

The time of the Annual Communication having been changed to December, there were two sessions in 1876.

Eighty-one lodges represented: six charters granted and three dispensations continued: and four charters revoked.

The Grand Master (MARCUS F. MOTT) delivered a brief address, giving an account of his official action during the previous six months: he had become

convinced that the recognition of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario the year before was erroneous: the Committee on Correspondence report upon the case at length, coming to the same conclusion; and thereupon the recognition was withdrawn by a unanimous vote.

The Report on Correspondence (52 pp.) was presented by Bro. E. H. CUSHING.

In his review of Iowa, he gives a full history of the "Frenzel case," which we have noticed in former reports. But he brings out one feature which we had not noticed. Frenzel had been suspended for non-payment of dues, by his lodge in Texas, but an Iowa lodge wanted him as a member, and it seems, in order to do away with the effect of the suspension, the Iowa lodge expelled him and then restored him. Bro. CUSHING capitably applies the story of the doctor, who said, when he had a patient whose case he did not understand, "I'll give him something to throw him into fits, and then I can manage him, for *I am death on fits!*" The lodge threw Frenzel into fits, but it couldn't "manage him" then, for it was found that the Grand Lodge had, in the mean time, confirmed the expulsion.

But Bro. C. wants the opinion of the reporters, upon the legality of the proposed restoration, or rather, what effect it had on the previous suspension. We hold that no other lodge and Grand Lodge can restore a suspended mason, than the one which suspended him: it cannot be done directly or indirectly: a suspended mason may be expelled by any lodge having jurisdiction of him, and then he may be restored by it to the condition in which it found him, that is, that of a suspended mason. The matter is too plain for argument; and we believe no one will question our conclusion—not even the Doctor who invented this mode of treatment: the patient may be thrown into fits and the fits cured, but his original disease remains.

He reviews Maine for 1876, although he had given in full, from advance sheets, in his previous report, so much of our report as relates to Colored Grand Lodges: he agrees in its conclusions, and names Maine as among the Grand Lodges "occupying the highest ground" on this subject.

Of two of the decisions, he says:

"But the following are to be questioned, to wit:

"An objection to a candidate has the same effect as the black ball, and can no more be withdrawn after the rejection has been declared."

"A ballot must be taken, notwithstanding objection be made, and even if the ballot is clear, the candidate should be declared rejected on objection made."

"Neither of these decisions is sound. An objection is not a black ball, though while it stands it is an effectual bar to admission, but it may be withdrawn since it is open and understood by all the lodge. A black ball cannot be withdrawn, since from the nature of it and of the institution, no evidence is possible as to who may have cast the black ball. If we were permitted to take any brother's word that he cast such a ball, we might permit him to withdraw it. We are not permitted, because we do not permit any one to reveal how he voted.

"Consequently also a clear ballot, after an objection made, the objector

being present and voting, is a withdrawal of the objection, and opens the doors of the lodge to the applicant."

It is sufficient to say that the first clause of the first decision is a provision of our constitution, and the second clause a necessary result of the first.

But Bro. CUSHING misapprehends in another point: it is the settled law of this jurisdiction that a member, who cannot be present at the meeting at which a candidate is to be balloted for, may make objection, oral or written, to the Master; and that one who was or was not present, may do the same after ballot and before initiation: and in both cases the objection is secret, and is not made known to the lodge. Such an objection is rightly made the equivalent of a rejection by ballot. But if objections are made after initiation, inasmuch as the candidate is then a mason, they must be submitted to the lodge and their sufficiency determined by a two-thirds vote.

And the second decision is scarcely more than a statement of the settled law.

Noticing our remarks about the origin of the power of the Grand Master to grant dispensations, he says:

"If, then, this dispensing power owed its existence to the fact that a corresponding power was claimed by the English Kings, may we not see an equally good reason for dropping it when for now over a hundred years it has ceased to be a claim of the Crown? Dispensations, like all other prerogatives, are to be guarded against and put down upon every possible occasion."

We agree with his last sentence: but if our position was correct, we do not see how the prerogative *can* be "dropped," save by revolution.

In another part of his report, he says:

"This change of venue is all regular. Why not? Is there any landmark violated? It is the best, and sometimes only means possible, to secure justice. Lodges are sometimes prejudiced, and do things to favor their prejudices for which they are not sustained by law. When this is the case, and a new trial is granted, it is for the advantage of all that it should be moved away from these prejudices. So we take the case to a neighboring lodge, and have it settled there."

We think that under the "Ancient Charges," a mason has the right to be tried by the lodge having jurisdiction over him, and if that lodge cannot do him justice, the Grand Lodge is bound to do it.

UTAH, 1876.

Five of the six lodges represented: the Masonic Hall in Salt Lake City dedicated by the Grand Lodge, with a fine oration by FRANK TILFORD, Grand Orator.

The Grand Master (EDMUND P. JOHNSON) announces the death of EBENEZER H. SHAW, the first Master of Lodge No. 3, and a zealous and prominent mason: suggests the holding of Lodges of Sorrow: recommends the adoption of a system of Life-Membership: urges the observance of masonic anniversaries: declares that the proposed action of the Grand Lodge of Ohio is the introduction of the "color line" into masonry—a violation of one of the fundamental

principles of the institution, and an abandonment of the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction: deprecates masonic displays, and on that account had refused permission to a lodge to parade on the Fourth of July: advises that the Report on Correspondence be printed in advance of the session, that the members of the Grand Lodge may become acquainted with its contents: speaks a good word for the Masonic Library: says that masonry is a Religion to the extent of requiring "a living faith in God, a full sense of individual responsibility to Him, and a life of virtue and morality": cautions the craft to "guard well the inner door," and scan well the character of candidates in every particular, and notices appropriately the Centennial Year.

BRO. CHRIS. DIEHL, the Grand Secretary, makes his usual full report: if the Grand Lodge of Utah does not flourish, it will not be for want of a good, faithful, and indefatigable Grand Secretary.

He reports a decrease in membership, charging it in part to the financial depression, and in part to the law allowing lodges to suspend members for non-payment of dues without trial, but chiefly to a cause hinted at as well as understood, but not stated, but which, we infer, is, when put into two words—Brigham Young.

He shows that the financial condition of the Grand Lodge and of most of the subordinates, is excellent.

A perfect state of peace has prevailed, and but little work been done, so that the duties of the Committees on Grievances, Unfinished Business, and on Lodges *U. D.*, is nominal.

He also, with an appreciation unsurpassed by any, notices the events of a hundred years ago, which gave to Freemasonry a scope for its unprecedented growth, which was possible only "where freedom is the birthright of the individual, and is guaranteed by bonds imperishable as his nature."

He also reports upon the Library, showing a gratifying increase, with several very rare and valuable works.

"It fills his heart with joy" to announce the establishment of a "Reading and Library Room," large, commodious and well furnished; we copy the conclusion of his report upon this subject:

"Brothers in Utah, the emoluments the craft derives from the Library can not be observed at the first glance, but it will surely bear fruit. Look around you, and behold the ignorance and superstition existing in our midst! The free school system is denounced, knowledge defamed, and our own kingly art ridiculed. Let us take up the challenge glove, and prove to those high in power that Freemasonry, even in Utah, has a mission, and that we are ready to fulfill it, and prepared to do our whole duty. Be assured that in this labor our Library will be a great assistance. It will be an incentive spreading 'more light,' not only to our own votaries, but to many good men in Utah creeping yet in darkness, and it will be a fountain from which will flow an everlasting stream of intelligence and knowledge."

The Grand Lodge, in appreciation of his labors, appropriated \$100 for the library, and appointed a committee to solicit donations for it.

A special report was made in reference to the so-called Grand Lodge of

Ontario: the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, shows the purport of it:

"*Resolved*, That all masons in this jurisdiction are forbidden to hold masonic intercourse or communication with any person claiming to hail from the spurious so-called 'Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario,' of which F. Westlake claims to be Grand Master, and W. W. Fitzgerald, Grand Secretary, and which has its pretended seat of government at the city of London, in the Province of Ontario."

The Salt Lake City Board of Relief expended in charity nearly \$1,200, of which, about \$250 was for a single person.

The Grand Lodge recommended creating a system of life-membership in subordinate lodges, placing the fee at \$100.

Bro. DIEHL again presented the Report on Correspondence (92 pp.).

He notices with brief comments the matters of interest in all the Proceedings.

From it we learn that polygamists can never enter a Utah lodge; and that the system of trying charges by commissioners instead of by the lodge, has been tried in Utah and found to be so much of a success, that a return to the old plan is not to be thought of.

His review of Maine is fraternal. Of one matter, he says:

"He discusses at length, and, of course, objects to our opinion regarding appeals and punishments by the Grand Lodge, and believes that further consideration will convince us that our theory is erroneous. Bro. D., we will pay hereafter strict attention to this very important subject, and if we are on the wrong side, we will confess it and do better. There is nothing unmasonic in this?"

Speaking of the relief by the New York Masonic Board of Relief, of one hailing from Utah, he gives the following bit of experience and advice:

"We almost fear that in Utah's case the Board assisted an impostor, or at any rate an unworthy person. In a small jurisdiction like ours the Grand Secretary knows nearly every member, and a Brother traveling abroad does not escape his notice, and we do not know a single one among our members, who has been in New York in distressed circumstances. Strange that the Board does not use the telegraph in such cases. Only a few months ago a person, claiming to be an officer in the United States army, and a member of Kane Lodge, No. 454, applied to us for \$25 relief. His dress and appearance being not that of a gentleman, and his face reddened from the use of alcoholic drinks, we questioned him sharply, and he was somewhat astonished when we mentioned the names of the leading officers of Kane Lodge, and our acquaintance with the standing of that lodge. We told him that we would give him the required amount, but would first telegraph to his lodge, when, all at once, he dropped from \$25 to \$2, the cost of the dispatch, as he said, but even that was refused, and he left in great haste, to be seen no more. Just mention the telegraph, Brothers, and masonic 'bilks and impostors' will be things of the past. We out West have adopted it as a rule, and it works like a charm."

He quotes at length various reports upon both sides of the Ohio question, and adds:

"We personally stand firm in our own honest conviction, that only one Grand Lodge can legally exist within a certain State, Territory or Province, and that conviction will go with us to our grave. European masons claim this to be an American law, not to be found in any of the ancient regulations. Be it so; but it has worked like a charm for many years on American soil,

and among the masonic family in America has preserved peace and harmony. Destroy that law, known as the American Masonic Monroe Doctrine, and an endless chaos will ensue. If Utah masons glance only for a moment at their own situation, and consider the trouble, confusion and vexation that would arise at their own home, should the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction be swept from the American continent, they cannot long hesitate, and will readily decide their side of the scale. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and a word to the wise is sufficient.

"We believe in the universality of Freemasonry, and the question of race or color cannot disturb that belief. Before our sacred altar all masons are equal; may their skin be white, black or yellow, our hand is open to each and all for a brotherly grasp. But they must have been made masons in a regular lodge of such, and must have passed through the same door as we have. Such being the ancient law, we must submit to it, no matter how our sympathetic heart pleads for the colored race. The Grand Lodge of Ohio should have proposed another plan to bring the man of color within the fold of legitimate Freemasonry. As it is, we respectfully dissent from its proposition."

The term "Monroe Doctrine" is improperly used in this connection, but that use did not originate with Bro. D. The doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction is as old as civil government: no nation would tolerate any other doctrine for a moment: Grand Lodges are masonic nations, and the same principles apply to them. The "Monroe Doctrine" has reference to the interference by *foreigners* with matters in this country.

VERMONT, 1876.

Representation, 88 lodges out of 99: a large amount of routine business of merely local interest transacted.

The Grand Master (NATHAN P. BOWMAN) alludes to the progress and results of masonry during the century of the Republic's existence: announces the deaths of quite a number of prominent masons in that State, paying a brief tribute to the memory of each: says that the prosperity of the craft had not been so great during the year as at some former periods, and the reason is found in the want of general prosperity, in a great measure, but to some extent in "the prevalent decrease of interest on the part of masons individually," and he suggests as a remedy the bringing to the front of "the festal element of our institution," and the opening more frequently of the doors of our halls to "wives, sons and daughters of members, and the families of our neighbors": among the appointments of Representatives, he announces that of JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND near the Grand Lodge of Maine.

He says that abuses of the right to dimit have crept in, and dimitts are often taken for no other purpose than to escape the payment of dues. The subject was very fully discussed in Grand Lodge, and the following amendments to the by-laws were accepted and referred to a committee for final action, as to their adoption, at the next session:

"That no mason connected with any lodge in the State of Vermont can be dimitted from the lodge to which he belongs until his petition has been presented and accepted by some other masonic lodge, and a petition for a dimit

sent by the Master of such masonic lodge accepting such petition to the lodge to which such petition belongs, signed by said petitioner and by the Master of the lodge to which said member has applied for admission, notifying the lodge to which said petitioner formerly belonged that said member had made due application and was accepted by a vote of said lodge to which he petitioned for acceptance.

"That each member receiving a dimit should pay to his lodge the sum of one dollar for the benefit of the Grand Lodge, and that the sum of two dollars be paid for each dispensation, to be paid to the Grand Master, for the craft, of the Grand Lodge, by the party for whose benefit the dispensation is granted."

Of the District Deputy Grand Masters, he says:

"The District Deputy Grand Master system of inspecting lodges in this jurisdiction is, practically, a failure, and is of little use except in a few instances. Some Deputies bear the honors of the office and never make a visitation, or if they do, they never inspect the work or the records of the lodges, and this Grand Lodge knows very little of the internal workings of the subordinate lodges. Other Deputies visit such lodges as are most convenient, and pay no attention to the balance, or if they do, write the Master or Secretary, and found their report on the information thus furnished. There is reason to believe that some of our lodges have not seen a District Deputy Grand Master within their halls for many years. There are some faithful, earnest, zealous officers of this class, who perform their duties conscientiously and well, to whom all honor is due, but it is a question of serious moment whether some new system should not be adopted for the inspection of the internal workings of our lodges."

In the address of the Grand Master in another jurisdiction, we find the matter stated something like this: "In some jurisdictions these officers perform their duties, and the system is a grand success; in this they do not, and the system is a lamentable failure." This may suggest the trouble in Vermont, and one reason for their inefficiency may be, and probably is, found in the fact that the Grand Lodge does not pay their expenses.

Among his decisions are the following:

"1. Has a lodge a right to grant a conditional dimit, the condition being that it shall take effect when the Brother joins another lodge?

"No.

"2. In balloting for a candidate only one black ball is cast, the person casting it has a right to waive the privilege of secrecy and at the time avow his vote in open lodge without being required to give his reasons. The lodge is bound to presume he did it for good and sufficient reasons. Such Brother is not liable for unmasonic conduct unless he should avow an unworthy motive for so doing.

"3. In case charity is bestowed by a lodge or member upon a member of another lodge to which he belongs, can they be compelled to re-imburse it?

"No. Charity in all cases must be voluntary, not compulsory. While charity is a masonic duty, the lodge or Brother bestowing it must be the judge of that duty."

The second is not well settled, but the preponderance of authority is against the first part of it.

A lodge having protested against the right of the Grand Lodge to levy a tax upon the subordinates, the following report was adopted:

"We believe that the power given in the Constitution is founded upon the soundest masonic law and upon principle.

"The Grand Lodge is the supreme masonic authority within its territorial limits, and the right of taxation is inherent in its sovereignty.

"Your committee are aware of several Grand Lodges that have a similar by-law to our own; and have never before heard the right of a Grand Lodge to provide means of support by a tax upon its subordinates questioned. In fact, this power is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the Grand Lodge, from which the subordinates derive all their powers and privileges."

The Committee on Reprint reported that the work was ready for publication, and five hundred copies were ordered to be printed. The Committee hope it "will be gratifying to Vermont Masons now widely scattered all over the globe;" they might include *all* masons who desire to know the history and polity of the Institution. But we regret to find that this work has been too long delayed already. The Grand Lodge was organized in 1794: its Proceedings were first published in 1806: from 1836 to 1844, inclusive, it was dormant, but its Grand Officers met biennially and adjourned, keeping a record of their proceedings; from 1845 to the present time we have a full file of published Proceedings; but the great misfortune is the record from 1794 to 1845, which is missing*; it was in existence a few years since, and it is hoped it is now, but it cannot be found: the result is that the Proceedings from 1796 to 1805 inclusive, except those of 1803, and the ordinances adopted in 1796, 1797, 1799 and 1804 cannot be included in the Reprint. The Proceedings before the suspension were so rare, that it was with great difficulty that the material prepared by the committee has been collected. This is another instance in which the value of these old records has been realized too late.

The Report on Correspondence (122 pp.) was presented by Bro. HENRY CLARK, Grand Secretary. It well merits what the Grand Master said of its predecessor: it "is unusually interesting and able, and ought to be read by every mason in this jurisdiction."

In his review of Maine (1875), he says "Bro. CARGILL's address is one of the best business documents we have met," and adds:

"The reports of the several District Deputy Grand Masters are full statements of the condition of the several lodges under their charge, and far different from the meagre and incomplete report of our Vermont officers. In Maine these officers *perform* their duties, in *Vermont* they *shirk* them."

And under Virginia, says:

"The reports of the several District Deputy Grand Masters are full, thorough and interesting, and indicate that masonry in Virginia is a *reality*, a bright and living institution of the present. Had Vermont half the fire and vigor of Virginia masonry, we should see its altars blazing with a brighter light than is witnessed to-day, we should learn that masonry is a liberal institution and *not* mercenary and selfish in its aims."

The Vermont reports this year are fuller than common, and show a decided improvement over those of former years.

In his review of Colorado, he says:

"A Grand Lodge cannot assume to repay the borrowed money which may have been loaned by one Brother to another because of a Brother's default to pay, neither can one lodge assume all charity unless it is a clear case of necessity. Actual, real charity, our landmarks teach us to recognize, and a

* While these sheets are going through the press, we learn by a note from Bro. GEO. F. KOON that the old record has been found.

fraternal spirit leads us to repay, but masonic charity is an obligation for which we have no legal redress. It is a right, not a debt."

We endorse his views in relation to these reports :

"This department of our annual labor is the most valuable and compensating of the many varied duties that fall upon us, and we gather much of gratification from the fact that it brings the richest reward to the craft at large, and is really the educating force of American Masonry, and those Grand Lodges that omit a Report on Foreign Correspondence—sit in the shadow of darkness and lack in one of the essential requisites of independent and intelligent action upon current masonic questions."

We should be glad to copy the whole of his introduction, in which he discusses boldly the evils of intemperance, evil-speaking and the abuse of the ballot. We can only give a few extracts.

Of intemperance :

"It is the most difficult of all evils to deal with. No man is willing to believe himself either a drunkard or in danger of becoming one. Each mason has a stern individual duty to perform towards the erring, intemperate brethren. It is in our power to reclaim, if we will. Let us make the effort. If kindness will not touch him, coming from the lips of loving brethren, then must the stern hand of masonic discipline be raised. The institution of masonry must be saved, if our best, most free-hearted, beloved craftsmen, have to fall under the axe of the guillotine."

* * * * *

"We would not be radical on this subject—we are not. We make all allowance for the weakness and imperfection of human nature. Men cannot always control their own conduct. There are times when the best of us may fly to any excess for the temporary oblivion it may bring. The afflictions of the hour may unnerve and unman, or the triumphs of the day may thrill and elate, may palliate or excuse an occasional over-indulgence. To the noble, true and worthy mason, in an unguarded moment, such an occasional over-indulgence may come almost unconsciously. Then it may be deemed a misfortune rather than a fault, and, with kind and fraternal admonition, the mantle of charity may be permitted to extend its protection over him. There is a growing disposition everywhere manifest to deal more energetically with this vice, and we hope the day is approaching when it will be no longer possible to look upon the sad spectacle of a drunken mason."

"With ultra reforms we have little sympathy, but with suffering humanity we have the fullest. We desire to see the moral power of the whole Fraternity put in force to arrest this evil. Precept and example must go hand in hand. Let our brethren remember this, and, while they dissuade the erring from the foaming bowl, have the firmness, even in secret, to reject a like temptation."

Of abuse of the ballot :

"Some plain words on what may be termed the abuses of the secret ballot are needed. No mason of any experience will deny that these abuses exist; scarcely anyone but has known some palpable instance of wrong perpetrated through the ballot box. A sacred right to many has apparently given a few the right to do wrong, which admits of no redress. To remove the wrong would be to root up the right. Conceived and brought forth in truth, it admits of no change but growth and the natural development of its vital organism, and it was entrusted to pure hands. These conditions preserved, it is perfect; but, in its contact and struggles with human passions, its perfections are sometimes distorted into blemishes and made the means of injustice."

"It is to be regretted that there are those in the Order who are so far from being masons as to seize on the ballot as the instrument of vengeance."

"Humiliating as this admission is, it is nevertheless an honest confession, safer to make than to withhold, for it may be the beginning of repentance

and reform. The evil is not wide-spread, nor is it contagious, but it roots itself like a cancer in the body of a lodge where it exists, and slowly but surely wastes it away. Some of our lodges are now suffering from it, and from the highest enjoyment of health, peace and prosperity, they have been plunged into the depth of weakness and despondency; their energy and activity are lost, and they lie torpid and languishing, as it were, pulseless, on the bed of death.

"All this simply because one member, perhaps, has been disappointed in his aspirations for office, annoyed by the rejection of a personal friend or relative, or because some accused brother was not expelled. Forgetful of the high power he wields for good or evil, oblivious of his duties as a mason, and even forswearing his honor as a man, he resorts to the revenge of the ballot box, and holds himself behind its unquestionable right and incontrovertible secrecy. He strikes at the vitals of masonry, and from that hour the lodge is dead."

The fact that there can be no remedy for this abuse, unless the offender chooses to boast of his crime, makes it one of the meanest as well as most unmasonic acts that a mason can perform; and while all must admit the truth of Bro. CLARK's statements, we think that there are not so many malicious rejections as most masons think there are.

VIRGINIA, 1876.

We have to announce the death, November 16, 1876, of the veteran mason, and old-time gentleman, John Dove, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. He was born September 2, 1792, became a mason as soon as he attained his majority, and, during his whole life, he was identified with the Institution. He became a member of the Grand Lodge in 1816, and was present at every communication thereafter for *sixty years*: in 1818, he was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, and served continuously till his death: he held subordinate positions in the Grand Lodge from 1822 onward, and was Junior Grand Warden, but in 1834 was elected Grand Secretary, and was re-elected *forty-one* times. He presided over the Baltimore Convention of 1843, and in 1847 published the "Virginia Text Book."

In spite of the exacting duties of his profession, he devoted much time to masonic duties, and the history of our Institution gives no parallel in length of service, and but few either in the ability or the faithfulness with which he discharged his responsible duties.

Representation, 135 out of 225 lodges: two charters granted, and three dispensations continued: one charter refused and one surrendered: the work exemplified: a committee appointed to revise the Text Book and publish a new edition, omitting the history of the Grand Lodge contained in the previous editions: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO) announces, in fitting terms, the deaths of JOHN DOVE, Grand Secretary, THOMAS U. DUDLEY, Grand

Treasurer, and JAMES R. DOWELL, Grand Lecturer. An appropriate tribute was paid, and a mourning page devoted to the memory of each.

The Grand Master, disapproving of "Lodges of Sorrow," had declined to consent to holding them; he favored the Representative system; suggested that the Committee on Foreign Correspondence should be paid; recommended that the "Working Committee" be made Custodians of the Work; advised that all masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Ontario be interdicted; and urged upon lodges the importance of preparing sketches of their histories: in all of which the Grand Lodge concurred.

In regard to Representatives, the Grand Lodge adopted a singular provision: holding that there ought to be some limit to the appointment, it resolved that the credentials of Representatives shall remain in force only during the official life of the Grand Master who receives them. In all other jurisdictions, the commission is held during the pleasure of the appointing power.

Several of the decisions reported last year (and among them the two from which we dissented in our last report), were overruled by the Grand Lodge, with the concurrence of the Grand Master.

Thirty-one of the forty District Deputies reported, and their reports were specifically reported upon by the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers—an excellent plan.

The question of the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba was before the Grand Lodge, but it was decided that further information was necessary before recognition could be granted.

We hope to have a Report on Correspondence next year.

WASHINGTON, 1876.

Nineteen of the twenty lodges were represented: no charters granted: the Grand Lodges of Dakota and Indian Territory recognized: and masonic intercourse with the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario forbidden.

The Grand Master (THOMAS T. MINOR), not being able to be present, sent in his address.

He had decided that a candidate, rejected by lodge in another jurisdiction, must have the consent of the rejecting lodge, precisely the same as if it had been by a lodge within the jurisdiction.

He devotes some space to the "Pacific disaster," in which many masons of that jurisdiction perished: a memorial page is devoted to their memory.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Masters of the several Grand Lodges in the United States be requested to meet at such time and place as may be deemed most convenient and take into consideration and recommend a plan for the organization of a National Grand Lodge for the United States."

A motion to repeal the resolution limiting the Report on Correspondence

to an acknowledgment of the receipt of Proceedings and a Table of Statistics was lost by a vote of 34 to 35.

The following resolution was offered, and wisely laid on the table :

"Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the expediency of the establishment of a Masonic Life Insurance Society, and if they deem the formation of such a society expedient, to report at the next annual communication a plan of such society."

The Report on Correspondence is limited, according to the provisions of the resolution to which we have referred, much to our regret.

The following report upon a subject, now attracting considerable attention, was adopted :

"That the claim set up by the said Baker City Lodge for nursing and otherwise waiting upon the sick member of Blue Mountain Lodge, is in the opinion of your committee unmasonic. We consider it the duty of masons everywhere, and they should esteem it a privilege to minister to the wants and necessities of sick Brethren temporarily sojourning in their midst. This is one of the rights to which every mason is entitled by virtue of his profession. And while we consider the very extraordinary claim of Baker City Lodge—which is without precedent so far as we are informed—at variance with the spirit and intent of our Institution, and calculated, if countenanced and encouraged, to destroy that true fraternal love and charity which has ever characterized the Order, we would respectfully recommend that Blue Mountain Lodge, No. 13, be requested to pay the claim of the said Baker City Lodge, not as a debt, justly due, but as the best means of promoting that fraternal courtesy that should always exist between lodges of neighboring jurisdictions."

This is undoubtedly correct: and while we would have lodges, if able, repay such expenses, we would not have it done as a matter of course so as finally to establish a usage to that effect. The doctrine, that one person or a lodge may establish a debt by the exercise of masonic charity, strikes a blow at one of the fundamental principles of masonry—that the obligation to relieve is governed by the *ability* of the giver and the wants of the relieved, and both these are left to the masonic conscience of the former.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1876.

Representation, 66 of the 72 lodges: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, the Indian Territory, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized: three charters granted: all masonic intercourse with any person, claiming allegiance to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, forbidden.

The Grand Master (KEPHART D. WALKER) reports that the Fraternity in that State exhibits a healthy prosperity and is accomplishing good results.

He says:

"Actuated no doubt by what was a common patriotic impulse, Grafton Lodge, No. 15, and Fairmont Lodge, No. 9, asked for permission to appear in public parade on the 4th day of July last, in celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of American Independence. I was, albeit, reluctantly compelled to withhold my permission for the proposed parade. Freemasonry is not a political institution. It knows nothing of kingdoms or republics, or empires or States. It deals with men only as children of a common father, and has

nothing to do with the political controversies that distract nations. It labors to relieve the sufferings of the living, and give decent sepulture to the dead, and amid all the formulas of masonic work found in its rituals, I find no form of procedure for the 4th day of July, or for any other national holiday. No peculiarly masonic work was to be done upon that day, and I think that the awkwardness of the position in which those who turned out as Freemasons found themselves placed, will constitute a sufficient punishment for their forgetfulness of masonic duties in their excess of national zeal."

We once held to similar doctrine, but a study of the ancient charges and old usages of the craft, has satisfied us that it is masonic and proper to rejoice on our nation's holiday, and to honor the civil magistrate in our distinctive character as Freemasons. In our efforts to keep masonry out of the slough of politics, we have gone to the other extreme, and repudiated doctrines and usages which were anciently recognized and practiced.

In a list of Representatives, he gives Bro. W. R. G. ESRES as their Representative near the Grand Lodge of Maine, and HUGH STERLING as ours near that Grand Lodge.

We fully agree with the following from the Grand Master's address:

"I am satisfied our lodge meetings would be more interesting, if the Masters would take more pains to inform themselves in relation to these things, and then talk to their Brethren about them, and stimulate their curiosity to learn the origin of this ceremony or of that, or the meaning of this or that symbol, and the different explanations it has received in different ages of the world. I am satisfied from my own observation, that what is needed in West Virginia to give to the Masonic Fraternity a higher life and fuller vigor, is for the Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Brethren to read more and learn more concerning the history and principles of the Fraternity, and I have sometimes thought that a portion of the funds of the Grand Lodge might be profitably expended in paying some competent Brother to go from lodge to lodge and deliver a lecture to the Brethren upon the history, symbolism and the teachings of Freemasonry."

We are pained to learn from his address and the report of the Grand Secretary, that by the fire which burned the Masonic Temple in Wheeling about a year ago, all the bound volumes of their own Proceedings and those of other States, prior to 1873, were destroyed. Those of 1873 and since were in the Grand Secretary's Office and were saved. This loss necessitates a reprint at an early day: and we trust other Grand Lodges will supply the Proceedings lost as far as practicable: Iowa, as usual, has already taken the lead in this respect, and other Grand Lodges have sent reprints.

Six of the eleven District Deputies made reports, which show the advantage derived from having faithful and working officers, and which must be a keen reproof to those who made no report.

Among the decisions is the following, which we deem correct:

"The question is propounded: 'What action should a lodge take upon the application for a duplicate dimit ten years after the issuance of the original, it being alleged that the original had been lost?' We answer that if the lodge has no reasonable doubt about the issuance of the certificate, a duplicate can be issued."

A person residing in Colorado presented his petition to a lodge in that State and was rejected: he then came to West Virginia, and, some two years

after, presented his petition, which was accepted, and he received the degrees in a lodge in that State; in the last petition was the statement that he had never made application to any other lodge and been rejected: thereupon charges were preferred, but, upon his statement that he did not read his petition, he was acquitted: the matter was brought before the Grand Lodge, and the committee reported that such a plea ought not to have been received, and that the party be expelled; but (says the record)

"The recommendation of the committee coming before the Grand Lodge for action, it was held that the case was not before the Grand Lodge in such shape as to permit the summary expulsion contemplated by the committee. No formal appeal from the action of Equality Lodge, No. 44, in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Trials adopted in this State, had been taken, and no opportunity had been afforded for defense. Accordingly the Grand Lodge, on motion, struck out the recommendation that Snodgrass be expelled, and substituted in its stead a resolution that the District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District be instructed to take an appeal from the action of Equality Lodge, No. 44, in acquitting J. Frank Snodgrass, and mature the same for action at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, in accordance with the provisions of the Code. This amendment having been made, the report was adopted."

This plea in such cases has become more common than that of "emotional insanity" in our courts: as we think the prevalence of the latter would be stayed by the confinement of all afflicted with it in an asylum or prison for a term of years, so we think a few expulsions *for not reading the petition* in such cases would save, in the future, many violations of jurisdiction, which will be sure to happen if so flimsy a plea is allowed to shield the guilty ones from punishment.

We are happy to report that one of the three lodges in West Virginia, paying allegiance to the Gr. Lodge of Virginia, has given in its adhesion to the Gr. Lodge which rightfully has jurisdiction over it; and another voted to do so upon the condition that it should retain its charter, properly endorsed, and its old number: the Grand Lodge decided that it could allow the lodge to retain its old number only with the consent of the lodge in that State which had it, and that the charter must be surrendered and a new one issued, holding that "this Grand Body cannot legally endorse the present charter." The position as to the number is correct, but unless there is something in the compact with the Grand Lodge of Virginia controlling it, the request of the lodge to retain their charter, properly endorsed, might have been legally granted.

There is no Report on Correspondence except a special one, in relation to the Grand Lodges asking for recognition.

A revised Constitution, containing many excellent features is published with the Proceedings.

In two important points it agrees with ours: lodges have penal jurisdiction over their own members wherever they may be, and over all masons residing in their territorial jurisdiction: and the Grand Lodge, on appeal, has "sovereign jurisdiction over the whole case."

In one respect we do not like it: the "collective vote" system is adopted;

the representatives (Master and Wardens) of each lodge have, *collectively*, one vote; the Grand Master and Deputy have each one vote; the Grand Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and Deacons, *collectively*, one vote; the D. D. Gr. Masters, *collectively*, one vote; the Past Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, *collectively*, one vote; and the Past Masters and Past Grand Wardens, *collectively*, one vote: the Grand Master and Deputy, therefore, are the only ones who can *certainly* vote in an election, because, if a majority of each class do not agree on the same man, their vote is lost. If the object is to prevent (as probably is the result in practice) all, except the representatives of lodges, from voting, a less cumbrous system might be adopted.

WISCONSIN, 1876.

Representation, 178 lodges out of 189: five charters granted; expenses of Grand Secretary's office, by arrangement, apportioned eleven twenty-fourths to the Grand Lodge, six twenty-fourths to the Grand Chapter, three twenty-fourths to the Grand Council, and four twenty-fourths to the Grand Commandery: the question of the recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory postponed until the next session.

Three special sessions were held during the year to constitute lodges, at which the Grand Master delivered addresses, which we are sorry *not* to find in the Proceedings.

The Grand Master (JEDD P. C. COTTRILL) devotes his annual address chiefly to a statement of his official action and decisions.

Of the condition of the craft, he says:

"I take pleasure in stating that the general condition of the craft in this Grand Jurisdiction is prosperous; that our Brethren, as they ought to do, dwell together in unity; that Brotherly love prevails; that peace is in all our borders, and that at no time in our history has there existed greater zeal for the Fraternity to which we belong, or greater love and adherence to its pure principles and sacred mission, than exists to-day."

Among his decisions was the following:

"That an affidavit of a person said to have been taken while *in extremis*, was not admissible upon a masonic trial, as evidence, as the Constitution forbids the admission of *ex parte* affidavits; but that it would be admissible, if taken under such circumstances as to bring it within the original common law rule as to the admission of dying declarations."

* * * * *

"That a W. Master elect could not receive the P. M. degree in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons opened upon the P. M. degree, as a pre-requisite to installation; and that he could receive it only in a regularly convened convocation of Past Masters."

Of the last, the committee say:

"Your committee disapprove of decision designated the 5th; believing that any Master Mason who has received the degree of Past Master, if conferred by a Chapter, is competent to be installed Worshipful Master of a lodge: That whether it is proper for a Chapter to confer the degree of Past Master

upon a Brother elected Master of a lodge, without first having received the degree of Mark Master, belongs wholly to the Chapter jurisdiction."

And the Grand Lodge adopted the report.

For reasons frequently stated, we think the Grand Master was right, and the Grand Lodge wrong.

The following resolutions were adopted :

"WHEREAS, The approaching Centennial Anniversary of American Independence will be an occasion which the American people will desire to celebrate in patriotic commemoration of the national birth-day of liberty :

"Resolved, That permission be, and hereby is, granted to all masonic lodges in the State of Wisconsin, to turn out as lodges, join in public processions, and participate generally in the exercises of the day, July 4, 1876."

This is in accordance with views expressed elsewhere in this report; and we hope the matter will be generally discussed.

* * * * *

"Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master appoint a committee of three members of this Grand Lodge, to take into consideration and report to this Grand Lodge, at its next Annual Communication, as to whether or not it would be advisable for this Grand Lodge to provide for and set apart a fund for the purpose of establishing an Academy or a College for the education of the orphan children of poor masons."

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby instructed to report to the Grand Master, on the first day of February of each year, all the lodges, the returns of which are not received at that date; and the Grand Master shall take such action in the several cases as to him may seem proper and expedient."

In consequence of the heavy expenditures of the year, it was determined to defer the appropriation for the reprint to the next Annual Communication.

During the session there was a Centennial Re-union, at which Bro. SAMUEL FALLOWS delivered a fine patriotic and masonic address.

The Report on Correspondence (127 pp.) was presented by Bro. OLIVER LIBBEY: it is avowedly confined to a carefully prepared synopsis of the Proceedings reviewed, and gives us no room for comment.

WYOMING, 1876.

The four lodges represented: masonic intercourse with the masons of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario forbidden: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and the Indian Territory recognized:

The Grand Master (EDGAR P. SNOW) discusses the various matters requiring the action of the Grand Lodge.

We quote the following decisions:

"No. 3. A lodge has exclusive jurisdiction over all its rejected material, wheresoever residing, and can receive a second petition themselves, or grant permission to the lodge in whose jurisdiction such rejected material may reside to receive the same.

"No. 4. When the deformity of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry, and does not amount to an inability honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient land-marks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institutions.

"No. 5. Masonic usage permits an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to change his lodge, either for the purpose of receiving the remaining degree or degrees, or becoming permanently connected with another lodge. In order to effect these transfers legally, there are two distinct modes of procedure. In general terms, the two cases may be classified as follows: permission or request to do the work, and waiver of jurisdiction. In the former the lodge requests another to do the work for it, and in the latter it relinquishes all control over the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft.

"A lodge ought to retain full control of its own work and membership; to do this, it cannot delegate its powers to another lodge.

"It sometimes happens that one lodge requests another to confer the second or third degree for it, thus giving the lodge doing the work the authority to examine the candidate, and elect when found proficient, thus delegating to the latter lodge a power which the former should always retain in its own hands, namely, that of selecting its own membership.

"The Entered Apprentice has been accepted, it is true; but the right of rejection or objection ought not to be wrested from any of the members of the lodge during the whole progress of the three degrees. Therefore, the only just and safe way to transfer work is for the candidate to be examined and elected by his own lodge; then, if it is more convenient for him to receive his degree in another lodge, his own may request the other simply to do the work. By this process no mistake or misunderstanding could possibly occur, and both lodges would be duly exercising their legitimate functions.

"Under a waiver of jurisdiction the candidate must petition as a non-affiliate, sending in his certificate in lieu of a dimit, with his petition. An investigating committee takes charge of the case, report on same, and a ballot is taken; all done in the regular form of disposing of the petition of a Master Mason.

"If rejected, the petitioner receives his certificate again, and retains the position of a non-affiliate, having the right to immediately petition the same lodge again, or any other he may elect.

"If elected, he is simply accepted as an Entered Apprentice, or Fellow Craft, and the lodge has by that act obtained exclusive jurisdiction over him. He must then be examined as to proficiency, and another ballot must be taken for his advancement. An examination before election, and only one ballot, will not do. The Brother does not yet belong to the lodge to examine. It is evident that he must first be accepted by the lodge, according to his grade, on his petition as a non-affiliate alone."

We concur: and we are glad to see so full an exposition of the law as is contained in the last. The only part of it as to which we have any doubt, is that one lodge may do the work of another under any circumstances, for it involves necessarily losing control of the candidate for the time being, and for a time when his progress could be stopped in his own lodge for sufficient cause, while in the lodge doing the work it might be impossible.

Of impostors, he well says:

"I feel it incumbent upon me to caution the Fraternity against impostors and spurious masons. Our only safeguard, besides a rigid examination, is to demand that Brethren from other jurisdictions show their diploma. The Master of a lodge, at his installation, promises that no visitor shall be received into his lodge without due examination, and producing proper vouchers of his having been initiated in a regular lodge. These vouchers should be critically examined. It is sometimes annoying to a Brother to be refused admission because he has not his diploma with him, but if he be inspired with the true spirit of masonry, he will see the justice of the requirement.

"I deem it important that the Grand Lodge take some action upon this matter at its present session. I would also, in this connection, renew my recommendation of one year ago, under the head of 'Diplomas,' that our by-laws

be so amended as to require all members of our subordinate lodges, and all who may in future become members, to obtain a diploma from this Grand Lodge.

"During my term of office I have been grieved to learn of the many instances in which Brethren have been victimized by members of the Order, in good standing at home, in the matter of receiving assistance, and on their pledge as masons, that on reaching their destination the money shall be returned. I regret to announce that in no instance have they kept their promise. This is not right. I would therefore recommend that some action be taken in the premises at the present session. No mason should pledge his masonic honor except in a case of the most extreme emergency, and then, having done so, should see to it that it is redeemed, no matter how great the sacrifice."

And the Grand Lodge recommend:

"*First.* That all the members of subordinate lodges, and those who hereafter become members, in this jurisdiction, are hereby required to procure diplomas from this Grand Lodge, of their standing in their lodges, in order to be thereby enabled to prove themselves members of the Order in good standing.

"*Second.* That any Brother of the Order, in good standing at home, receiving pecuniary assistance from any lodge in this jurisdiction, under the pledge of his masonic honor to refund the amount advanced him, and failing to keep his promise and redeem his pledge after a reasonable time has elapsed, shall, by the lodge advancing such pecuniary aid to him, be reported to his home lodge, and in case he thereafter fail to refund the loan, then it shall be, and it is hereby made the duty of the W. M. of the lodge in this jurisdiction, to prefer charges against such Brother for unmasonic conduct."

The Report on Correspondence (49 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN K. JEFFREY. It is a brief *résumé* of the Proceedings reviewed, without criticism, the author believing that criticisms seldom benefit those who read them, and very often offend the party criticized. We think he restricts the term to a too narrow signification. He warmly reciprocates the good wishes in our resolution of recognition.

MISSISSIPPI, 1877.

These Proceedings were not received in season for review in their regular order.

Represented, 219 lodges out of 315: three charters granted: three lodges extinguished by consolidation: two charters surrendered, three declared forfeited and one refused: receipts over \$1,000 in excess of all disbursements: the Grand Lodges of Wyoming and Prince Edward Island recognized: intercourse with the Ontario Grand Lodge forbidden: the question of the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba postponed till next year: the work and lectures exemplified.

The Grand Master (JOHN Y. MURRY) gives a statement of his official acts and decisions, with his reasons in some cases. The decisions generally depend upon local law or usage.

The Grand Secretary, in his excellent report, makes some suggestions in regard to the duties of Secretaries as to collecting dues, that deserve particular attention. He says:

"I also suggested to my Brother Secretaries that while it is the duty of brethren to pay their dues without being formally notified or called upon, that the by-law makes it the duty of the Secretary to notify every member of the amount of his dues, and to request payment. With but very few exceptions, the Secretaries have observed my instructions, and consequently the returns show but few names either deprived of membership under the old law, or suspended for non-payment under the new. One brother, however, suggested that the Grand Secretary had constituted himself into a 'Returning Board,' by 'counting in' where he had 'counted out,' and gave me to understand that I could not 'bulldoze' his lodge into carrying dead weight any longer. I replied that the good name and the finances of the Grand Lodge being involved in the matter, I felt it my duty to see that the suspensions reported are in accordance with the present by-law."

* * * * *

"During the ten years from 1866 to 1875, inclusive, there have been 7,547 raised in this jurisdiction, and 7,050 admitted by re-instatements and affiliations, making a total gain of 14,597, and yet the net gain for the ten years has only been 1,587. During the period named 7,274 have been suspended for non-payment of dues. These figures constitute an argument for greater care and industry in the collection of lodge dues, and the necessity of an adequate and well-defined penalty for failure or refusal to pay. If Secretaries will faithfully discharge the duty imposed on them by Section 21, and if Masters, before signing the Annual Returns, and certifying them to be correct, will see to it that all those returned as suspended for non-payment of dues, have been so returned after due notice and summons, and after action of the lodge in each case, a gratifying improvement in this particular will be the sure result."

Our observation, directed to this particular point for several years, satisfies us that the suspensions for non-payment of dues are materially affected by the efficiency of the Secretary. We have not the slightest doubt that a *personal* application in all cases before action by the lodge would reduce the number of such suspensions from twenty-five to fifty per cent. The "*vis inertiae*" exercises a much greater influence in human affairs than the wisest of us are in the habit of supposing. Many who are well disposed to do their duty, fail to do it solely from the lack of convenience or from thoughtlessness.

The following suggestion from the same report deserves to be embodied in a standing regulation in *all*, as it is in *some* Grand Lodges:

"I would recommend that no resolution or motion for the appropriation of funds or the payment of accounts, offered in Grand Lodge during its session, shall be voted or discussed, until the same shall have been referred to and considered by the Finance Committee. Resolutions of this character are not unfrequently introduced, and supported by eloquent appeals that arouse the sympathy of the Grand Lodge, and thus often, in acting upon impulse, precedents are established which, if not observed when similar appeals are made by others, may give offense; and, if observed, will eventually not only absorb its assets, but require an increase of dues from the subordinates."

The following provision in regard to the consolidation of lodges was offered, but it does not appear that any action was taken upon it; it is an excellent mode, save that we do not believe that a new charter should be issued under any circumstances, as that destroys both lodges, but the action should be endorsed upon one of the charters.

"Whenever two or more lodges shall desire to consolidate, a resolution to that effect may be proposed at any stated communication of such lodges, which

shall lie over until the next stated communication, and the Worshipful Masters shall cause all the members to be notified of the pendency of the same. If at the communications when such resolution shall be acted upon, two-thirds of the members present at the meetings of each lodge proposed to be consolidated, shall vote affirmatively, the oldest Past Master belonging to either of said lodges shall call a meeting to be held at the usual place of meeting of the oldest of said lodges within sixty days thereafter, to elect officers of the consolidated lodges, and to decide upon a name and place of meeting for the same. Said meeting shall be presided over by one of the officers of the Grand Lodge, or a Past Grand Officer, or the District Deputy Grand Master, or if none of these officers shall be present, then the oldest Past Master of this jurisdiction who shall be present shall preside. Such consolidated lodge shall take the number of the oldest of the lodges so consolidated, and a charter shall be issued by the Grand Secretary, without fee, to said consolidated lodge, unless the name of the oldest of the lodges so consolidated shall be adopted, in which event no new charter shall be necessary, and the charter of the oldest of said lodges shall be the charter of the consolidated lodge, and the installation of the officers elect may immediately be proceeded with; otherwise the installation shall not take place until the charter is received. All the jewels and property of lodges so consolidated shall become the property of the consolidated lodge. The election of any candidate to receive the degrees in either lodge prior to the act of consolidation shall be valid, and a new ballot shall not be taken unless, at the time of conferring the degree, it shall be demanded by a member present. A copy of the minutes of the several meetings, attested by the seal, shall forthwith be forwarded to the R. W. Grand Secretary; and no charter shall be issued by him until such record is received by him."

The committee on reprinting the early Proceedings had not commenced the work, in consequence of the expense being much larger than was expected. They made a report, which was laid over a year, and thus the reprint will be delayed at least a year longer. The committee recommended an edition of two thousand copies instead of stereotyping, believing a second edition, if it should be needed, could be issued for a less sum than the additional cost of stereotyping and storing the plates would involve. We perceive that the Grand Lodge has not a full file of its own Proceedings, but Bro. FRED. SPEED has those for the years which the Grand Lodge has not. It seems that if the reprint is stereotyped, it must be done either in St. Louis or Cincinnati, involving the expense of some one's being there to superintend it and read the proof. Let us suggest that Bro. POWER "set it up" in his own office, and send the pages, when properly corrected, to the place where the stereotyping is to be done, and, when the plates are returned, print it: if he wants any further information upon this point, Bro. STEPHEN BERRY can tell him, for Bro. B. "knows how it is himself."

The committee appointed to prepare a plan for a "Widows' and Orphans' Home and Industrial School" made a very interesting report, some portions of it being truly eloquent. They endeavored to procure the statistics of masonic charitable institutions in other jurisdictions, but were only partially successful. They found that these attempts, from some cause or other, had generally been failures. The only exceptions, so far as they were informed, are England, Ireland and Kentucky. They, however, conclude to raise an "endowment fund" which shall give an annual income of \$10,000, but not to

start in the enterprise until an endowment fund shall be raised. They propose to obtain it by assessing each member one dollar a year, each initiate and non-affiliate five dollars a year, and by appropriating the surplus revenue of the Grand Lodge each year. Their report was unanimously adopted and the matter submitted to the lodges for action. We should like to quote several pages of this report, but space will not permit.

A large number of decisions on Masonic Jurisprudence are reported, but these Proceedings are received at so late an hour that we cannot examine them.

For the same reason, we must omit a review of the able and very interesting Report on Correspondence (90 pp.) presented by Bro. JOHN T. BUCK.

FOREIGN GRAND LODGES AND GRAND ORIENTS.

We have received proceedings or Bulletins from the following Grand Bodies:

Grand Lodge of Ireland.
Grand Orient of Belgium.
Grand Orient of France.
Grand Orient of Brazil (Unido).
Grand Orient of Brazil (Lavradio).
Grand Orient of Egypt.
Grand Orient of Peru.
Grand Lodge of Cuba.

We have not had time to examine and review these documents (save those from Cuba, concerning which we submit a special report), many of which are very voluminous, and the Bodies from which some of them were issued, are not known to us as *Masonic Bodies*. We, however, recommend that our Proceedings be sent in exchange, as well as to the "Colored Grand Lodges," to the end that, by an exchange of Proceedings, full information concerning all these Bodies may be within our reach.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

"COLORED MASONRY." The unanimous voice of the Grand Lodges is, that the plan proposed by the Committee of the Grand Lodge of Ohio would be destructive of the doctrine of Grand Lodge Sovereignty and cannot be entertained; also, that, according to present information, the Bodies in question must be held to be irregular and clandestine.

We have nothing to add to our report last year, save that the records of African Lodge, after 1808, have been discovered, showing that those who undertook to speak for it in 1824 and 1827, were in error in what they then said.

We also made a careless error in relation to the time when the word "*free-born*" was struck out of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, and the word "*freeman*" substituted.

But neither of these affect our argument or the conclusions which we reached.

It has been said that PRINCE HALL, in granting a dispensation for a new lodge in 1797, being only a Master of a private lodge, followed a precedent established years before. But when PRINCE HALL did it, he and his lodge were under the immediate government of the Grand Lodge of England, whose Constitution provided in express terms that "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 or deeds." This is conclusive as to the illegality of the two lodges formed by PRINCE HALL.

"GRAND LODGE OF ONTARIO." The Grand Lodges, without a dissenting voice, unite in declaring this a clandestine organization, and forbidding masonic intercourse with it and those of its obedience. The Grand Lodge of Texas, which had recognized it, as soon as the facts became known, promptly withdrew the recognition. Moreover, it is quite universally held that the Brethren who formed this Body had no excuse for their conduct, and must have been led by corrupt and wicked motives.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES. This continues to be the vexed question and seems no nearer a satisfactory solution. Some Grand Lodges have concluded that the best mode is practical expulsion. The number of suspensions for non-payment of dues is on the increase yearly, so that the net increase of membership is but trifling. From the statistics there would seem to be about 150,000 non-affiliates within the jurisdiction of the North American Grand Lodges: this is about twenty-five per cent. of the membership, or twenty per cent. of the whole number of masons. This estimate is based upon the excess of dismissions and suspensions over the affiliations (deducting newly made masons) and restorations. It is undoubtedly true that the stringency of the times aggravates this evil, and that we have good ground for hoping that with the return of financial prosperity it will decrease. At any rate, the "hard times" are so large an element that we cannot draw correct conclusions from our present statistics.

MUTUAL INSURANCE. This subject has attracted the attention of nearly all Grand Lodges, and while, at first, there was a tendency to favor it, it was soon perceived that the introduction of insurance into masonry would be a tremendous innovation, and the result has been that there is almost, if not quite, a unanimous decision against it. Masonic relief is not based upon reciprocal *pecuniary* obligations measured by the amount invested, but upon the obligation of the individual members to relieve distress according to the necessity and their ability. It therein differs from other organizations, but the difference is fundamental. An introduction of the "mercenary motive" would substantially destroy the Institution.

STATISTICS.

We give our usual table.

TABLE.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Susp'd for non-payment of dues.	Died.	Rejected.
Alabama,.....	8,538	325	495	501	29	32	597	137	73
Arkansas,.....	8,081	286	317	412	22	27	418	187	.....
British Columbia,..	300	21	28	15	0	0	6	8	7
California,.....	11,931	650	626	435	20	12	231	156	209
Canada,.....	16,719	1,384	452	636	44	66	398	141	.....
Colorado,.....	1,413	99	128	60	2	3	46	10	63
Connecticut,.....	15,011	468	118	142	4	5	193	145	151
Dakota,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Delaware,.....	1,219	52	10	8	0	.....	*21	15	0
Dist. of Columbia,.	2,783	122	68	39	1	0	105	40	.....
Florida,.....	1,966	130	131	128	12	.....	*88	47	50
Georgia,.....	14,475	533	440	533	87	.....	827	190	150
Idaho,.....	389	49	16	19	0	3	.....	6	6
Illinois,.....	40,472	2,464	1,101	1,409	98	.....	1,168	443	804
Indiana,.....	27,879	1,751	460	1,312	168	61	418	375	.....
Indian Territory,..	196	31	13	8	0	1	1	1	.....
Iowa,.....	17,890	1,319	729	933	32	22	221	186	.....
Kansas,.....	6,896	433	476	394	12	.....	*143	63	102
Kentucky,.....	21,237	1,168	.....	973	33	.....	1,191	294	.....
Louisiana,.....	6,449	211	158	165	2	315	22	115	.....
Maine,.....	19,472	710	918	297	6	3	163	218	332
Manitoba,.....	294	46	14	8	0	0	0	2	.....
Maryland,.....	5,657	200	.....	103	3	.....	*138	74	.....
Massachusetts,....	26,292	1,360	1,785	523	1	3	316	284	481
Michigan,.....	26,704	1,351	522	857	60	.....	*530	246	641
Minnesota,.....	6,569	497	208	263	3	22	179	47	.....
Mississippi,.....	11,170	378	454	509	15	26	231	206	.....
Missouri,.....	23,379	935	876	884	81	62	282	301	442
Montana,.....	677	22	26	51	1	4	3	7	5
Nebraska,.....	2,761	175	317	106	7	19	88	20	58
Nevada,.....	1,383	173	256	145	6	0	57	49	91
New Brunswick,..	2,246	162	33	76	3	.....	*73	29	...
New Hampshire,...	7,674	285	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Jersey,.....	11,988	539	261	181	3	5	431	145	.....
New York,.....	81,882	4,253	1,512	1,179	63	15	3,789	924	1,257
North Carolina,....	11,917	337	179	176	21	20	532	115	85
Nova Scotia,.....	3,404	319	67	127	0	3	86	48	101
Ohio,†,.....	30,608	1,810	1,391	1,114	91	44	1,134	367	.....
Oregon,.....	2,248	147	139	108	5	9	61	24	.....
Pennsylvania,.....	38,137	1,974	600	642	.....	.....	*946	427	.....
P. E. Island,.....	557	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Quebec,.....	2,716	276	104	167	0	0	58	35	.....
Rhode Island,.....	3,910	130	131	15	1	7	257	47	73
South Carolina,....	7,346	342	.....	215	.....	.....	333	108	.....
Tennessee,.....	18,635	658	511	870	36	249	455	249	.....
Texas,.....	18,206	856	1,332	1,555	45	.....	*451	275	491
Utah,.....	341	28	13	32	0	0	30	3	13
Vermont,.....	8,169	267	102	37	2	12	229	84	93
Virginia,.....	8,902	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	32	109	.....

GRAND LODGES.	M.	R.	A. & R.	W.	E.	S.	S. for n. p. d.	D.	R.
Washington,.....	720	58	45	49	1	4	25	11	22
West Virginia,..	3,431	270	130	117	7	1	107	34	86
Wisconsin,.....	10,515	614	274	384	4	9	150	107	256
Wyoming,.....	255	27	10	8	1	0	1	2	.....
Total,.....	602,089	30,695	17,976	18,920	1,039	1,064	17,261	7,102	6,142

† For 1875: no statistics this year. * Including suspensions of all kinds.

We still have ground of complaint against some Grand Secretaries. But generally we find the statistics and their recapitulation. Ohio, however, gives us none, and we especially wonder at this oversight in Bro. CALDWELL, who so rarely forgets anything which ought to be in the Proceedings.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	1877. Gr. Lodges.	1877. Totals.	1876. Gr. Lodges.	1876. Totals.	1875. Gr. Lodges.	1875. Totals.
Members,	52.....	602,089.....	50.....	594,617.....	48.....	585,269
Raised,	50.....	30,695.....	48.....	34,208.....	48.....	37,984
Admissions, &c.,	46.....	17,976.....	46.....	19,231.....	43.....	17,091
Dimissions,	49.....	18,920.....	47.....	18,475.....	45.....	18,472
Expulsions,	49.....	1,039.....	47.....	908.....	44.....	1,117
Suspensions,	37.....	1,064.....	31.....	775.....	31.....	563
“ npt. dues,	49.....	17,261.....	47.....	15,984.....	44.....	12,620
Deaths,	50.....	7,102.....	48.....	6,804.....	46.....	6,357
Rejections,	28.....	6,142.....	28.....	6,340.....	31.....	8,871

CONCLUSION.

With salutations to the Brotherhood, both at home and abroad, this report is
Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, }
T. J. MURRAY, } *Committee.*
STEPHEN BERRY, }

Bro. EDWARD P. BURNHAM presented the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the complaint against a member of the fraternity, for an alleged attempt to influence jurors by alluding to masonry, have given a hearing in the matter and listened to testimony in relation thereto, and now ask leave to report:

1. The only proof offered in support of the complaint, was a pamphlet purporting to contain a report of the trial, in which the alleged attempt at influence was made. The brother bringing the complaint, becoming satisfied that said pamphlet did not contain a true report of said trial and was not authorized by the court, and not printed under the sanction of its officers, stated that he was satisfied that the charge could not be sustained.

2. We find that the person implicated is not guilty of the allegations

contained in the complaint against him, and we ask to be discharged from further consideration of the case.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	} Committee.
HENRY H. DICKEY,	
A. M. WETHERBEE,	

Which report was accepted, and the committee discharged.

BRO. ANDREWS, for the Committee on Finance, made the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your Committee of Finance present the following report:

We have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find them correct.

We recommend that the Grand Treasurer pay for services rendered the Grand Lodge as follows:

The Assistant Grand Secretary,	\$20.00
“ “ “ Tyler,	15.00
“ Grand Tyler,	30.00
“ Grand Treasurer,	40.00
“ Grand Lecturer,	25.00
“ Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence,	80.00

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY H. DICKEY,	} Committee.
BENJAMIN ANDREWS,	

Report accepted, and recommendations adopted.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

CONGRESS HALL, PORTLAND, }
Thursday, May 3, 1877. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at nine o'clock A. M.

R. W. JOHN H. GORDON presented a petition for the removal of Trojan Lodge to Heald's Corner, which was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

Propositions to amend the Constitution were offered as follows :

By Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,—

Amend Section 7 by striking out the second sentence, and inserting instead thereof the following: "A majority of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice," so that the section, as amended, shall read as follows :

SEC. 7. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary, shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Communication, on the first Tuesday in May, the election to commence at 3 o'clock P. M. A majority of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice. All Grand Officers, not herein designated for election, shall be appointed by the Grand Master.

Amend Section 38, by striking out "4, on By-Laws."

Amend Section 53, by striking out the words "by it," so that it will read as follows :

SEC. 53. The Grand Lodge may restore any Brother suspended or expelled, but he shall not thereby be restored to membership in his lodge.

Add to Rule 8 in Section 115, the following: "Except as provided in the Fifty-third Section," so as to read as follows :

Rule 8. A concurrence of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to suspend or expel. And no mason, whose suspension or expulsion has been confirmed by this Grand Lodge, shall be restored to the privileges of masonry except by a unanimous vote of the members present when such restoration may be acted on, of the lodge by which he was so expelled or suspended, except as provided in the fifty-third section.

By Bro. BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS,—

Strike out Section 113,—Article VII, to wit :

"SEC. 113. No fee for affiliation shall be required in any lodge."

Which propositions were entertained, and referred to the Committee on Amendments of the Constitution.

Bro. J. H. DRUMMOND presented the following report regarding the Grand Lodge of Cuba :

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have examined the various documents which they have received from the Grand Secretary in relation to the "Grand Lodge of Cuba," and the "Grand Lodge of Colon for Cuba and the other Spanish West India Islands," and ask leave to make a special report thereon.

In the early part of the present century, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania created lodges in Cuba, but they have become extinct. In 1858, the Grand Lodge of South Carolina chartered three lodges in Cuba, and they, on the fifth of December, 1859, formed the Grand Lodge of Colon, with its Grand East in Santiago de Cuba. Afterwards, in the same month, under authority of the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite was introduced into Cuba, and a Supreme Council, 33°, was formed, with authority over the degrees from the fourth to the thirty-second, and the Bodies practicing those degrees. From want of experience in masonic matters, the Grand Lodge and Supreme Council united in a Grand Orient, of which each was a "section," the Grand Lodge governing the symbolic degrees, but yet connecting them with the "high grades" in a manner utterly inconsistent with the Grand Lodge Sovereignty of our own Grand Lodges, but in accordance with the vicious system inaugurated by the Grand Orient of France, and copied in South America and other countries deriving their masonry from France.

The attention of Grand Lodges having been recently called to this manner of government, a disposition, quite general and unanimous, has been evinced to decline to enter into correspondence with any Grand Lodge which should be a party to such an entangling alliance, and which should not be a sovereign and independent Body. But no one has thought of denying that the lodges chartered by such Grand Lodges, and the masons made by such lodges, are lawful lodges and regular masons, until the report of Bro. VAUX, of Pennsylvania, which we have reviewed in our annual report. It is sufficient to say that the doctrines of that report are utterly inconsistent with the doctrine of his report upon the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba : in the former, he denies recognition to such a Grand Body, and prohibits allowing masons of their obedience to visit lodges in Pennsylvania in the centennial year, while in the latter, he recognizes a Grand Lodge formed by lodges, some chartered by that very Grand Body, and *all* for years under its obedience. But while we may recognize these lodges and masons as regular, it is proper to decline intercourse with their Grand Lodge if it is not a Supreme Body ; and we have, for some years, advocated persuading all Grand Lodges to become independent of all other Bodies, and, moreover, we will never vote to recognize any Grand Lodge that is not thus independent. But many of these Grand Orients have

been and continue to be recognized by most of our Grand Lodges, and it is too late to deny their masonic character.

To return to Cuba; the Grand Lodge went on chartering lodges, but the Supreme Council began to encroach upon its functions, and, after a time, substantially established a subordination of the symbolic degrees to the high grades. But in 1867 or 1868, the Grand Lodge adopted a new constitution, declaring that the only superior authority which it recognized was the General Assembly of the Grand Orient; whereupon the Supreme Council declared the constitution of the Grand Lodge null and void, until it should be approved by the Grand Orient, and arrogated to itself the control of all the bodies, lodges and all, until the Grand Orient should meet, and the Grand Lodge submitted and resolved to "be in recess until that meeting of the Grand Orient," and annulled the new constitution, with the expectation, it is said, that the Grand Orient would accede to its request for sole authority over the lodges: this took place in September, 1868, and the Grand Orient was to meet in November following; but the revolution broke out, and it did not meet then and has not since. The Supreme Council continued to rule all degrees, and went so far as to authorize a Consistory, 32°, to form a Provincial *Mother* (Grand) Lodge in the west part of the Island, with power to grant warrants. The Grand Lodge protested, but it could do little else; it however held its election in 1870; finally, on the fourth of March, 1872, the powers granted to the Consistory were recalled, and the Grand Lodge re-organized. In 1873, the Grand Lodge held an election and gradually began to exercise its original functions; in 1874, new officers were elected, and the Provincial *Mother* Lodge established by the Consistory was dissolved, and a new Provincial *Mother* Lodge established, April 8, 1875, by the Grand Lodge, and authorized to issue warrants for subordinate lodges, but was dissolved by the same authority, July 28, 1876.

In consequence of the action of the Congress of Lausanne, the Supreme Council of Colon, on April 30, 1876, adopted a resolution, authorizing the Grand Lodge to promulgate its constitution and govern the symbolic lodges, "provided they will live in peace with the Supreme Council of its jurisdiction," &c. The Grand Lodge seems to have taken measures to carry out this plan, for it met August 6, 1876, in special session, to adopt a new constitution, which was considered and discussed at sessions held on August sixth, tenth, twelfth and sixteenth; at one of these sessions an article was adopted declaring that the Grand Lodge, as a section of the Grand Orient, would submit to the general constitution thereof; and the Grand Lodge was adjourned to the twenty-sixth of August, when the constitution was to be finally adopted.

But an important event had already taken place: on the first day of August, 1876, nine chartered lodges and four U. D. met at Havana and formed the "Grand Lodge of Cuba," and appointed Bro. RAMON ILLA its Representative in the United States, who now asks the Grand Lodge of Maine to recognize it.

Six of the chartered lodges which participated in its organization were chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colon and three by the "Provincial Mother Lodge," created by the Consistory as authorized by the Supreme Council, and the four U. D. were created by the "Provincial Mother Lodge," formed by the Grand Lodge of Colon, as already stated.

When the "Grand Lodge of Colon" met on the twenty-sixth of August, it had learned of these proceedings, and at once amended its proposed Constitution, by striking out all allusion to the Grand Orient and, declaring itself sovereign; and, as amended, the Constitution was unanimously adopted. It became thereby, to all intents and purposes, a Sovereign Grand Lodge, with supreme authority over its subordinates. It appointed Bro. BENJAMIN ODIO its Representative in the United States, who now asks the Grand Lodge of Maine to recognize it.

One step has been made in advance: both bodies are independent, having adopted the American policy and discarded the Grand Orient system. It is very much to be regretted that there should have been a division: and efforts should have been made by both parties to unite, before asking recognition by other Grand Lodges. Both claim exclusive jurisdiction in Cuba: and the question, which is the legal Grand Lodge, is the one to be decided by the other Grand Lodges. Pennsylvania and Delaware, upon an *ex parte* statement, have decided in favor of the "Grand Lodge of Cuba," but upon insufficient information, as it appears to us.

All the lodges must be taken to be regular, as both bodies have so treated them. In the new Grand Lodge (we shall use the terms *new* and *old* to distinguish the Grand Lodges) are lodges created by the old Grand Lodge, the "Provincial Mother Lodge" of the Supreme Council, and the "Provincial Mother Lodge" of the old Grand Lodge: the other lodges in the Island were created by one of these three authorities, and, therefore, if all the lodges which took part in forming the new Grand Lodge were regular, the other lodges were also.

Now, assuming that the *old* Grand Lodge had gone out of existence, as claimed by the *new* one, there were a certain number of regular lodges in the Island, over which jurisdiction is claimed, without any Grand Lodge, and they had a right to form one in the manner well established. Did those forming the new Grand Lodge proceed in that manner? We have no evidence that they did. Did they notify all the lodges in the Island of the *time, place* and *purpose* of the meeting? Were a majority of the lodges in the Island represented in the Convention on the first day of August? If either of these queries are answered in the negative, the proceedings were invalid. The minutes of the Convention do not answer either question, nor is it answered in any of the documents submitted to us: and that is why we say that the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and Delaware acted upon insufficient information.

In the annual statement for 1875, before these Proceedings were in mind,

the Grand Lodge of Colon gives a list of twenty-five lodges, among which are the *nine chartered* lodges which took part in forming the new Grand Lodge, but not the four *U. D.* One of the twenty-five, however, was in Porto Rico. Of the nine lodges referred to, seven were in Havana and two in Matanzas; and six of the others were in Havana. In one of the documents it is said that "a *majority* of the lodges in Havana, Matanzas and Cardenas (nine chartered and four *U. D.*) met and formed the Grand Lodge of Cuba;" the inference from which is that *all* the lodges in those cities were not represented. One expression in a letter from Bro. ILLA indicates that there are now more than thirty lodges in Cuba, of which three have been chartered by the new Grand Lodge. In a Balustre dated September 4, 1876, the "Grand Lodge of Colon" claims that it has *thirty-six* lodges, with nearly 8,000 members, under its jurisdiction in Cuba and Porto Rico. Bro. ODIO, in one document, gives a copy of the Balustre of the "Grand Lodge of Colon," declaring its independence of the Grand Orient, dated August 20, 1876, and says, "Here follow the signatures of the Delegates of Lodges Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34 and 35;" *seventeen* in all, one of which is in Porto Rico, and *five* of which (Nos. 5, 14, 22, 30 and 33) were among the nine which had taken part in forming the "Grand Lodge of Cuba." From the best information we can gather, it would seem that the convention which formed the new Grand Lodge did not have representatives from a majority of the lodges in the Island. And as the old Grand Lodge is not claimed to have had any knowledge of the movement until after August 16, 1876, it would also seem that the lodges at St. Jago de Cuba were not notified of the Convention.

If the lodges formed under the authority of the Supreme Council are left out as not being regular lodges, the case stands still worse for the new Grand Lodge, as but *six* out of the *eighteen* or *nineteen* old lodges were represented, if we take the list published in 1875 as correct.

The other question involved is a very serious one, and should not be lightly decided. Bro. ILLA claims that the old Grand Lodge had become extinct, or had formed such relations with the Grand Orient as authorized it to be treated as extinct. But it was a good enough Grand Lodge to create lodges which could take part in forming a new Grand Lodge; and the question is a very serious one, whether a portion of its lodges, acting through a convention, and not in the Grand Lodge itself, can create a new Grand Lodge. Some learned masonic jurists hold that a Grand Lodge, being a Sovereign Body, cannot bind itself to a surrender of its supremacy, and can assert its independence when it pleases, and is all the while a Supreme Grand Lodge.

Therefore, considering the doubts whether, upon their own grounds, the Grand Lodge of Cuba was legally formed, and the importance of the other question, and with the hope that our Cuban Brethren will settle all questions by a union of the two powers, we recommend that further consideration of the matter be postponed until our next Annual Communication.

We hope there are no personal or local questions to affect the matter, but we have our fears; for one of the Grand Lodges has its Grand East in St. Jago de Cuba and the other in Havana, and we notice also that the "Provincial Mother Lodge" was dissolved, because it had issued an edict which the Grand Lodge understood as advising its lodges to pay no attention to the edicts of the Grand Lodge. But we trust our Cuban Brethren know their duty too well to allow such considerations to affect them.

We suggest also that both Grand Lodges unite in calling a convention of all the lodges in the jurisdiction, and abide its result, unless they can agree upon a consolidation of the two Grand Bodies. Cuban masonry is in such a condition that it cannot afford an internal dissension, nor to disturb the peace of the masonic world by its disputes upon a really mere nominal matter in practice; that is to say, no question is raised as to the regularity of the masons or the lodges, and the only question is really one of precedence, but the settlement of that question involves other very serious ones.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
T. J. MURRAY,	
STEPHEN BERRY,	

The report was accepted and the further consideration of the matter postponed to the next annual communication.

BRO. HORACE H. BURBANK, for the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, presented the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters, to whom was referred the several matters hereinafter named, having considered the same, submit the following report:

In the matter of the petition of Reuel Washburn Lodge, U. D., at Livermore Falls, for a charter, we recommend that the same be granted, and that their dispensation be continued until they shall be duly constituted.

In the matter of the petition of JOHN P. STEVENS and others, for a dispensation for a lodge at West Brooksville, to be named Acorn Lodge, we recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

In the matter of the petition of RAYMOND S. RICH and others, members of Unity Lodge, No. 58, for removal of said lodge from Freedom to Thorndike, we recommend that said petition be granted, the Grand Master having first become satisfied that a suitable lodge room has been provided.

In the matter of dispensation for a "Lodge of Instruction," issued to resident brethren of Saco and Biddeford, in August last, by M. W. Grand Master, we recommend that said dispensation be continued.

In the matter of the petition of I. S. BANGS and others, for a dispensation or charter for a new lodge at Waterville, your committee, having very grave doubts that the same would be for the interest of masonry, generally and locally, recommend that said petition ought not to be granted.

In the matter of the petition for the removal of Trojan Lodge, No. 134, at Troy, from its present location to Heald's Corner, in said town, we recommend that the same be granted.

Your committee would recommend the adoption of the following as a standing regulation :

Resolved, That no action shall be had in any lodge under this jurisdiction, upon a petition for the approval or recommendation for a new lodge, until the same shall have been before the lodge one month.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. H. BURBANK,	} Committee.
W. R. G. ESTES,	
MILTON M. STONE,	

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations were severally adopted.

BRO. JOSEPH M. HAYES submitted the Report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, as follows :

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully present the following as their report, viz :

In the case of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 17, Portland, vs. WILLIAM N. GOULD, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the doings of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 17, Portland, in expelling WILLIAM N. GOULD from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Atlantic Lodge, No. 81, Portland, vs. MADS N. BRUNS, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the expulsion of MADS N. BRUNS, by Atlantic Lodge, No. 81, Portland, from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, Vinalhaven, vs. CHARLES J. JAY, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the sentence of "suspension until the indebtedness to the lodge be paid" of Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, Vinalhaven, against CHARLES J. JAY, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Tremont Lodge, No. 77, vs. LEROY R. HODGDON, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the sentence of suspension for one year of LEROY R. HODGDON, by Tremont Lodge, No. 77, of Tremont, be approved and confirmed, said sentence to take effect from this date.

In the case of Mt. Moriah Lodge, No. 56, of Denmark, in indefinitely suspending JOSEPH B. WATSON, your committee, on recommendation of said lodge, recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That JOSEPH B. WATSON be restored to all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the case of JOHN N. HOWE and BYRON S. CHURCH, petitioners for restoration, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

In the case of Maine Lodge, No. 20, Farmington, vs. Caribou Lodge, No. 170, Lyndon, for infringement of jurisdiction, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That in consideration of Caribou Lodge, No. 170, not having sufficient notice of the pendency of said complaint, further time be granted, and this action continued to the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

In the case of the petition of A. LIBBY and others, of Richmond Lodge, No. 63, for restoration of WM. T. HALL, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that WILLIAM T. HALL be restored to all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the case of Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, Bryant's Pond, vs. WINFIELD S. ROBINSON, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That WINFIELD S. ROBINSON, of Bryant's Pond, be restored to all the rights and benefits of masonry.

JOS. M. HAYES, }
A. B. MARSTON, } *Committee.*

Which report was accepted, and the resolutions were severally adopted.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, presented the following reports, which were severally accepted, viz :

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence have carefully examined the decisions announced last year by the M. W. Grand Master, and recommend that they all be approved with the exception of the second clause in the seventeenth decision : to the effect that a member suspended from membership

for non-payment of dues, on being re-instated, should pay his dues assessed during such suspension. While such suspension leaves the Brother in the enjoyment of the rights and benefits of masonry in general, he is not in the enjoyment of the privileges pertaining to membership. Under our Constitution, he has no right to visit a lodge, no right to lodge charity, or to masonic burial, but must depend for all these on the voluntary courtesy of the Brethren.

While a very few of the Grand Lodges require the payment of dues accruing during suspension, the very large majority hold that no dues accrue during suspension.

The Constitution of our Grand Lodge (Sec. 123) evidently contemplates that a Brother discharged for non-payment of dues may apply to another lodge on payment of the amount due at the time he was discharged, and we think that the Constitution does not intend to make *suspension* from membership more severe in its effects than *deprivation* of membership.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
W. P. PREBLE,	

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence have examined the question referred to them, growing out of a resolution (see page 283) proposing to use the funds of a lodge to pay to a Relief Association for insuring the lives of its members, and ask leave to report:

That they fully concur with the M. W. Grand Master in the conclusion to which he has arrived.

They can add but little to the very able exposition of the matter by him. It will be perceived that, while the resolution calls this use of the funds a *loan*, it is not a loan. A loan includes an unconditional promise to repay, but this scheme contemplates that the party insured may repay the amount paid for him by his lodge, at his option: he does not *promise* to repay it: if he deems it for his interest to repay he does so, but is under no obligation to do it. The scheme is a purely speculative one on the part of the lodge, and the contract of a character that could not be enforced under our civil law, because a lodge has no insurable interest in the lives of its members.

But the main objection to this scheme goes deeper. Lodge funds are trust funds, held for defraying the ordinary and necessary expenses of the lodge; and after their payment, for distribution in charity "to worthy distressed Master Masons, their widows and orphans." The members of the lodge have no *personal* interest in the fund: it cannot legally be divided among them, and if it should be so divided, the masonic law would punish the recipients, and the civil law would compel them to refund all they received. It follows that the fund cannot be applied for the personal benefit of the members except in charity: and, of course, that it cannot be used to insure the lives of members for their benefit.

Regarding it as an investment, it is of so uncertain a character, that we have no doubt the law would hold it to be such a misappropriation of trust funds, as would subject the officers making it to personal liability for any loss which might result.

We deprecate earnestly the tendency to introduce the pecuniary element into masonry. Every one of us, in his prayer for admission, solemnly declared that, in so doing, he was "unbiased by mercenary motives": but how long will that be the case after mutual insurance shall have been introduced into the system? *Masonic* relief does not depend upon what the recipient has paid, or has promised to pay, but upon *his needs* and the *ability of the giver*: and when this principle of personal obligation to give relief when and where it is needed as voluntary charity, shall cease to distinguish masonry from other societies, one of the oldest and most important of the fundamental principles will be blotted out, and the masonry the fathers have handed down will cease to exist.

While, therefore, we fully admit the benefit of associations for mutual relief, we trust no attempt will be made to connect them with our lodges or the Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
HENRY H. DIOKEY,	
WILLIAM P. PREBLE,	

In relation to the decisions reported this year the committee requested further time, which was granted.

BRO. JOSEPH M. HAYES presented the following report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine:

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the death of R. W. Bros. AMOS NOURSE, Past D. G. Master, and EDMUND B. HINKLEY, Past S. G. Warden, submit the following as their report:

BRO. AMOS NOURSE, M. D., a member of this Grand Lodge, died at Bath, on the 7th day of April, A. D. 1877, aged 82 years and 4 months.

He was born in Bolton, Mass., on the 17th day of December, A. D. 1794, fitted for college at Andover Academy, and entered Harvard College in 1808, and graduated in 1812; studied medicine in the office of Dr. Randall, Boston, Mass., and came soon afterwards to Maine. He commenced the practice of his profession at Wiscasset, and in the year 1819 removed to Hallowell, and was in company with Dr. Mann, where he remained till 1844, when he removed to Bath, where he continued to reside until his decease. He always

took an active and prominent part in all the interests of the community where he resided. At an early age he became interested in Freemasonry, having received his first three degrees in Kennebec Lodge, No. 5, Hallowell, in July and August, A. D. 1819, and was elected W. M. of this lodge in 1822. He was Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Maine in 1828 and 1829, Senior Grand Warden in 1830-1, and Deputy Grand Master in 1832. He held various civil offices by appointment and election, as follows: Postmaster at Hallowell, Collector of Customs for the District of Bath, United States Senator to fill the unexpired term of Senator Hamlin when he was elected Governor, Judge of Probate for Sagadahoc County, which office he held more than twelve years, and various city offices in Bath. In his profession he was successful, and attained high rank, holding the position of one of the most prominent lecturers before the Medical College of Maine. His life was an active one, and in all the various positions to which he was called during his long life, fidelity and integrity to all trusts were his characteristics. In private life he was genial and courteous, and his character above reproach, and by his culture, taste and skill, exerted more than an ordinary degree of influence in his day, and was eminently a gentleman of the old school. At a ripe old age he has passed on to receive his reward, while we, the members of a Fraternity he greatly prized, are left the example of a true and worthy life. May we imitate it.

R. W. EDMUND B. HINKLEY, a member of this Grand Lodge, died at Warren, on the 23d day of August, A. D. 1876, aged fifty-one years and three months.

BRO. HINKLEY was born in Warren, May 29, A. D. 1825, where he continued to reside until 1852, when he removed to Thomaston. He was initiated into masonry March 5, 1849, in St. George Lodge, No. 16, Warren, but when he removed to Thomaston he withdrew his membership and connected himself with Orient Lodge, No. 15, at Thomaston. Immediately upon his entry into masonry he became an active worker in the lodge, being appointed Senior Deacon in November of the same year of his admittance. He resided in Thomaston until the year 1865, when he removed to Rockland, where he entered upon a still more active masonic career, being elected to various official positions in Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery. He was appointed D. D. G. M. for his District on several occasions, and was elected Senior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, A. D. 1863, which position he held one year. Bro. HINKLEY, by his education and ardent attachment to our Institution, was a tower of strength in his jurisdiction, and, united with the graces and adornments of a true gentlemen, won friends from all, as was apparent by the large concourse of Brethren and others who were present to pay their last tribute of respect at his funeral.

"There is a language that is mute,
There is a silence that speaks."

As a token of our high regard for their many virtues, we recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That a page to each in our records and proceedings, suitably inscribed, be devoted to their memories.

Fraternally submitted,

JOS. M. HAYES,	} Committee.
A. M. WETHERBEE,	
C. G. MOFFITT,	

Report accepted, and resolution adopted.

On motion of Bro. Drummond,

Voted, That the Edict of the Grand Master, in relation to the Grand Lodge of Ontario, be approved, and continued in force until otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,

NORTH ANSON, August 1, 1876.

To the W. Masters, Officers and Brethren of the Masonic Lodges of Maine :

Official information has been received that a spurious Grand Lodge has been formed in the Province of Ontario, Canada, of which F. WESTLAKE claims to be Grand Master, and W. W. FITZGERALD, Grand Secretary. At last accounts, no subordinate lodges had been organized by it,—but it is presumed that there will be, if it has not already been done.

As the Grand Lodge of Canada has exclusive jurisdiction over the Province of Ontario, no lodge or individual hailing under this so-called Grand Lodge, can be recognized as having any masonic standing in this jurisdiction; and all Brethren will exercise the greatest caution in extending masonic courtesies to any persons from the province of Ontario,—first ascertaining that the lodges to which they belong are under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

ALBERT MOORE, *Grand Master*.

By the M. W. Grand Master,

[L. S.] Attest :

IRA BERRY, *Grand Secretary*.

NOTE. Since the date of the foregoing, official information has been received, that at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, the following Brethren were expelled from all the rights and benefits of freemasonry, for participation in forming the clandestine body, viz :

OF LONDON. *Past Masters*.—Francis Westlake, John R. Peel.

Master Masons.—George M. Beecher, Alexander A. Boston, David M. Bowman, Charles A. Conover, William T. Edge, William W. Fitzgerald, Peter Grant, Stillman P. Groat, George Jackson, Joseph W. Jones, William L.

Judson, James F. Latimer, John H. Ley, Theodore H. McConnell, William D. McGlothon, Edward K. Slater, William H. Street, George Wrigley.

Entered Apprentices.—Thomas R. Barton, Oliver J. Bridle, D. M. J. Hagarty, George T. Hiscox, Thomas S. Minton, Joseph B. Sabine, Peter Smith, Daniel Turner.

OF ST. THOMAS. *Master Masons.*—G. W. H. Davis, William E. Smith, William Wallace Oakes.

OF LUCAN. *Master Masons.*—Samuel C. Hersey, Thomas Hossack, Donald J. McCosh, James D. McCosh, Edward Mara.

OF TORONTO. *Master Masons.*—Thomas Anderson, Lawrence Cohen, Edward Meek, Mark Solomon.

OF ST. MARY'S. *Master Masons.*—James J. Hall, Joseph Iredale.

The Grand Secretary submitted the following report, which was accepted :

PORTLAND, May 3, 1877.

The Trustees of the Charity Fund have appropriated for relief upwards of nine hundred dollars; have examined the securities of the invested fund, and found them correct; and have approved the bond presented by the Grand Treasurer.

IRA BERRY, *Secretary.*

The following resolution, offered by Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, was unanimously adopted :

Whereas, At the last Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,

“On motion of R. W. SERENO D. NICKERSON, seconded by R. W. CHARLES H. TITUS, it was

“*Voted*, That the Grand Lodge of Maine be permitted to use such extracts from our Grand Lodge Trestle Board as may be required in the preparation of a masonic digest for the use of its subordinate lodges.”

Therefore, Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge be extended to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for this renewed token of her affection and good will towards her daughter Grand Lodge.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Maine Masonic Text Book, now in course of publication, be adopted, from and after its publication, as the authorized Text Book in this jurisdiction; and each lodge is

required to provide itself with not less than two copies for its use.

M. W. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND was called to the East.

W. BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS presented for installation, R. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM, who was installed in ample form by P. G. M. DRUMMOND into the office of Grand Master.

The other Grand Officers elect were then presented by Grand Marshal ANDREWS, and installed by Bro. DRUMMOND.

The M. W. Grand Master made the following appointments:

R. W. JOSEPH M. HAYES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Bath.
" CALVIN B. ROBERTS,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Caribou.
" E. HOWARD VOSE,	" 2d "	Calais.
" HENRY R. TAYLOR,	" 3d "	Machias.
" DAVID W. WEBSTER,	" 4th "	Castine.
" DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR.,	" 5th "	Dexter.
" MANLY G. TRASK,	" 6th "	Bangor.
" JOHN H. GORDON,	" 7th "	Brooks.
" GEORGE L. MERRILL,	" 8th "	Searsport.
" CLARK D. SMALLEY,	" 9th "	Rockland.
" ALMORE KENNEDY,	" 10th "	Waldoboro.
" GEORGE P. HASKELL,	" 11th "	Augusta.
" R. WESLEY DUNN,	" 12th "	Waterville.
" SIMON S. BROWN,	" 13th "	Fairfield.
" SIMEON STONE,	" 14th "	Lisbon Falls.
" FESSENDEN I. DAY,	" 15th "	Lewiston.
" ALDEN CHASE,	" 16th "	Bryant's Pond.
" GEORGE W. DEERING,	" 17th "	Portland.
" SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	" 18th "	Denmark.
" JOHN S. DERBY,	" 19th "	Saco.
W. & REV. CHAS. C. MASON,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Kent's Hill.
" CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "	Kennebunk.
" WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "	Portland.
" J. R. BOWLER,	" "	Rockland.
" L. P. FRENCH,	" "	Solon.

W. & Rev. CHARLES A. CURTIS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Augusta.
" H. C. MUNSON,	" "	Skowhegan.
" A. J. McLEOD,	" "	Waldoboro.
W. BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Portland.
" AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon,</i>	Gardiner.
" ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
" ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Camden.
" AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "	East Machias.
" CHARLES E. WELD,	" "	West Buxton.
" W. R. G. ESTES,	" "	Skowhegan.
" H. H. BURBANK,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Saco.
" WM. H. SMITH,	<i>G. Standard Bearer,</i>	Portland.
" LEVI W. SMITH,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Vinalhaven.
" MOSES W. EMERY,	" "	Sanford.
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	<i>Grand Lecturer,</i>	Portland.
" GEORGE M. HOWE,	<i>Grand Organist,</i>	Portland.
BRO. WARREN PHILLIPS,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

The appointed officers present were presented by the Grand Marshal, and installed by P. G. M. DRUMMOND.

The Grand Marshal made proclamation that the officers of the Grand Lodge were duly installed into their respective offices.

On motion of Bro. ANDREWS,

Voted, That all Grand Officers, not now installed, present themselves for installation to one of the first four officers of the Grand Lodge, to a District Deputy Grand Master, or in their respective lodges, and cause certificates of such installation to be transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to notify each of the Grand Officers, who have not been installed, of his appointment, and of the vote of the Grand Lodge providing for his installation.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Foreign Correspondence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, STEPHEN BERRY.

On Publication.

IRA BERRY, MARQUIS F. KING, ALBERT W. LARRABEE.

On the History of Masonry in Maine.

ROTHEUS E. PAINE, CHARLES C. VINAL, CHARLES L. COLLAMORE.

On Masonic Jurisprudence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, WILLIAM P. PREBLE, HENRY H. DICKEY.

On Returns.

IRA BERRY, JOSEPH A. LOCKE, WARREN PHILLIPS.

On Credentials.

WILLIAM N. PRINCE, STEPHEN BERRY, WILLIAM H. SMITH.

On Amendments to Constitution.

ALBERT MOORE, DAVID CARGILL, HIRAM CHASE.

On Grievances and Appeals.

JOSEPH M. HAYES, ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, F. LORING TALBOT.

On Dispensations and Charters.

HORACE H. BURBANK, W. R. G. ESTES, EDWIN STONE.

Which appointments were confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

BROS. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND and IRA BERRY were continued with the Grand Master, as the Library Committee.

BRO. DRUMMOND offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved That the Grand Lodge join in the regrets expressed by Past Grand Master REUEL WASHBURN, on account of his absence from this communication, and we tender him our sympathies in his illness, and our wishes for his speedy restoration to health.

BRO. IRA BERRY offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge, recognizing the ability, fidelity and courtesy with which M. W. Bro. ALBERT MOORE has discharged the duties of the office of Grand Master for the two past years, hereby tender him their warmest thanks, and their cordial wishes for his future prosperity and happiness.

BRO. EDWIN STONE, for the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that they found nothing requiring further action of the Grand Lodge at this time: which report was accepted.

The minutes of this Communication were read by the Assistant Grand Secretary, and approved by the Grand Lodge.

Prayer was offered by W. and Rev. WILLIAM E. GIBBS, and the Grand Lodge of Maine was closed in ample form.



Attest,

Ira Berry,

Grand Secretary.

REPORTS

OF

District Deputy Grand Masters.

FIRST DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In obedience to the requirements of the constitution, I again submit my annual report.

I have visited all the lodges in the District, and have witnessed work in five out of the eight comprising this District.

The work was very satisfactory, and I find a marked improvement in the manner of doing work, and in the accuracy of rendering the ritual, since my first appointment three years since.

The records are well kept—exceptionally so, I think, being uniform in style, and apparently a correct transcript of their work.

The lodges all appear to be in a healthy and prosperous condition, as evinced by the amount of work done, not in the large number initiated, but in the careful guarding of the door, to see that none enter but the worthy and well qualified.

I take this opportunity to bear testimony to the kind and courteous treatment I have always received from the brethren in all the lodges I have visited; and in taking my leave of them in my present official capacity, which I must do, as my business will not permit of my receiving another appointment, if tendered, I return my grateful acknowledgments for the same.

I have received returns from all but one of the lodges in the District, (Pioneer Lodge, of Ashland, not having as yet sent its returns,) as follows : Baskahegan, Trinity, Eastern Frontier, Molunkus, Katahdin, Caribou and Monument.

Whole number initiated,	25
“ “ of members,	437
Total dues to the Grand Lodge,	\$115.55
Respectfully submitted,	

H. F. COLLINS, D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

Houlton, April 9, 1877.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to present my report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Second District for the past year. The state of the Order in this District is quite satisfactory. The various lodges have gone on with their usual work and business, in a peaceful and harmonious manner. Cases of misapprehension have occurred in one or two instances between lodges ; but, from the prompt and amicable manner in which they were settled, they have proved in the end rather a benefit than otherwise, by awakening feelings of mutual forbearance, charity and kindness. While the number of initiates has not been large, yet, so far as I can learn, the material has been good. I have been unable to visit Washington Lodge, at Lubec, though I made arrangements a number of times to do so, yet was prevented by storms or professional engagements. I have been kept well informed, however, as to their condition and progress, and am assured that they are doing well and are faithful craftsmen.

January 1st, I installed the officers of St. Croix Lodge, assisted by Bro. P. M. F. Williams. Under the care of W. Bro. Milligan, who last year was Senior Warden and Acting Master, the lodge has been prosperous and the work well and faithfully done. The records are exact and faithfully kept.

By request, I visited Crescent Lodge, at Pembroke, at their stated communication February 7th, and installed the officers elect. Did not witness any work. The business of the lodge was promptly done, and the books of the Secretary are in good order and well kept. The lodge is in good hands, and I feel confident will make good and square work. I was accompanied on my visit by P. M. Morrill and Wardens McCullough and Parritt, of St. Croix Lodge, and the attention and kindness we received rendered the evening one of pleasure and satisfaction.

March 21st, in company with W. Alex. Milligan, P. M.'s Gardner and

Morrill, and a number of members of St. Croix Lodge, with several Brethren from Sussex and Victoria Lodges, of St. Stephens, N. B., I visited Lewy's Island Lodge, at Princeton, at a special communication. Witnessed work on the third degree, which was very well done and needed but few corrections. The officers seem anxious to keep to the standard of the Grand Lodge, and to work the exact ritual. This lodge makes hospitality a cardinal virtue, and visitors are always sure of a cordial welcome, and generally more substantial provision for the inner man. The records are in good order.

April 11th, I spent a pleasant evening with Eastern Lodge, at Eastport. It was a special meeting to confer the Entered Apprentice degree. The work was as well done, as we generally find it. As in all other lodges, a few little inaccuracies would creep in here and there. The lectures, of which the 1st and 2d Sections were passed with the Senior Deacon, were finely given. The officers, from Master to Tyler, seemed earnest and faithful in their work. The records are nicely kept, and the Secretary's plan of marginal notes of each important matter, renders them exceedingly convenient for reference.

I would tender my thanks to the officers and members of the various lodges, for the kindness and courtesy with which I have been received, and my advice or suggestions listened to.

I append an abstract of returns from all the lodges.

Name.	Location.	Master.	Members.	Initiates.	Initiation Fees.	Annual Fees.	Total Dues.
Eastern,	Eastport,	Wm. H. Clark.	200	4	\$8.00	\$30.00	\$38.00
Washington,	Lubec,	Alfred Small.	89	1	2.00	13.35	15.35
St. Croix,	Calais,	Alex. Milligan.	208	9	18.00	31.20	49.20
Crescent,	Pembroke,	Geo. K. Hatch.	149	1	2.00	22.35	24.35
Lewy's Island,	Princeton,	Jos. S. Farrar.	86	8	16.00	12.90	28.00
			732	23	\$46.00	\$109.80	\$155.80

Lodges.	Sus-pended.	Dep. of Mem.	Re-in-stated.	Dimitted.	De-ceased.	Non-affil.
Eastern,			1 by G. L.	4	3	
Washington,				2	1	14
St. Croix,		2		3	2	3
Crescent,	1			3		
Lewy's Island,						
	1	2	1	12	6	17

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

E. HOWARD VOSE, *D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.*

Calais, Me., April 12, 1877.

THIRD DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In accordance with constitutional requirement, I herewith submit my report for the year as District Deputy G. M. of the Third Masonic District.

1876, July 1st, visited "Tuscan Lodge," No. 106, Addison, and installed its officers.

1877, Feb. 5, visited "Pleiades Lodge," No. 173, Millbridge, and in the evening installed its officers.

The occasion was rendered doubly pleasing by the presence and *providence* of the ladies—masons' wives and daughters. Music, a collation and social converse added joyous influences to the occasion.

This lodge is comparatively a new one, yet its members evince proper regard for the true designs and principles of masonry.

February 6th, visited and installed the officers of "Narraguagus Lodge," No. 88, Cherryfield.

Their neat and *cozy* lodge-room, efficient officers and well-kept records are worthy of more than casual reference or commendation.

1877, Feb. 20, Harwood Lodge, No. 91, Machias, desiring to have installation of officers *public* to "masonic friends," opened its neat and well furnished hall to the admission of members and invited guests. To the installation ceremonies succeeded music, singing, readings, &c., demonstrating most pleasantly that masons' work is neither cheerless nor *laborious*.

February 24, visited "Lookout Lodge," No. 131, Cutler. It was the evening of their stated communication, and after completing the routine of business I installed officers.

February 27, visited "Warren Lodge," No. 2, East Machias. Witnessed conferring of Third Degree by P. R. W. A. F. KINGSLEY, whom I subsequently installed Master of the lodge.

There are six lodges in this District, and I have thus been permitted to visit *all* one or more times, and to *each* have given such inspection of records and "belongings" as were necessary in the discharge of my official duties. The condition of all (with one exception) may justly be termed *sound* and *vigorous*. Harmony of work,—circumspection in detail—zeal and efficiency—these are the characteristic marks "by which they may be known."

Thanks to the recent issue, in plain and connected form, of the "Grand Lodge Constitution and Regulations," there have been no "questions" or "renderings" which lodge officers could not immediately settle; and I can rejoice that a wholesome change has apparently been made from the former method of applying to "higher powers" for *decisions* upon even the most trivial and plainly-declared regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY R. TAYLOR, D. D. G. M. 3d M. D.

Machias, Me., April 2, 1877.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I again present my annual report of the Fourth Masonic District.

November 2d, I constituted Rising Star Lodge, at Penobscot, and publicly installed the officers. After listening to an able address delivered by Bro. Charles Spofford, of Deer Isle, we repaired to a neighboring room, and partook of refreshments prepared by the lady friends of the lodge, after which we spent the evening in social amusement. I think all will join me in saying that we had a pleasant time. This lodge is doing well.

December 15th, I installed the officers of Esoteric Lodge, also Lygonia Lodge, February 8th. These being my home lodges I have visited them frequently. They are both in good hands, doing good, but not a great amount of work: it is, however, from the best material. Circumstances have prevented my visiting the lodges in this District as faithfully as I would like to have done, but I have secured the services of competent Brethren. From reports received, I am confident the lodges are in a good condition. They have not done much work, but are doing it well, and are very particular in selecting their candidates, taking none but the best material.

I have received a communication from the Brethren of West Brooksville, requesting my assistance in getting them a lodge. I hope they will not think me hard or unjust, but I cannot see the necessity of a lodge there. It will cramp the jurisdiction of Hancock Lodge, the oldest and one of the best lodges in the District, and my geographical idea of the place is, they would not have much territory of their own to work from.

The following is an abstract of the returns as made to me:

Whole number of members,	1,270
“ “ “ initiates,	36
Amount of annual dues,	\$190.50
“ “ initiation fees,	72.00
	<hr/>
	\$262.50

I wish to return my thanks to the Brethren throughout the District, for the unvarying kindness and respect with which they have treated me, as your representative, for the past two years, and for the patience with which they have endured my often seeming neglect.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. CUSHMAN, D. D. G. M., 4th M. D.

Ellsworth, April 27, 1877.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I beg leave to submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Fifth Masonic District. This District comprises eleven chartered lodges, all of which I have visited once or more.

August 29th, visited Cambridge Lodge, and witnessed work on the second degree, which was satisfactory.

September 30th, visited Mt. Kineo Lodge, at Abbott, and witnessed work on M. M. degree, which was well rendered.

October 9th, visited Doric Lodge, at Monson, and saw them work the first degree. They adhered strictly to the ritual.

October 14th, visited Olive Branch Lodge, at Charleston, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was well performed.

October 16th, visited Pleasant River Lodge, at Brownville, and saw the third degree conferred in a satisfactory manner.

October 17th, visited Piscataquis Lodge, at Milo, and saw them work the F. C. degree.

October 18th, visited Composite Lodge, at Lagrange, and saw the first degree conferred. This lodge is gradually improving, and I think it will prosper in the future.

January 24th, visited Pacific Lodge, at Exeter, and witnessed work on the third degree, and was well pleased with their work and the progress they had made.

January 27th, visited Parian Lodge, at Corinna, and witnessed work on the first degree.

February 22d, visited Mosaic Lodge, at Foxcroft. This lodge is in good hands.

I have made suggestions in some lodges in regard to levity with candidates in and out of the lodge, which was kindly received and endorsed.

I have visited Penobscot Lodge many times during the year. This lodge is prospering.

Having served the Grand Lodge as D. D. G. Master for some time, I respectfully ask to be relieved from further duty.

Whole number of members,	964
“ “ “ initiates,	60
Amount of initiation fees,	\$120.00
“ “ annual dues,	144.60

Total amount of dues to Grand Lodge, \$264.60

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR., *D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.*

Dexter, April 24, 1877.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

As D. D. G. M. of the Sixth Masonic District, I have the honor to make the following report:

This District comprises thirteen lodges, all of which I have officially visited during the masonic year just drawing to a close.

I find some few of the lodges have been quite prosperous, but the majority of them have had but little work. So far as I have been able to learn, harmony and concord prevail among the Brethren of the several lodges throughout the District.

I have had the pleasure of witnessing work in many of the lodges, and have found it very correct and well done. In some of the lodges the work was performed in a very superior manner; the ritual not only strictly complied with, but every part performed with zeal and earnestness. Some of the lodges, having no candidates, exemplified the work, and in most cases it was very well rendered.

I found the records of all the lodges very well and neatly kept. Some few were models.

In all cases where I have been obliged to make corrections, they have been received with the kindest feeling, and all of the officers have evinced a desire to obtain the exact work.

I wish to return my thanks to the officers and Brethren throughout the District for the courtesy and respect which has been extended to me at all of my visits.

The following is an abstract from the returns of the several lodges:

Whole number of members,	1,516
" " " initiates,	53
Amount of initiation fees,	\$106.00
" " annual "	227.40
Total dues to Grand Lodge,	<u>\$333.40</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Bangor, April 28, 1877. MANLY G. TRASK, D. D. G. M. 6th M. D.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

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

I have visited eight of the nine lodges in this District, and have witnessed

the work in the most of them. One of the lodges, Quantabacook, at Searsmont, I have been unable to visit.

Marsh River Lodge, at Brooks, has done no work for the past year, but they have maintained a good degree of interest, and their meetings have been very fully attended.

Central Lodge, at China, has done a considerable amount of work for a time of depression in all kinds of business, and is in its usual prosperous condition.

Unity Lodge, at Freedom, is in much the same condition as at the time of my last report. Their meetings for the past year have been very thinly attended; and, although some of its live and active members have labored hard for the lodge and its prosperity, there is still a great lack of interest among a large majority of its members, and the idea is gaining in the minds of many of its prominent members, that it can never be made a flourishing and prosperous lodge in its present location. There is a certain influence at work against this lodge, which is slowly undermining its foundation, and injuring its influence for good in the community. This lodge, at its last stated communication, passed a vote to move their lodge to Thorndike station, if the approval of the M. W. Grand Lodge could be obtained, and I have approved of their petition to the Grand Lodge for that purpose. I have looked at the matter carefully, heard all the arguments, both for and against it, and have approved the petition, believing that it is for the best interests of all concerned in the matter, that the lodge should be moved from its present location.

Star in the West Lodge, at Unity, is still agitating the subject of a new lodge room. Their present quarters are illy adapted to the wants of the lodge, and not considered safe in any way for the practice of the mystic rites of the Fraternity. The lodge is deserving of much better quarters, and its members are abundantly able to provide them. If they would put their shoulder to the wheel and "*lift together*," they might soon have a lodge room which would be an honor to their lodge, and an *ornament* instead of an *eye-sore* to their village.

Trojan Lodge, at Troy, is enjoying a fair degree of prosperity, but the present quarters of the lodge are entirely inadequate to their wants. Their lodge room is well fitted up with working tools and all the implements of the order, and was a good home for the lodge in its infancy, but they have grown beyond the dimensions of their rooms. This is seen by its active members, and, as a result, a movement is in progress for a new hall, which, if carried through, will necessitate a removal of the lodge to some other part of the town of Troy.

Plymouth Lodge, at Plymouth, still maintains its reputation as to work and lectures, and a good degree of interest is maintained among its members.

Liberty Lodge, at Liberty, is in fair working order, and a commendable degree of interest is manifested in its work and lectures, and its members ap-

pear to be well united, and all working together for the best interests of the Fraternity.

Sebasticook Lodge, at Clinton, is in prosperous condition, their lodge room well fitted up, and is one of the very best lodges in the District.

Number of lodges in the District,	9
“ “ members,	777
“ “ initiates this year,	14
Amount of Grand Lodge dues,	\$144.55

Fraternally yours,

Brooks, April 14, 1877. JOHN H. GORDON, D. D. G. M. 7th M. D.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit the following report, as D. D. G. M. of the Eighth Masonic District :

There are eight chartered lodges in this District, all of which I have visited during the year, except Howard Lodge, at Winterport, and Island Lodge, at Islesboro'. I requested one of the Past Masters of Howard Lodge to report to me their condition, but up to this time have received no answer; from what I have been able to learn, peace and harmony prevail, and they are enjoying a good degree of prosperity.

At my request, W. P. M. Otis Coombs visited Island Lodge, and reports them in good condition; their records well and faithfully kept, and the lodge healthy, harmonious and prosperous.

January 23d, I visited King David's, at Lincolnville; witnessed work on third degree, which was performed in a very creditable and satisfactory manner. This was the first work of the new officers, and from the manner in which each one performed his part, I should judge they intended keeping up their reputation as one of the best working lodges in the District; their records are in good hands, and are neatly and correctly kept.

January 30th, I visited Mariners' Lodge, at Searsport. The Brethren had no work on hand at this time; but from the interest each Brother manifested in lodge affairs, the thoroughness of their lectures and their correct manner of opening and closing, I feel assured they intend maintaining the reputation they have already acquired. Brotherly love and kindness prevail among the Brethren; their records are in excellent hands; they are a model of neatness and correct in every particular, and reflect much credit upon their worthy Secretary.

February 21st, I visited Pownal Lodge, at Stockton; found them in a healthy condition, and enjoying a good degree of prosperity. They having no work on hand, the evening was passed in social intercourse with the Brethren; was much pleased with the thorough manner in which each officer performed his part of the opening and closing ceremonies. Their records are neatly and correctly kept.

February 26th, I visited Phoenix Lodge, at Belfast, and examined their records, which are well and correctly kept. They had no work for this evening; consequently, I was obliged to forego the pleasure of witnessing the working of one of the best lodges in the District. The opening and closing ceremonies interested me very much, and I passed a very pleasant and happy evening with our Brethren of Phoenix.

March 1st, I visited Timothy Chase Lodge, at Belfast; witnessed work on M. M. degree, which was done in a very thorough and impressive manner, and in a way that must leave a lasting impression upon the mind of the candidate. I examined the records, and they are certainly the handsomest I have ever seen; they are perfect models of neatness, and systematically arranged, showing good taste on the part of the worthy Secretary, and excellent judgment of the members by their choice of a Scribe.

Being a member of Excelsior Lodge, I have been present at most of their meetings during the year. I have examined their records, which are well kept. The officers are quite prompt in their attendance, and take considerable pains to bring their work and lectures up to the requirements of the Grand Lodge.

During my two years' service as D. D. G. M., I have issued P. M. Diplomas to the following Brethren:

W. P. M. McDonald,	of Pownal Lodge.
" West,	" " "
" Richards,	of Phoenix Lodge.
" Quimby,	of Timothy Chase Lodge.
" Hills,	of Excelsior Lodge.
" Crockett,	of Excelsior Lodge.
" Sherman,	of King David's Lodge.
" Hurd,	" " " "

In conclusion, permit me to tender my sincere thanks to the officers and members of the several lodges in this District, for the kind and courteous treatment which I have received at their hands during the past two years; and I can assure them that their many kind favors will be long remembered by me. Thanking you, M. W., for the honor you have conferred upon me, I beg leave to decline another appointment, and trust that a Brother better qualified than myself, and having more time to devote to the interests of masonry in this District, may be appointed at the coming session.

The following is an abstract of returns, as far as received:

Lodges.	Members.	Dues to G. L.
Phoenix, no returns.		
King David's,	104	\$25.60
Mariners',	170	35.50
Howard,	107	20.05
Island,	74	13.10
Pownal,	55	18.25
Timothy Chase,	128	25.20
Excelsior,	35	7.25
Total amount of Grand Lodge dues,		\$144.95

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. A. PENDLETON, *D. D. G. M. St. M. D.*

Northport, April 24, 1877.

NINTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have attended to my duties as D. D. G. M. Ninth Masonic District; have visited every lodge in the District, and find them in good condition, as you will see by my report. Nothing has occurred that has come to my knowledge deserving reprimand, or even censure; harmony prevails throughout the District. I have been received with that courtesy and respect due the representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge; my visits have been very pleasant seasons to me, and, I doubt not, to the several lodges; and at several places I have met members of other lodges, which made the occasions very interesting, as well as showing their interest in masonry. Among the number assisting me I would mention R. W. J. G. W. A. M. Wetherbee, who has rendered me much assistance, which is heartily appreciated, and I herewith submit my report.

1876, Nov. 23, officially visited St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, Rockport; found the lodge well officered, and in excellent working order; witnessed work on the third degree, which was well done, and in a very impressive manner; examined their records, found them in excellent condition, also that their lodge meetings were well attended, which shows a good degree of interest in its members.

1877, Jan. 8, visited St. George Lodge, No. 16, Warren; found the lodge in good condition; witnessed work on the third degree, which was performed in good taste, and very correct; found their records correctly and neatly kept; the amount of work not large, but of a good quality.

Jan. 17th, visited Amity Lodge, No. 6, Camden; found the best of feelings

among its members, the lodge well officered, and attendance good; witnessed work on the third degree, which was rendered in a commendable and impressive manner; good care was manifest not to initiate any except such as are worthy; records well and neatly kept, and easy to be understood.

Feb. 27th, visited Rockland Lodge, No. 79, Rockland; a very large attendance present; witnessed work on the third degree, which was well done, although some of the officers performed their parts for the first time on that degree; examined their records, found them neatly and correctly kept; the amount of work not large, but of a good quality.

March 8th, visited Union Lodge, No. 31, Union; found the lodge well officered, and in good condition; witnessed exemplification of work on the third degree, which was well executed; the attendance was good, manifesting a good degree of interest; examined their records, found them neatly and correctly kept; the amount of work not large, but good; harmony and peace prevailing.

March 13th, visited Orient Lodge, No. 15, Thomaston; found them in excellent working order with their new set of officers; witnessed work on the third degree, which was in good style, considering the experience of the officers; their records are well kept, and the lodge bids fair to prosper the coming year.

March 15th, visited Eureka Lodge, No. 84, St. George; found them in good condition, and enjoying much prosperity, having done a fair amount of work the past year; witnessed work on the third degree, which was well done, with their newly installed officers; their records were well kept; harmony seemed to prevail; attendance not large.

March 21st, visited Mt. Hope Lodge, No. 59, South Hope; this lodge has not done any work for the last two years, but their courage is good, and the prospect is good for work when the times will admit; witnessed exemplification of work on the third degree, which was well done; there was a small attendance, as it was very stormy, and the members are much scattered; their records are well kept.

March 28th, visited Aurora Lodge, No. 50, Rockland; found the lodge well officered and in good working condition; witnessed work on the third degree, which was well rendered; examined their records; found them in excellent order; amount of work small, but of a good quality.

April 3d, visited Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, Vinalhaven; found the lodge in good condition and well officered; witnessed work on the second and third degrees, which was well rendered, considering they had not conferred the degrees for several months; examined their records, found them in very good condition, considering their misfortune in regard to their Secretary, of which the Grand Lodge has had notice; they have done the largest amount of work of any lodge in the Ninth District the past year.

No.	Lodges.	Location.	Mem- bers.	Initi- ates.	In. Fees.	Annual Fees.	Total Dues.
6	Amity,	Camden,	135	5	\$10.00	\$20.25	\$30.25
15	Orient,	Thomaston,	163	10	20.00	24.45	44.45
16	St. George,	Warren,	86	2	4.00	12.90	16.90
31	Union,	Union,	105	3	6.00	15.75	21.75
50	Aurora,	Rockland,	445	4	8.00	66.30	74.30
59	Mt. Hope,	So. Hope,	34	0	0.00	5.10	5.10
79	Rockland,	Rockland,	374	8	16.00	56.10	72.10
82	St. Paul's,	Rockport,	131	8	16.00	19.65	35.65
84	Eureka,	St. George,	130	7	14.00	19.50	33.50
145	Moses Webster,	Vinalhaven,	162	14	28.00	24.30	52.30
			1765	61	\$122.00	\$264.30	\$386.30

CLARK D. SMALLEY, *D. D. G. M. 9th M. D.*

Rockland, April 12, 1877.

TENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The following report, showing the condition of masonry in the Tenth District, is herewith respectfully submitted.

The District is composed of nine lodges. I have visited them all, save one. Of two appointments to meet the Brethren of Riverside Lodge, I failed to make either good, by force of circumstances not under my command. I might have commissioned some Brother for this service; but after the second failure to reach them, it would have been too late for purposes of this report. Of the eight lodges with whom I met, I witnessed work or an exemplification of the same in all but one, examined the records of all, inspected their methods of doing business, and, by personal interviews with members, and facts drawn from other sources, acquired such information of their several conditions as time and occasion presented, sufficient possibly to understand in a general way, wherein each excelled or possessed defects.

This being my first year of service, I am unable to report progress, if any there has been.

In the work, a few lodges are almost technically accurate; others omit expressions that should be given, or substitute what should be omitted. Looking over the Proceedings of previous communications of the Grand Lodge, I have found that those lodges possessing the largest measure of accuracy, in form and work, have been represented at our Annual Communications without break for years; while those lodges that omit forms and words required, and substitute others not authorized, have had an irregular representation at best. When this negligence becomes corrected, a desired end will be reached; and in this connection it may be asked whether additional regulations be not required, or those we have receive enforcement. I am free to say, however,

that, in so far as the work and forms of procedure of the several lodges have come under my observation, they have disclosed no unusual errors in the one, or serious departure from the other. In some instances, especially of omissions, it was clearly apparent that they occurred under the embarrassment of the moment, rather than from ignorance of the text. In such cases I have never thought it to be advisable to make them a subject of criticism.

The records appear to have been neatly and correctly kept. A few entries would seem to indicate irregularities; but, upon inquiry, have usually found them to be a misapprehension of meaning of terms used, rather than a violation of ancient usage. Some Secretaries have indexed their records in such manner that any information desired is readily found. They all give more or less evidence of one fact, and it is this: in many of our lodges there is somewhat of irritation, occasioned by negligence in payment of dues. What Brethren ought to do is certain; what ought to be done with them, when they do it not, is quite uncertain. Aside from this, harmony prevails. A general desire was evinced to comply with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, and follow the ritual as therein approved. This desire was especially manifested by the younger class of masons; and my observation, so far as it covers the ground, would lead me to say that they are more interested and more anxious to excel in style and correctness of work than are the older masons. In commencing my official visits I felt them to be a task, but Brethren were quite thoughtful in their arrangements, and I now recall them with pleasure.

The following is an abstract of returns received:

Lodge.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.
Alna,	Damariscotta,	162	10
Anchor,	So. Bristol,	33	1
Bristol,	Bristol,	129	2
Dresden,	Dresden,	40	1
King Solomon's,	Waldoboro,	120	7
Lincoln,	Wiscasset,	No report.	
Meduncook,	Friendship,	64	0
Riverside,	Jefferson,	103	1
Seaside,	Boothbay,	104	5
		<hr/> 755	<hr/> 27
Initiation fees,		\$54.00	
Annual dues,		113.25	
Due Grand Lodge,		<hr/> \$167.25	

In the foregoing report, I have thought it to be unnecessary to notice the standing of each lodge. Their several histories for the past year possess no unusual character, and do not require particular mention.

Fraternally yours,

ALMORE KENNEDY, D. D. G. M. 10th M. D.

Waldoboro, April 2, 1877.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit the annual report from the Eleventh Masonic District, composed of nine chartered lodges, all of which I have visited once, and some of them several times; have witnessed work, or an exemplification of it, in every lodge but one; have made such suggestions as I deemed expedient; and it gives me pleasure to report them all in a prosperous condition, and doing good work, and with one exception they have convenient, and in several places beautiful halls. I have installed the officers elect in seven of the lodges; in two of them the families and invited guests of the members were present to witness the ceremonies.

October 4, 1876, I installed the officers of Monmouth Lodge, North Monmouth. They have a small lodge room and limited accommodations. I intended to have visited them again during the winter, but received no notice from them of any work.

October 31st, I visited Morning Star Lodge, Litchfield. Witnessed work in M. M. degree, which was done in a superior manner. Afterwards installed the officers. I found the Brethren here the owners of a building containing what is designed to be a public hall on the ground floor, and a nicely furnished and fitted up lodge room in the second story. Records all right, and a degree of interest manifested that I should like to see infused throughout the District.

Nov. 15th, I installed the officers of Kennebec Lodge, Hallowell, in the presence of the Brethren and their ladies. After the ceremonies a very pleasant, social hour was spent, interspersed with singing, speaking, &c., followed by supper in the banquet room.

Nov. 23d, I again visited this lodge, and, by invitation of its officers, performed the funeral services over the remains of Bro. S. W. Huntington, a prominent citizen of Hallowell, and a worthy member of Kennebec Lodge, Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, and Trinity Commandery K. T.; the latter body performing escort duty. I have since, at the request of the Master, exemplified the work in the M. M. degree. Records correct.

Nov. 20th, I installed the officers of Bethlehem Lodge, Augusta, publicly. It was the intention of this lodge to have every lodge in the District represented, but owing to a stormy night not all invited guests were present. However, most of the lodges were represented, and M. W. J. H. Drummond was present from the Grand Lodge. After the services, the Brethren and invited guests (over two hundred and sixty were present) repaired to the spacious banquet hall, where the annual supper was enjoyed by all. This being my own masonic home, I have attended about all its meetings; and will only say, with all due modesty, that it is a good working, liberal lodge; and it ought to be, having efficient officers, ample accommodations and a good fund. Records correct, and models of neatness.

Nov. 27th, I visited Dirigo Lodge, Weeks' Mills, China; witnessed work in the third degree very well done; all the officers were prompt and quite correct in their work; the lectures were passed, a good degree of interest was manifested, and there was a large attendance of the members. After the work the Brethren repaired to the public house, where there was "a very pleasant sitting together." Records correct, and the lodge own their building.

Dec. 19, I visited Hermon Lodge, Gardiner; witnessed work in the third degree, which was generally well done, although some departures from the standard adopted by the Grand Lodge were manifested, concerning which proper suggestions were made. This was my first visit to their improved and enlarged hall, and my expectations were fully realized; it is, I think, the best lodge room in the District, and the social qualities of the Brethren of Hermon and Ionic Lodges are in keeping with it. After the work, the new banquet hall was christened with appropriate ceremonies, all taking a part. Records correct.

Jan. 15, 1877, I again visited Gardiner, and installed the officers of Hermon and Ionic Lodges; a very stormy night, but a good attendance, and a very pleasant and, I trust, profitable evening was spent.

March 26th, I visited Ionic Lodge, Gardiner; witnessed work in the third degree, which would compare favorably with any of our older lodges. From the interest manifested by its officers and members, I am sure the future of this lodge will be all that the Brethren of our jurisdiction can desire. Records very neat and correct.

January 17th, I installed the officers of Augusta Lodge, Augusta. I have visited this lodge often. Their officers are men of energy, prompt in their work, and harmony prevails. The Secretary, who has worn his jewel ever since the lodge was formed, exhibits the results of his experience in neat and correct records. The work and lectures of the degrees are rendered in full, in excellent style. This lodge met with a great affliction in the death of Bro. C. P. Richards, their Worshipful Master, who was a zealous mason and gave promise of great usefulness. Their Senior Warden removed to another part of the State, still they can congratulate themselves upon their good fortune in having a Junior Warden who has proved himself so eminently fit to govern the lodge, and whom I had the pleasure of inducting into the Oriental chair.

April 23d, I visited Temple Lodge, Winthrop; witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was done for the first time by the present officers, in a manner that was highly creditable to them and to the lodge. Much praise is due the Brethren for their excellent taste in furnishing and fitting up their hall; it is a very neat and inviting lodge room. The records are in the custody of an efficient and systematic Secretary.

In closing this report, I desire to tender my thanks to the officers and mem-

bers of the several lodges in this District, for the uniform kindness and courtesy received at their hands during my visits among them.

No dispensations for conferring the degrees have been granted during the past year, nor have any matters of importance been referred to me.

Whole number of members,	1,107
“ “ “ initiates,	56
Amount of initiation fees,	\$112.00
“ “ annual dues,	166.05
“ “ dues to the Grand Lodge,	\$278.05

Respectfully submitted,

G. P. HASKELL, D. D. G. M., 11th M. D.

Augusta, April 24, 1877.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The undersigned, D. D. G. M. of the Twelfth Masonic District, would respectfully submit the following report:

I have visited eight of the nine chartered lodges comprising this District; and am pleased to again report that, as far as I know, the best of harmony and good feeling prevail among the Brethren. I have witnessed work, or an exemplification of the work, in one or more of the degrees, in all the lodges that I visited.

Several of the lodges throughout the District have changed officers the past year; and the present ones, with one exception, show more or less inexperience, and do not come up to the ability of working a lodge with that degree of smoothness which is only attained by practice and experience. All of them, however, seemed desirous of coming up to the standard required by the Grand Lodge.

October 7, 1876, I made my first official visit to Lafayette Lodge, at Readfield (this is one of the lodges that have changed officers), and witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was not only accurate as to ritual, but was performed in a manner which cannot fail to make a deep and lasting impression upon the mind of the candidate, for each officer seemed to thoroughly understand his particular part of the work, and rendered it in a manner which made it easily understood by the candidate, and highly interesting to the large number of Brethren present, judging from the close attention paid by all, for there was hardly a whisper or change of position during the ceremony. When called to refreshment, we repaired to the banquet hall, where a nice

turkey supper was in readiness; and, judging from the close attention given here also, must have been greatly enjoyed by all. I shall long remember, with a great deal of pleasure, my visits to Lafayette Lodge. Bro. E. O. Beane has retired from the Secretary's desk, and they have made choice of another, who is every way qualified for this important position.

October 28th, which was a very cold, raw day, I rode over thirty miles to visit Asylum Lodge, at Wayne, and found but very few of the Brethren present—two or three more than were required to fill the offices. They had no work on hand, but volunteered to exemplify work in the first degree, which was very poorly done, and to a candidate must be very unintelligible. I gave them a few words of advice, which was kindly received, with promises of improvement, which I have no doubt will be fulfilled, as their new Master, W. Bro. C. E. Wing, is a young man of ability, and all that is required is due attention and some practice to bring it out. I hope they will see the necessity of giving the candidate an explanation of the lectures in full in all the degrees. This will apply to other lodges in the District that are negligent in this regard.

January 23, 1877, I visited Vernon Valley Lodge, at Mount Vernon. They not having any work on hand, most of the evening was spent in lecturing by the W. M. and S. W.; also by two newly made members, who were almost perfect in asking and answering alternately every question. If the older members can do as well, Vernon Valley Lodge no doubt would be the banner lodge of the District in passing lectures. I think, however, that generally, the better way would be to pass lecture around the lodge, so that all can take a part. The S. D., Bro. Geo. C. Hopkins, who at the time of my visit had been a mason but two months, by request went through with the second section of the F. C. degree in the most perfect manner, giving an explanation of all the emblems in that section, which I never before witnessed. This lodge has the best of material from which to draw; consequently, it is in a very prosperous and flourishing condition. The records are still in the hands of Bro. S. Burbank, which is a sufficient guarantee that they are all right.

January 27th, I visited Relief Lodge, at Belgrade, and witnessed work in the M. M. degree. The officers were but recently installed, which, no doubt, accounts in part for the work not being performed with their usual success. For some cause, there did not seem to be the interest manifested in lodge affairs that I have noticed in former visits. The records show a very small attendance.

February 3d, I visited Messalonskee Lodge, at West Waterville. This lodge has not done any work the past year, and most of the officers were new in their stations, which, I presume, partially accounts for the second rate work exhibited in exemplifying the E. A. degree. While the work of this lodge will average fair, still it is not up to the standard I expected to find; for "where much is given, much will be required," is as true in masonry as anything else. Certainly Messalonskee Lodge is highly favored. They

have splendid accommodations, the supervision all the time of a Past District Deputy, and plenty of good material to draw from to fill the several stations. With these and other advantages, the work of this lodge ought to be first class. I really hope the present board of officers will give the affairs of the lodge that due attention which will rank them among the first in the District. The records are still kept neat and in good order by Bro. L. Belanger.

February 26th, I visited Waterville Lodge, at Waterville, and witnessed work in the second degree. In the absence of the Master, the S. W., Bro. F. H. Smith, performed the work in a very creditable and satisfactory manner. The records, which might be improved, show a very small attendance for so large a membership; should judge there was a lack of interest in this lodge. Bro. F. A. Thayer and others, members of Waterville Lodge, will petition the Grand Lodge at its next session, for a dispensation for a new lodge to be located at Waterville. As it is soon to come before the Grand Lodge, and its merits and demerits thoroughly discussed by parties interested, it of course requires no further notice from me. I trust, however, that whatever the decision shall be, it may result for the best good of the order in that locality.

March 29th, I visited Neguemekeag Lodge, at Vassalboro', and witnessed work in the first and second degrees. The officers of this lodge live at considerable distance from each other, which accounts for the few errors and omissions made in the rendering of the work. I did not arrive in season to examine the records as thoroughly as I desired. They seemed somewhat mixed, and not as neat and well arranged as I would like to have seen. The Secretary was new at the business.

I have been present at most all the meetings of Vassalboro' Lodge, and Sept. 25, 1876, installed the officers elect, in the presence of a large number of Brethren and their ladies. At the close, we were invited by the Master to repair to Citizen's Hall, where we found a bountiful collation, prepared by the ladies of the place, and to which ample justice was done by all present. The remainder of the evening was spent in a very pleasant, social manner. Several, if not all, expressed the wish that such gatherings might be more frequent.

Feb. 27, 1877, I made the only official visit to this lodge since my appointment to this position. I witnessed work in the third degree, which was performed in a very highly interesting and impressive manner. A full attendance of the members this evening, besides a large number of visiting Brethren, who expressed themselves highly pleased with the work, and fully repaid for their visit. At the close of the meeting we repaired to the banqueting hall, where plenty of oysters and other good things were prepared by the Senior Steward, who is an expert in seeing the tables properly furnished, and every Brother suitably provided for. This is an old lodge, and carefully preserves their charter, constitution, by-laws and Grand Lodge Proceedings, the latter too much preserved for the benefit of the lodge, for I think it has not been

taken from the Secretary's desk once since received, to be read in open lodge. Records neatly kept, but not quite full enough.

A rain storm on the evening that I appointed to visit Rural Lodge, at Sidney, prevented me from fulfilling my appointment. The Master writes me that lodge matters with them the past year have been very dull, they not having any work for the whole year. In compliance with a communication received from Bro. R. E. Paine, Chairman of the Committee on History of Masonry in Maine, I called the attention of the two lodges in this District that have not furnished their history—Relief Lodge, at Belgrade, and Rural Lodge, at Sidney—to this subject. The first, at the time of my visit, had their history completed and sent in; and I am informed by the Master of Rural Lodge that their history will be completed and sent in before the meeting of the Grand Lodge in May next.

And now, Most Worshipful, in closing this, my last report, I desire to return my thanks to you for the honor conferred in again appointing me to this important position; and through you, to the officers and Brethren throughout the District, for the courtesy shown me on all occasions.

Whole number of members,	782
Whole number of initiates,	21
Amount of annual dues,	\$117.30
Amount of initiation fees,	42.00
	<hr/>
	\$159.30

Respectfully submitted,

PETER WILLIAMS, D. D. G. M. 12th M. D.

North Vassalboro, April 20, 1877.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The lodges under my charge, during the past year, have enjoyed a fair degree of masonic health. I think it is safe to say that in the case of no single lodge has there been any change for the worse. Perhaps no general statement, embracing all the lodges, can be made in terms more flattering, consistently with the truth. In two of the lodges, at least, there is still considerable friction in the working operations of the lodge. Our Brethren in these lodges have been afflicted in this way for some time; but I entertain the hope that time, the great leveler of all distinctions and all differences, will evolve a panacea, so much needed by our Brethren. All operations dependent upon human agencies are afflicted with imperfections, and our masonic lodges present no exception to this general truth.

There does not seem to have been so great a desire to obtain the masonic degrees during the past year as heretofore. The hard times, no doubt, have had much to do with this. We think, however, that masonry will not suffer from this cause. There is manifest in some of our lodges a disposition to increase in numbers too fast. This over desire or anxiety in this direction tends to diminish the scrutinizing care of the Brethren in making their investigations into the character of applicants. From this cause, it often happens that initiation does not make a mason, for it requires something besides the conferring of masonic degrees to make a man a mason. Masonic growth, like all moral growth, should be gradual. We fear that masonic lodges sometimes overlook this fact, and confer their degrees too rapidly. No candidate should be advanced to any degree till he has not only learned the lectures of the preceding, but thoroughly mastered and comprehended the import and bearing of the same. When hurry and superficiality characterize the ceremony of initiation, we shall find a sickly growth. The Brethren will soon come to look upon the ceremonies as meaningless. Form will usurp the place of substance, and, in many instances, poor form at that; the members of the lodge become inharmonious; piques will take the place of reason, and a general bad state of things will ensue—all because the growth has been too rapid, or rather because there has been no real moral growth at all. Such is the history of several lodges in this jurisdiction. The remedy is obvious. Have less initiations; be sure that every candidate admitted is worthy; let no person enter the lodge of whom it can only be said that no harm can be learned of him—he should be known to be a positively good and worthy man before he should be admitted. It is far better for a lodge to exclude two worthy candidates than to admit one unworthy one; and when admitted, each initiate should be taught that he has something to learn besides mere form. Masonic growth is moral growth, and it is acquired by constant moral labor. It is to be hoped that by the application of sound doctrines in their management in the future, some of the lodges of this district will be able to rise to a higher plane of masonic standing.

Fraternally submitted,

S. S. BROWN, D. D. G. M. 13th M. D.

Fairfield, April 10, 1877.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, I submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Fourteenth Masonic District.

There are eight lodges in this District. I have visited all but one.

January 2d, I publicly installed the officers of Ancient York Lodge, No. 155, in Columbian Hall, at Lisbon Falls, P. M. Coombs acting as Grand Marshal, after which came refreshments, at which time an hour or so was sociably spent. Owing to a very severe storm, not all of the officers, and but a few of the members, could be present.

January 9th, I publicly installed the officers of United Lodge, No. 8, at Brunswick, Past D. D. Ira P. Booker acting as Grand Marshal; at the close of which the Brethren and ladies repaired to the hall below, where a bountiful collation was prepared; after which a few speeches were made by the members and invited guests.

January 23d, I installed the officers of Acacia Lodge, No. 121, at Durham; saw the E. A. degree exemplified in a very satisfactory manner, considering they have had no work for about two years.

January 24th, I visited Village Lodge, No. 26, Bowdoinham, and witnessed work on E. A. degree, which was very well done, and their records were very neatly and correctly kept. I think if the officers would take a little more interest in complying with Grand Lodge standard of work, they would see an improvement in both work and lectures.

January 29th, I visited Richmond Lodge, No. 63, at Richmond; saw the M. M. degree exemplified, which was very correctly and distinctly rendered. This lodge seems to have a zealous board of officers, and a desire to know the correct standard work, and bids fair to be one of the best working lodges in the District. Their records are very neatly and correctly kept. A collation was served, and a pleasant and profitable evening was spent.

February 14th, I visited Polar Star Lodge, No. 114, at Bath. The W. M. being absent, the S. W. assumed the chair, opened the lodge, and conferred the F. C. degree in a very creditable manner.

February 26th, I officially visited Ancient York Lodge, No. 155. It being my masonic home, I have attended all of the meetings the past year but one; witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was very correctly rendered, with a large attendance. Brother Hugh Curtis, P. M. of Village Lodge, Bowdoinham, was present and made a few remarks, and informed us he had been a mason fifty years or more, and had the same desire to attend masonic meetings as ever. All who know him, know he has long been a zealous and upright mason; his presence is pleasing to all. He was also present at my visits at Village Lodge, Bowdoinham, and Richmond Lodge, at Richmond.

February 27th, I visited Acacia Lodge, No. 121, Durham; saw the M. M. degree exemplified, which was very well done; heard the lectures, all but the monitorial of the first eight classes of emblems, which was very correct. They informed me they received instructions several years ago, from the D. D. G. M., to omit the first eight classes of emblems. I instructed them to give the candidate the whole that he paid his money for; I think in the future, their candidates will receive the whole of the lectures. I made several corrections in the manner of keeping their records. They have never

practiced reading the minutes of each communication previous to closing the lodge, which is practiced in all the other lodges in the District.

March 5th, I visited Solar Lodge, No. 14, at Bath; witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was very correct and distinctly rendered. As the citizens were celebrating the inauguration of the President that evening, the bands and bells favored us with music during the work and lectures. At the close of the lodge all were invited to repair to the banquet hall, where a bountiful collation was waiting. After the inner man was filled, an hour or so was spent with speeches, &c., &c.

March 27th, I was to visit United Lodge, No. 8, at Brunswick; the 26th, I received a letter from the W. M., saying they should have no work as expected; and as he was in poor health and should not be able to be present, if stormy, and as it did storm fearfully, I did not visit them.

March 29th, I visited Webster Lodge, No. 164, at Webster; witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was exceedingly well done. As Past D. D. F. E. Sleeper is Master, it would not be expected that their work would be anything else but good and very correct. After closing the lodge an oyster supper was served.

I have frequently found that some of the members, especially the older ones, are very strongly attached to the forms and expressions which were used many years ago, and are reluctant to conform to the standard work of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, allow me to extend to the Brethren of this District, my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the uniform courtesy and kindness with which I have been received upon all occasions.

The following is a summary of returns:

Number of members,	934
“ “ initiates,	27
Amount of initiation fees,	\$54.00
“ “ annual dues,	140.10
Total due the Grand Lodge,	<u>\$194.10</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Lisbon Falls, April 9, 1877. SIMEON STONE, D. D. G. M. 14th M. D.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I respectfully submit my second year's report.

There are twelve chartered lodges and one under dispensation in this District, all of which I have visited one or more times, and have witnessed work

or exemplification on one or more of the degrees in each, and, with the exception of two lodges, all have done well.

I find that all the lodges have had work during the year, and are prosperous. I also find that all have convenient, and in many cases excellent halls; and on each visit, a good attendance.

June 15, 1876, I assisted the Grand Master in constituting Ancient Brothers' Lodge, at Auburn, and in installing their officers.

September 28, 1876, I installed the officers of Rabboni Lodge, at Lewiston.

December 20, 1876, I visited Blue Mountain Lodge, at Phillips, and witnessed work on the third degree, in the afternoon. In the evening, in the presence of a large number of Brethren, their wives, daughters and friends, I installed their officers, succeeding which Rev. Bro. Otis H. Johnson, of Jay, delivered an able masonic address; and I am not complimenting Bro. J. too much by saying it was as good as I ever listened to. After the address, the lodge gave a supper to its friends at Bro. Farmer's hotel, followed by a social hour or two.

January 10, 1877, I visited Reuel Washburn Lodge, *v. d.*, at East Livermore, and witnessed work on the E. A. degree.

January 23, 1877, I visited Oriental Star Lodge, at Livermore, and witnessed an exemplification of work on the third degree, which was well done, showing a decided and marked improvement. The attendance was very large. Since my last visit the Brethren have built a large hall, which, for convenience, is not excelled by any in this District. For hospitality, without fee or reward, I am for the third time indebted to Past Grand Master Washburn, who looks out for the good of District Deputies, not only while in his lodge, but also at his house, even if they come unexpectedly.

January 23, 1877, I visited Whitney Lodge, at Canton, and witnessed an exemplification of work on the E. A. degree, which was well done. This lodge reports the largest increase of any in the District, and I trust Past Deputy Bradford has looked out that the material was good.

January 29, 1877, I visited Reuel Washburn Lodge, at East Livermore, a second time (as this lodge is *v. d.* and I wished to be sure of their proficiency), and witnessed an exemplification of work on the M. M. degree.

January 29, 1877, I visited Maine Lodge, at Farmington, and witnessed work on the F. C. degree, which was neatly done. Bro. Cragin and some of his officers are very easy workers.

January 30, 1877, I visited Mystic Tie Lodge, at Weld, and witnessed work on the E. A. degree, which was fairly done. This lodge is the smallest in numbers, but none are larger in masonic zeal.

January 31, 1877, I visited Wilton Lodge, and witnessed work on the E. A. and M. M. degrees. The attendance was good, the work was not.

February 7, 1877, I visited Tranquil Lodge, at Auburn, and, with the assistance of P. D. D. F. T. Faulkner, installed their officers in the presence of the Brethren, their wives and friends, to the number of over four hundred;

and at the close of the installation a pleasant surprise was given a lady, who has done much for the lodge, by presenting her with a purse well filled with silver; after which all were invited to partake of an excellent banquet which the ladies had provided and to spare, and then came two hours of instrumental and vocal entertainment; and taken all together, it was the social masonic event of the two years that your Deputy has served.*

February 12, 1877, I visited Ashlar Lodge, at Lewiston, and, with the assistance of P. D. D. I. G. Curtis, installed their officers. At the conclusion of the exercises we were invited to their banquet hall, where the ladies had provided a bountiful repast; after which came music and a social entertainment. I was pleased to see the wives, daughters and lady friends of the Brethren present in such goodly numbers. I think masonry loses nothing by having the ladies on such occasions.

February 26th, 1877, I visited Evening Star Lodge, at Buckfield, and witnessed work on the E. A. Degree, which I think the officers can improve upon with a little practice. The records are correct and creditable.

February 26, 1877, I visited Nezinscot Lodge, at Turner, and witnessed an exemplification of work on the F. C. and M. M. degrees; the F. C. work was as near perfect as I ever witnessed, and the M. M. nearly so. This lodge fully sustains the excellent reputation given it by former Deputies. The attendance was very large, and some from quite a distance. At the close of the exercises, the lodge provided hot oysters for all, which were very acceptable, especially to those who had several hour's ride before them as I had.

March 28, 1877, I visited Tranquil Lodge, at Auburn, and witnessed work on the E. A. degree, by their new officers, which was excellently done; and they ought to do well, as they have the finest hall in the District, and the largest membership to select from for officers. Their records are neatly kept.

April 2, 1877, I visited Ashlar Lodge, at Lewiston, and witnessed work on the E. A. degree, by their new officers. For elegance of execution and completeness of detail, the records of Bro. Winn are first.

April 3, 1877, I visited Ancient Brothers' Lodge, at Auburn, and witnessed an exemplification of work on the M. M. degree, which was well done. The records are well kept.

April 4, 1877, I visited Rabboni Lodge, at Lewiston, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was performed in an interesting and impressive manner. The attendance was the largest I ever saw at any meeting for work in this District, there being present some two hundred. This being my lodge, I have attended more of its meetings than of other lodges. By an inspection of the records, I find the guess I was compelled to make last year was not half complimentary to the Secretary.

I have examined the records of all the lodges in the District, and found none but what are correctly kept.

During the year I have attended out of my District, the installation at Cumberland Lodge, at New Gloucester, and Webster Lodge, at Sabattisville; at the latter of which I was invited by Bro. Sleeper, P. D. D., to perform the services, which took place at the Baptist Church, before the wives and friends of the Brethren; after which, the Brethren gave a social entertainment at their hall. I was assisted by Bro. A. L. Talbot, of Wilton Lodge, as Grand Marshal.

At the coming session of the Grand Lodge, Reuel Washburn Lodge, at Livermore Falls, having worked the past year under a dispensation, will apply for a charter. I have visited them twice during the year, and seen work both times; and I can recommend them as being well posted and doing good work, and being much interested in masonry. Their records are neatly kept.

I again wish to return my thanks to all the lodges for the fraternal kindness and uniform courtesy which I have in every case received on my visits, and the respect shown for such advice as I have thought proper to give.

The returns from all the lodges are as follows:

Names of Lodges.	Places where holden.	Masters' Names.	No. Mem.	No. Inf.	Total dues to G. L.
Maine,	Farmington,	Geo. B. Cragin,	98	3	\$20.70
Oriental Star,	Livermore,	Eben Humphrey,	126	3	24.90
Tranquil,	Auburn,	John B. Jordan,	191	6	40.65
Blue Mountain,	Phillips,	Bart. I. Parker,	50	3	13.50
Nezinscot,	Turner,	Sumner S. Merrill,	86	2	16.90
Ashlar,	Lewiston,	George Benson,	175	6	38.25
Evening Star,	Buckfield,	George D. Bisbee,	66	6	21.90
Rabboni,	Lewiston,	Geo. G. Hartwell,	114	4	25.10
Mystic Tie,	Weld,	Sam'l E. Perkins,	37	2	9.55
Wilton,	Wilton,	Justus Webster,	76	4	19.40
Whitney,	Canton,	James Ripley,	59	11	30.85
Anc't Brothers',	Auburn,	Albert M. Penley,	40	4	14.00
Reuel Washburn,	Livermore Fls,	L. H. Daggett,	0	7	14.00
			1118	61	\$289.70

Respectfully submitted,

FESSENDEN I. DAY, D. D. G. M. 15th M. D.

Lewiston, April 25, 1877.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Agreeable to the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, I have the honor to submit the following brief report as D. D. G. Master of the Sixteenth Masonic District.

There are nine lodges in this District. All have been visited officially except one, viz: Mt. Tire'm, of Waterford, and from my knowledge of its officers, and the favorable reports received from this lodge, I have no doubt of its being in a healthy and prosperous condition. I have publicly installed the officers in two lodges, viz: Tyrian, at Mechanic Falls, and King Hiram, at Dixfield. I have witnessed work or its exemplification in most of the lodges, and find them in general doing good work.

I have, in all cases, made such corrections and suggestions as I considered necessary for a more correct rendering of the work. I have examined the records of all the lodges visited, and have found them neatly and well kept.

Thanking the Officers and Brethren of this jurisdiction for the kindness and courtesy shown me on all occasions, and you, Most Worshipful, for the honors conferred, I would most respectfully decline a re-appointment.

Whole number of members,	920
“ “ “ initiates,	38
Amount of annual dues,	\$138.00
“ “ initiation fees,	76.00
	<hr/> \$214.00

Respectfully submitted,

April 9, 1877.

DIMAN B. PERRY, *D. D. G. M. 16th M. D.*

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

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

There are eleven lodges in this District, each of which I have visited officially or otherwise, and, as required by the Constitution, have inspected their by-laws, records and mode of work.

The number of initiations has not been so large as in previous years, but the returns show that all who have applied have not been admitted; and I am of the opinion that the additions made have been of such a character as to reflect honor upon our Institution.

During the year, I have installed the officers of five of the lodges, three of which have been public, viz: Freeport, Temple and Harmony. The new hall recently erected by the Brethren of Harmony Lodge is one of the finest in the District.

I deem it a part of my duty to report to you that at midnight on December 22d, the beautiful masonic halls in this city were destroyed by fire. Nearly

everything belonging to the three lodges, as well as that of the other bodies, was consumed in the fire. By the active exertions of two of our Brethren, the charters, jewels, and a small portion of the Masonic Library, were secured. "The most valuable articles belonging to the Grand Lodge were transported carefully to the Centennial Block, next door above." The total loss was \$36,308; insurance, \$27,874.

In closing my report, I desire to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy with which I have been received in my visits to the lodges in this District.

Fraternally yours,

GEO. E. TAYLOR, *D. D. G. M. 17th M. D.*

Portland, April, 1877.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

During the past masonic year, I have visited each of the ten chartered lodges which compose the Eighteenth Masonic District; and, as its D. D. G. M., in conformity to Art. xiv, Sec. 25, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, I herewith submit the following report:

On the 26th day of December, I visited Adoniram Lodge, Limington. It was the evening of the annual meeting. The attendance was good; the meeting cordial; and harmony and good feeling seemed to pervade the hearts of all the Brethren. At the request of the lodge, I installed the officers elect. W. G. Lord, Past D. D. G. M. of this District, entertained us with some very pertinent remarks. An exemplification of the work of the E. A. degree was given, which was well done. The records are well kept.

I desire to call your special attention to the condition of things in Freedom Lodge, Limerick. Its records disclosed to me these facts. The annual meeting was held in February. At the time of my visit, the afternoon of December 27th, but four subsequent meetings had been held. At each of these meetings there were present only enough to constitute a legal quorum; and at the last one, one of these seven was but a visitor. The officers elect had not been installed. There were not, at the time of my visit, a sufficient number present to constitute a quorum, although ample notice had been given, and the weather was fine, and the traveling good. Though I have no personal knowledge of the previous history of Freedom Lodge, yet I feel convinced, from what information I could obtain from the few members of it that I met, that there exist some internal difficulties that the lodge does not feel competent to remove; and its worthy members are almost, if not quite persuaded, that relief must come from without. I perceive no reason, from an external view, why this lodge should not be prosperous. It has the use of an excellent

hall, and the territory over which it has jurisdiction appears to be ample. One good old mason, blind and considerably decrepid with age, deeply lamented the low state of the lodge, and assured me that he was rarely absent from the hall at the time of its stated meetings. He was hopeful that better things might soon exist; and was among the most anxious that a sufficient number might be induced to attend, in the evening of the day of my visit, at the hall—the time of the regular communication of the lodge—that a petition which had been signed, and was in readiness for presentation, might be received; promising that he, at least, would not fail being in attendance. The records are very neatly kept.

The evening of December 27th, I visited Day Spring Lodge, Newfield. The W. M. was not present, and the Brethren present were unwilling to exhibit specimens of their skill. The attendance was very good, and good feeling and a healthy interest evidently prevails. The records are in good hands.

The evening of December 28th, I visited Drummond Lodge, Parsonsfield. There was a fair attendance, and an exhibition of the work of the E. A. degree. It was hardly up to the necessary standard. The records are neatly kept, and the members of the lodge are evidently united by the "cement of brotherly love and affection."

I visited Greenleaf Lodge, Cornish, December 29th. During the afternoon a severe snow storm commenced. The evening was dark and windy and the snow storm unabated, yet there were a large number present. The work of the M. M. degree was exemplified, and the recital of the ritual was almost perfect. I installed the officers elect, after which we enjoyed a bountiful repast. Records in the hands of the former Secretary, and nicely kept. This is one of the most flourishing lodges in the District.

I visited Shepherd's River Lodge, Brownfield, January 27th. The work of the E. A. degree was exemplified, and in an excellent manner. I had previously visited this lodge July 1st, and installed the officers. It is harmonious and prosperous. Records well kept.

Pythagorean Lodge, Fryeburg, I visited January 29th. There was a fair attendance, and the work of the F. C. degree was well done. The records are in good order. No disturbing elements exist among the Brethren.

My visit to Delta Lodge, Lovell, was made the 3d of February. Work of the M. M. degree was exemplified in a very satisfactory manner. The lodge is in a prosperous condition. Records are well kept.

I visited Oriental Lodge, Bridgton, the 24th of March. Work of the M. M. degree was exemplified and a satisfactory proficiency shown. The records are in new hands and are correctly made.

The lodge to which I belong, Mount Moriah, has done but little work during the past year; still, the zeal of its members has not diminished. Its present officers are efficient, and ever in their places. The records are still kept by our aged Brother, D. G. Tarbox, who has been Secretary for a long

while, one or two years excepted. He appreciates the responsibility and dignity of the position, and the records show, in their neatness and correctness, that the greatest care is exercised in their preparation.

Allow me to add that I have ever been received with the greatest cordiality by all the Brethren.

Fraternally submitted,

Denmark, April 16, 1877.

S. G. DAVIS, D. D. G. M. 18th M. D.

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. ALBERT MOORE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In presenting my official report, permit me, briefly, to call your attention, in order, to the various lodges in this jurisdiction.

ARION. This lodge, though deriving its membership from a large and rather sparsely settled jurisdiction, shows a percentage of attendance upon its meetings of which few lodges can boast, and, as a consequent upon this fact, is in a highly prosperous condition. Its officers are carefully selected, and its work well done.

ARUNDEL. February 27th, I visited and publicly installed the officers of this lodge. During the year, it has conferred the degrees upon but one candidate. Its records are kept with commendable neatness.

BUXTON. Professional engagements rendered it impossible for me to fulfill an engagement which had been made for my visit here in October, much to our mutual disappointment. Of its prosperity, however, reports have reached me from various sources; and, under the supervision of Bro. Weld, my immediate predecessor in office, we may be well assured of the continuance of that prosperity.

DUNLAP. I have several times had the pleasure of witnessing the work, and am pleased to note the proficiency of the Brethren of this lodge. The officers are generally good ritualists, and exhibit a commendable interest. The hall, lately improved, is one of the finest in the State, and, altogether, the lodge is in a healthy condition.

FRATERNAL. The old adage of an "ill wind" finds an apt illustration here, in an increase of membership of over thirty per cent. during the year, arising chiefly from the unfortunate condition of masonic affairs in the neighboring town of Sanford. The lodge is fortunate in the selection of officers, who possess a proficiency acquired by long experience; and I would recommend its example of retaining in their positions good officers, without regard to the system of "rotation," so vicious when pertinaciously followed.

OCEAN. The wide extent of territory from which this lodge derives its membership probably accounts for the small average attendance upon its meetings. The work is quite well performed, though its officers are somewhat "rusty" from long inactivity. It has a small charity fund.

PALESTINE. With possibly one exception, this is the best and most accurately working lodge in the District. Its officers are thoroughly conversant with the ritual, and the Master's degree, upon the occasion of my official visit, was impressively given. I was particularly pleased with the examination of candidates in open lodge previous to their advancement. With its commodious hall, large and interested membership and skillful officers, its future is indeed promising.

I must, however, take this occasion to give a single word of warning—a warning trite but never inappropriate—that they guard, with unslumbering vigilance, the outer portals of the lodge; for, in the admission of a single unworthy member, an incalculable injury may be inflicted upon the craft.

PREBLE, May 29th. This lodge was re-organized at Sanford Corner, agreeably to the vote of the Grand Lodge, and has since enjoyed a vitality surprising even to its friends, who feared that its singular misfortunes might permanently retard its progress. It is well officered, and the generosity of Bro. Goodall is soon to furnish it with a convenient hall; and we confidently trust that the action of its members may be such as to attest the wisdom of the Grand Lodge in the course it has felt compelled to adopt, and that the feelings of local antipathy, that have proved so serious obstacles to the material prosperity of the town, may no longer obtrude themselves into the lodge room.

SACO. With the present year this lodge completes its third quarter of a century. The attendance upon its meetings, though larger than many lodges in the jurisdiction, bears too small a ratio to its membership; and it is to be hoped that some means will be taken to secure a more general interest. The work is quite creditably performed, though not at all times in strict accordance with the ritual. It possesses sufficient membership and every convenience for a model lodge; and we hope to see its ample material utilized during the coming year. Its records are excellently kept.

ST. JOHN'S. Fortunate in the possession of a large, active and interested membership, St. John's has acquired a wide reputation for the thoroughness and accuracy of its work. Its Master is an accomplished ritualist, and is supported by an efficient corps of officers. Its hall is large, and particularly well arranged; records very carefully kept, and on the whole, the lodge is a model organization.

YORK. This is one of the two lodges which I have not visited personally during this masonic year. Being under the care of Bro. Morton and other zealous masons, its well being is assured. Bro. Morton reports that the lodge is, numerically and financially, in a condition of prosperity greater than ever

before. That the records are kept by him is a sufficient guaranty of their correctness.

YORKSHIRE. Have three times visited this lodge during the year; June 21st, to assist Bro. Edward P. Burnham in ceremonies of consecration, constitution and dedication; December 8th, to witness the conferring of the Master's degree; and February 9th, for a public installation of officers.

The lodge is in unusually good hands, and there can be no doubt of its ultimate success. Its work is performed in a manner not only creditable to a new lodge, but better than a majority of the older lodges. The records are very accurately kept by Bro. Greenleaf.

YORK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION. From various causes, the organization of this body was delayed till late in the season, and can therefore scarcely be said to have had a fair trial.

Its meetings were well attended, and created an awakened interest in the ritual and lodge work; and in my opinion it would be decidedly for the advantage of the craft, to continue the dispensation.

In reply to communications, I have given the following decisions:

1. That persons, not masons, may properly become sureties upon the official bond of the Secretary and Treasurer.
2. That such bond can be approved by the lodge, only at a stated communication.
3. Defining the status of honorary members, in accordance with the decisions of the Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery of this State.

In conclusion, I am pleased to note the spirit of harmony that everywhere prevails, and to congratulate the craft on the peace that is within its walls.

The universal business depression has naturally deterred many from applying for admission; a result, however, that we need not deplore, for its too rapid numerical increase is the greatest danger that assails our venerable order; and to the lodges—each and all of them—I would reiterate the charge that they exercise the utmost caution in the reception of candidates, and guard with increased watchfulness the avenues of approach.

Expressing to the lodges, through you, my appreciation of the kindly attention accorded me in my official character,

I remain, fraternally yours,

JOHN S. DERBY, *D. D. G. M. 19th M. D.*

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Trustees of the Charity Fund.

The Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine met at Congress Hall, in Portland, on Tuesday, the first day of May, A. D. 1877, at five o'clock in the afternoon.

Present—Bro. ALBERT MOORE,

“ EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

“ CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,

“ DAVID CARGILL,

“ A. M. WETHERBEE,

“ IRA BERRY.

The Grand Treasurer reported as follows:

PORTLAND, May 1, 1877.

To the Trustees of the Charity Fund:

The receipts of the Treasurer the last year, including \$232.26 received from Insurance Company for damage and loss of property by fire, were	\$5,091.16
The disbursements the last year, were	4,758.06
The balance now in the Treasury is	1,141.80
The amount of interest from invested fund in May, 1876,	1,409.06
The sum reserved for emergent cases, remained unexpended,	150.00
The amount appropriated and expended in charity the past year,	1,081.00
There is remaining of the fund reserved for emergent cases,	115.00
The remaining balance of interest unexpended is	363.06
The dividends from National Banks,	750.00
The interest from Savings Banks,	168.63
The interest on \$6,800.00 U. S. 5-20 Bonds,	445.74
The interest on \$500.00 Masonic Trustees Bonds,	40.00
The interest on \$1,000.00 City of Portland Bonds,	40.00
	\$1,444.37

The unappropriated balance in May last, of \$521.07, with \$200.00 for Masonic Trustees Bonds redeemed at that time, and \$308.93 from balance then in the Treasury, was paid for a "City of Portland Bond" (Municipal), of the denomination of one thousand dollars.

The balance of Masonic Trustees Bonds (\$500.00) have drawn interest to this date; they are now redeemed, and the amount is added to the deposit in Portland Savings Bank.

The invested Charity Fund has been increased eight hundred dollars, (\$800.00,) making the total amount, as reported in account current, eighteen thousand and eight hundred dollars.

The library and office furniture of the Grand Lodge suffered a loss by the fire in the Savings Bank building, in December last, which loss was promptly adjusted and paid by the company insuring, to the full amount, as far as covered by the policy.

After consultation with the M. W. Grand Master, and in accordance with the views of the R. W. Grand Secretary, I have obtained a policy of insurance for one thousand dollars—differently apportioned from what it was in the old Policy—covering a larger amount on the library, and a smaller amount on collars, jewels, &c.

Respectfully submitted,

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

The securities for the invested funds were examined, and found correct.

Applications for relief, with a list of the same so far as received up to the hour of meeting, were laid before the Trustees by the Secretary.

The applications were referred to Bro. CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, to examine and report at an adjourned meeting.

The Trustees adjourned, to meet to-morrow morning at half-past ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, May 2, 1877.

The Trustees met agreeably to adjournment.

Present—Bros. ALBERT MOORE, EDWARD P. BURNHAM, CHAS. I. COLLAMORE, A. M. WETHERBEE, DAVID CARGILL, JOSEPH M. HAYES, WM. R. G. ESTES, MARQUIS F. KING, IEA BERRY.

BRO. COLLAMORE reported back the applications for relief, marked on the schedule by numbers from one to five, to indicate their proportional merit.

The applications were considered, and the schedule in some cases changed.

Voted, That figure one, in the marking of the schedule, represent the sum of seven dollars.

Voted, That the schedule be approved; and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to make payments according thereto.

Voted, That the Bond presented by the Grand Treasurer be approved.

Voted, To establish a Reserved Fund, as a contingent against future depreciations of the funds.

Voted, That the Trustees now adjourn.

And in accordance with said vote, the Board adjourned *sine die*.

Attest:

IRA BERRY, *Secretary*.

Regulations of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

ARTICLE I.

This 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.

ARTICLE IV.

If the applicant reside out of the Masonic District in which the Grand Lodge is holden, the application and certificate aforesaid, together with the merits of the case, shall be examined and approved by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the applicant resides; or by one of the permanent members of the Grand Lodge.

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.

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 and Grand Secretary, or a majority of them.

A true copy from the Record of Regulations and Votes.

Attest:

IRA BERRY, *Sec'y of Board of Trustees.*

LIST OF LODGES BY DISTRICTS.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 72 Pioneer, Dalton. | 130 Trinity, Presque Isle. |
| 96 Monument, Houlton. | 165 Molunkus, Sherman. |
| 98 Katahdin, Patten. | 170 Caribou, Lyndon. |
| 112 Eastern Frontier, Fort Fairfield. | 175 Baskahegan, Danforth. |

DISTRICT NO. 2.

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7 Eastern, Eastport. | 78 Crescent, Pembroke. |
| 37 Washington, Lubec. | 138 Lewy's Island, Princeton. |
| 46 St. Croix, Calais. | |

DISTRICT NO. 3.

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|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2 Warren, East Machias. | 106 Tuscan, Addison Point. |
| 88 Narraguagus, Cherryfield. | 131 Lookout, Cutler. |
| 91 Harwood, Machias. | 173 Pleiades, Millbridge. |

DISTRICT NO. 4.

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4 Hancock, Castine. | 128 Eggemoggin, Sedgwick. |
| 19 Felicity, Bucksport. | 140 Mount Desert, Mount Desert. |
| 40 Lygonia, Ellsworth. | 159 Esoteric, Ellsworth. |
| 71 Rising Sun, Orland. | 171 Naskeag, Brooklin. |
| 77 Tremont, Tremont. | 177 Rising Star, Penobscot. |
| 122 Marine, Deer Isle. | |

DISTRICT NO. 5.

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 39 Penobscot, Dexter. | 149 Doric, Monson. |
| 44 Piscataquis, Milo. | 157 Cambridge, Cambridge. |
| 52 Mosaic, Foxcroft. | 160 Parian, Corinna. |
| 64 Pacific, Exeter. | 163 Pleasant River, Brownville. |
| 109 Mount Kineo, Abbot. | 168 Composite, La Grange. |
| 124 Olive Branch, Charleston. | |

DISTRICT NO. 6.

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|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 10 Rising Virtue, Bangor. | 93 Horeb, Lincoln. |
| 49 Meridian Splendor, Newport. | 137 Kenduskeag, Kenduskeag. |
| 60 Star in the East, Oldtown. | 139 Archon, East Dixmont. |
| 65 Mystic, Hampden. | 148 Forest, Springfield. |
| 66 Mechanics, Orono. | 172 Pine Tree, Mattawamkeag. |
| 83 St. Andrew's, Bangor. | 174 Lynde, Hermon. |
| 87 Benevolent, Carmel. | |

DISTRICT NO. 7.

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 45 Central, <i>China</i> . | 111 Liberty, <i>Liberty</i> . |
| 58 Unity, <i>Thorndike</i> . | 129 Quantabacook, <i>Searsmont</i> . |
| 75 Plymouth, <i>Plymouth</i> . | 134 Trojan, <i>Troy</i> . |
| 85 Star in the West, <i>Unity</i> . | 140 Seabasticook, <i>Clinton</i> . |
| 102 Marsh River, <i>Brooks</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 8.

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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 24 Phoenix, <i>Belfast</i> . | 89 Island, <i>Islesboro'</i> . |
| 62 King David's, <i>Lincolnton</i> . | 119 Pownal, <i>Stockton</i> . |
| 68 Mariners', <i>Searsport</i> . | 126 Timothy Chase, <i>Belfast</i> . |
| 69 Howard, <i>Winterport</i> . | 151 Excelsior, <i>Northport</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 9.

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| 6 Amity, <i>Camden</i> . | 59 Mount Hope, <i>Hope</i> . |
| 15 Orient, <i>Thomaston</i> . | 79 Rockland, <i>Rockland</i> . |
| 16 St. George, <i>Warren</i> . | 82 St Paul's, <i>Rockport</i> . |
| 31 Union, <i>Union</i> . | 84 Eureka, <i>St. George</i> . |
| 50 Aurora, <i>Rockland</i> . | 145 Moses Webster, <i>Vinalhaven</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 10.

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| 3 Lincoln, <i>Wiscasset</i> . | 120 Meduncook, <i>Friendship</i> . |
| 43 Alna, <i>Damariscotta</i> . | 135 Riverside, <i>Jefferson</i> . |
| 61 King Solomon's, <i>Waldoboro'</i> . | 144 Seaside, <i>Boothbay</i> . |
| 74 Bristol, <i>Bristol</i> . | 158 Anchor, <i>South Bristol</i> . |
| 103 Dresden, <i>Dresden</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 11.

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 5 Kennebec, <i>Hallowell</i> . | 104 Dirigo, <i>South China</i> . |
| 25 Temple, <i>Winthrop</i> . | 110 Monmouth, <i>North Monmouth</i> . |
| 32 Hermon, <i>Gardiner</i> . | 136 Ionic, <i>Gardiner</i> . |
| 35 Bethlehem, <i>Augusta</i> . | 141 Augusta, <i>Augusta</i> . |
| 41 Morning Star, <i>Litchfield</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 12.

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| 33 Waterville, <i>Waterville</i> . | 108 Relief, <i>Belgrade</i> . |
| 48 Lafayette, <i>Readfield</i> . | 113 Messalonskee, <i>West Waterville</i> . |
| 53 Rural, <i>Sidney</i> . | 133 Asylum, <i>Wayne</i> . |
| 64 Vassalboro', <i>North Vassalboro'</i> . | 116 Neguemkeag, <i>Vassalboro'</i> . |
| 99 Vernon Valley, <i>Mt. Vernon</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 13.

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| 28 Northern Star, <i>North Anson</i> . | 116 Lebanon, <i>Norridgewock</i> . |
| 34 Somerset, <i>Skowhegan</i> . | 123 Franklin, <i>New Sharon</i> . |
| 80 Keystone, <i>Solon</i> . | 125 Meridian, <i>Pittsfield</i> . |
| 92 Siloam, <i>Fairfield</i> . | 161 Carrabassett, <i>Canaan</i> . |
| 95 Corinthian, <i>Hartland</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 14.

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|---------------------------------|---|
| 8 United, <i>Brunswick</i> . | 114 Polar Star, <i>Bath</i> . |
| 14 Solar, <i>Bath</i> . | 121 Acacia, <i>Durham</i> . |
| 26 Village, <i>Bowdoinham</i> . | 155 Ancient York, <i>Lisbon Falls</i> . |
| 63 Richmond, <i>Richmond</i> . | 164 Webster, <i>Webster</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 15.

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| 20 Maine, <i>Farmington.</i> | 150 Rabboni, <i>Lewiston.</i> |
| 21 Oriental Star, <i>Livermore.</i> | 154 Mystic Tie, <i>Weld.</i> |
| 29 Tranquil, <i>Auburn.</i> | 156 Wilton, <i>Wilton.</i> |
| 67 Blue Mountain, <i>Phillips.</i> | 167 Whitney, <i>Canton.</i> |
| 101 Nezinscot, <i>Turner.</i> | 178 Ancient Brothers', <i>Auburn.</i> |
| 105 Ashlar, <i>Lewiston.</i> | 181 Reuel Washburn, <i>Livermore Falls.</i> |
| 147 Evening Star, <i>Buckfield.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 16.

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 18 Oxford, <i>Norway.</i> | 97 Bethel, <i>Bethel.</i> |
| 30 Blazing Star, <i>Rumford.</i> | 100 Jefferson, <i>Bryant's Pond.</i> |
| 57 King Hiram, <i>Dixfield.</i> | 132 Mount Tire'm, <i>Watersford.</i> |
| 73 Tyrian, <i>Mechanic Falls.</i> | 152 Crooked River, <i>Otisfield.</i> |
| 94 Paris, <i>South Paris.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 17.

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| 1 Portland, <i>Portland.</i> | 70 Standish, <i>Standish.</i> |
| 12 Cumberland, <i>New Gloucester.</i> | 81 Atlantic, <i>Portland.</i> |
| 17 Ancient Land-Mark, <i>Portland.</i> | 86 Temple, <i>Saccarappa.</i> |
| 23 Freeport, <i>Freeport.</i> | 127 Presumpscot, <i>Windham.</i> |
| 36 Casco, <i>Yarmouth.</i> | 180 Hiram, <i>Cape Elizabeth.</i> |
| 38 Harmony, <i>Gorham.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 18.

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| 11 Pythagorean, <i>Fryeburg.</i> | 107 Day Spring, <i>Newfield.</i> |
| 13 Oriental, <i>Bridgton.</i> | 117 Greenleaf, <i>Cornish.</i> |
| 27 Adoniram, <i>Limington.</i> | 118 Drummond, <i>Parsonsfield.</i> |
| 42 Freedom, <i>Limerick.</i> | 153 Delta, <i>Lovell.</i> |
| 56 Mount Moriah, <i>Denmark.</i> | 169 Shepherd's River, <i>Brownfield.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 19.

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| 9 Saco, <i>Saco.</i> | 115 Buxton, <i>Buxton.</i> |
| 22 York, <i>Kennebunk.</i> | 142 Ocean, <i>Wells.</i> |
| 47 Dunlap, <i>Biddeford.</i> | 143 Preble, <i>Sanford.</i> |
| 51 St. John's, <i>South Berwick.</i> | 162 Arion, <i>Lyman.</i> |
| 65 Fraternal, <i>Alfred.</i> | 176 Palestine, <i>Biddeford.</i> |
| 76 Arundel, <i>Kennebunkport.</i> | 179 Yorkshire, <i>North Berwick.</i> |



OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE, 1877.

M. W.	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Saco.
R. W.	CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Bangor.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Portland.
"	S. J. CHADBOURNE,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	East Dixmont.
"	MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland.
"	IRA BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
"	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Bath.
"	CALVIN B. ROBERTS,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Caribou.
"	E. HOWARD VOSE,	" 2d "	Calais.
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	" 3d "	Machias.
"	DAVID W. WEBSTER,	" 4th "	Castine.
"	DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR.,	" 5th "	Dexter.
"	MANLY G. TRASK,	" 6th "	Bangor.
"	JOHN H. GORDON,	" 7th "	Brooks.
"	GEORGE L. MERRILL,	" 8th "	Searsport.
"	CLARK D. SMALLEY,	" 9th "	Rockland.
"	ALMORE KENNEDY,	" 10th "	Waldoboro.
"	GEORGE P. HASKELL,	" 11th "	Augusta.
"	R. WESLEY DUNN,	" 12th "	Waterville.
"	SIMON S. BROWN,	" 13th "	Fairfield.
"	SIMEON STONE,	" 14th "	Lisbon Falls.
"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	" 15th "	Lewiston.
"	ALDEN CHASE,	" 16th "	Bryant's Pond.
"	GEORGE W. DEERING,	" 17th "	Portland.
"	SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	" 18th "	Denmark.
"	JOHN S. DERBY,	" 19th "	Saco.
W. & Rev.	CHAS. C. MASON,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Kent's Hill.
"	CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "	Kennebunk.
"	WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "	Portland.
"	J. R. BOWLER,	" "	Rockland.
"	L. P. FRENCH,	" "	Solon.
"	CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "	Augusta.
"	H. C. MUNSON,	" "	Skowhegan.
"	A. J. MCLEOD,	" "	Waldoboro.
W.	BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Portland.
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon,</i>	Gardiner.
"	ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
"	ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Camden.
"	AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "	East Machias.
"	CHARLES E. WELD,	" "	West Buxton.
"	W. R. G. ESTES,	" "	Skowhegan.
"	H. H. BURBANK,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Saco.
"	WM. H. SMITH,	<i>G. Standard Bearer,</i>	Portland.
"	LEVI W. SMITH,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Vinalhaven.
"	MOSES W. EMERY,	" "	Sanford.
"	TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	<i>Grand Lecturer,</i>	Portland.
"	GEORGE M. HOWE,	<i>Grand Organist,</i>	Portland.
Bro.	WARREN PHILLIPS,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

LIST OF SUBORDINATE LODGES, WITH THEIR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS,

AS RETURNED MARCH 1, 1877.

- Acacia, 121, Durham. Charles M. Harding, m; Elbridge O. Tyler, sw; Joseph H. Davis, jw; Alfred Lunt, South Durham, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1863. 14
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. Charles E. Chick, m; Ira M. Berry, sw; Joshua W. Small, jw; James B. Tufts, South Limington, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered September 10, 1818. 18
- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. Charles W. Stetson, m; J. Fred. Sumner, sw; Geo. W. Oliver, jw; William A. Jones, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered January 21, 1823. 10
- Amity, 6, Camden. Nathan P. Beverage, m; Thomas C. Atwick, sw; Leander M. Kenniston, jw; Fred. M. Richards, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon each month; election, January; chartered March 10, 1801. 9
- Anchor, 158, South Bristol. Llewellyn S. Gamage, m; Alonzo A. Otis, sw; Ambrose Foster, jw; George C. Farrar, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1870. 10
- Ancient Brothers', 178, Auburn. Albert M. Penley, m; Milton J. Loring, sw; George Parker, jw; Edwin T. Stevens, s. Meeting third Tuesday of each month; election, October; chartered June 21, 1875. 15
- Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. Henry F. Perry, m; William W. Roberts, sw; C. J. Farrington, jw; George L. Swett, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, December; chartered June 10, 1806. 17
- Ancient York, 155, Lisbon Falls. Samuel J. White, m; William S. Cotton, Jr., sw; George W. Gould, jw; George B. Shorey, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 4, 1870. 14
- Archon, 139, East Dixmont. George R. Thurlow, m; Benjamin F. Porter, sw; Samuel F. Mansur, jw; Amos Whitney, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 8, 1867. 6
- Arion, 162, Goodwin's Mills. Cyrus W. Murphy, m; Leonard C. Walker, sw; James W. Smith, jw; Samuel C. Gilpatric, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered May 9, 1872. 19

- Arundel, 76, Kennebunkport. Charles H. Goodwin, m; Charles Tripp, sw; Horace L. Goodwin, jw; Seth E. Bryant, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered June 26, 1854. 19
- Ashlar, 105, Lewiston. George H. Benson, m; Fred B. Sands, sw; Levander N. Tarbox, jw; John Winn, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered November 5, 1860. 15
- Asylum, 133, Wayne. Charles E. Wing, m; J. F. Gordon, sw; George Johnson, jw; Chandler F. Cobb, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, September; chartered May 9, 1867. 12
- Atlantic, 81, Portland. George R. Shaw, m; Richard K. Gatley, sw; Algernon D. Pearson, jw; Alpheus G. Rogers, s. Meeting third Wednesday in every month; election, December; chartered May 3, 1855. 17
- Augusta, 141, Augusta. Edwin C. Dudley, m; Charles C. Hunt, sw; Charles A. Curtis, jw; Elisha F. Blackman, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, January; chartered March 21, 1867. 11
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. Caleb G. Moffitt, m; Erastus B. Bragg, sw; Nathan Wiggan, jw; Enoch Davies, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, January; chartered July 18, 1826. 9
- Baskahegan, 175, Danforth. William B. Fenlason, m; Varney W. Putnam, sw; John H. Sargent, jw; Joel Foss, s. Meeting Thursday on or next before full moon; election, October; instituted December 3, 1874. 1
- Benevolent, 87, Carmel. Charles H. Kimball, m; Charles F. Kimball, sw; Stillman H. Friend, jw; Israel W. Johnson, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1857. 6
- Bethel, 97, Bethel. Jarvis C. Billings, m; D. Webster Towne, sw; G. Weston Haskell, jw; Leander T. Barker, s. Meeting second Thursday in each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1860. 16
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Edward F. Beals, m; Charles H. Brick, sw; H. A. B. Chandler, jw; J. W. Clapp, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, November; chartered 1821. 11
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford Centre. Florus H. Bartlett, m; Winfield S. Howe, sw; Henry B. Smith, jw; Cyrus P. Eaton, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 11, 1819. 16
- Blue Mountain, 67, Phillips. Bartholomew T. Parker, m; Willard M. Chandler, sw; James Morrison, Jr., jw; Oscar Sweet, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, November; chartered July 20, 1850. 15
- Bristol, 74, Bristol. James H. Varney, m; John C. Chamberlain, sw; Moses M. Rhodes, jw; Wait K. Weston, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered March 1, 1853. 10
- *Buxton, 115, West Buxton. Cyril P. Harmon, m; Willis Crockett, sw; Samuel L. Donnell, jw; James Meserve, s. Meeting Monday evening on or next before full moon in each month; election, January; chartered March 18, 1863. 19
- Cambridge, 157, Cambridge. Andrew W. Ham, m; John W. Cole, sw; Ira H. Horne, jw; Charles C. Hale, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1870. 5
- Caribou, 170, Lyndon. George M. Emery, m; Robert McCubrey, sw; Edward J. Fenderson, jw; Alonzo W. Boynton, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon in each month; election, December; chartered July 27, 1872. 1
- Carrabassett, 161, Canaan. George W. Johnson, m; Asa H. Tozier, sw; Noah Ricker, jw; Henry Ricker, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Tuesday in October; chartered March 2, 1871. 13

- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Albert Gooding, m; Monroe Stoddard, sw; Lorenzo L. Shaw, jw; Lewis Gurney, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered October 14, 1821. 17
- Central, 45, China; Lynn W. Rollins, m; Ora O. Crosby, sw; William S. Hunnewell, jw; Willis W. Washburn, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before each full moon; election, September; chartered April 8, 1824. 7
- Composite, 168, LaGrange. Marcellus Nason, m; Frank G. Perkins, sw; Andrew H. Dyer, jw; Osmer Kenney, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 9, 1872. 5
- Corinthian, 95, Hartland. Harris Pushor, m; Thomas Walker, sw; John O. Rowell, jw; Joseph P. Folsom, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 15, 1859. 13
- Crescent, 78, Pembroke. George K. Hatch, m; J. A. Leighton, sw; Duncan L. McIntosh, jw; A. G. Levy, s. Meeting first Wednesday in the month; election, December; chartered July 10, 1856. 2
- Crooked River, 152, Bolster's Mills. Oscar V. Edwards, m; Moses E. Hall, sw; William H. Tenney, jw; Alpheus B. Lovewell, s. Meeting Thursday on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered April 15, 1869. 16
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Ozias M. Goff, m; John I. Sturgis, sw; Joseph M. Poole, jw; George H. Goding, Danville, s. Meeting Saturday before full moon; election, November; chartered June 13, 1803. 17
- Day Spring, 107, West Newfield. Charles F. Goodwin, m; Frank Chellis, sw; George H. Straw, jw; Nathan N. Loud, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before the full moon; election, September; chartered May 9, 1861. 18
- Delta, 153, Lovell. Augustus N. French, m; James E. Farrington, sw; Eben N. Fox, jw; Marshall Walker, s. Meeting second Thursday of each month; election, December; chartered May 5, 1869. 18
- Dirigo, 104, Weeks's Mills. D. P. Bolster, m; O. F. Rowe, sw; H. S. Gray, jw; O. F. Sproul, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 12, 1860. 11
- Doric, 149, Monson. Albert F. Jackson, m; Alfred S. Bray, sw; Alvin Gray, jw; Edwin R. Haynes, s. Meeting Monday on or after full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1868. 5
- Dresden, 103, Dresden. Woodbury F. Mayers, m; George W. Palmer, sw; Washington F. Lilly, jw; Edward H. Barker, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 9, 1861. 10
- Drummond, 118, North Parsonfield. Ruthven J. Dearborn, m; John Neal, sw; John U. Parsons, jw; W. Scott Young, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered May 7, 1863. 18
- Dunlap, 47, Biddeford. Edwin A. Coffin, m; Edwin Stone, sw; Nahum S. Drowns, jw; Tristram Hanson, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered January 13, 1826. 19
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. William H. Clark, m; W. J. Fisher, sw; Henry H. Wadsworth, jw; Noel B. Nutt, s. Meeting first Monday in the month; election, December 27th; chartered June 8, 1801. 2
- Eastern Frontier, 112, Fort Fairfield. Samuel E. Jewett, m; Charles W. Johnston, sw; Enoch Ginn, jw; Jerre F. Hacker, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1863. 1
- Eggemoggin, 128, Sedgwick. Hiram B. Harding, m; Austin H. Dority, sw; Moses E. Friend, jw; Eben B. Smith, s. Meeting second Monday of each month; election, January; chartered March 1, 1865. 4

- Esoteric, 159, Ellsworth. Arthur W. Greely, m; William F. Emerson, sw; Francis A. Macomber, jw; Edward F. Robinson, s. Meeting first Friday of each month; election, December; chartered September 3, 1870. 4
- Eureka, 84, St. George. Charles G. Crocker, m; Patrick P. Robinson, sw; Enoch R. Clark, jw; Horace F. Marshall, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 2, 1855. 9
- Evening Star, 147, Buckfield. George D. Bisbee, m; James H. DeCoster, sw; A. C. Tubbs, jw; Charles R. Whitten, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 7, 1868. 15
- Excelsior, 151, Northport. Oscar Hills, m; Isaac Crockett, sw; Joseph L. Witherly, jw; Wm. A. Pendleton, s. Meeting Wednesday before full moon; election, December; chartered March 1, 1869. 8
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Guy W. McAlister, m; Wesley Lockhart, sw; Adelbert G. Webster, jw; Edwin P. Hill, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered March 14, 1809. 4
- Forest, 148, Springfield. Lloyd W. Drake, m; Abel A. Blanchard, sw; Wm. H. Murdock, jw; J. A. Larrabee, s. Meeting Saturday on or before the full moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1868. 6
- Franklin, 123, New Sharon. Jabez S. Mooars, m; W.W. Narerof, sw; Sam'l F. Howes, jw; J. L. Harding, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 3, 1865. 13
- Fraternal, 55, Alfred. Alonzo Leavitt, m; Marcus W. Towne, sw; Asa L. Ricker, jw; Silas Derby, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered January 10, 1828. 19
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. Edwin A. Sadler, m; Charles B. Hasty, sw; Frank Nason, jw; Fred W. Libby, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered January 11, 1823. 18
- Freeport, 23, Freeport. O. H. Briggs, m; E. S. Soule, sw; W. F. Bennett, jw; G. P. Soule, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1845. 17
- Greenleaf, 117, Cornish. Preston Durgin, m; Charles C. O'Brien, sw; Geo. F. Merrill, jw; Roscoe G. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 4, 1863. 18
- Hancock, 4, Castine. George A. Wheeler, m; Edward F. Davies, sw; John Collins, jw; Isaiah L. Shepherd, s. Meeting first Thursday in each month; election, December; chartered June 9, 1794. 4
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. Kimball Eastman, m; L. C. Harmon, sw; W. F. Clements, jw; John G. Watson, s. Meeting Wednesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered January 22, 1822. 17
- Harwood, 91, Machias. Leander H. Crane, m; Trescott Lawrence, sw; Wm. G. Stone, jw; Eliphalet S. Means, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered April 8, 1858. 3
- Hermion, 32, Gardiner. Henry S. Webster, m; George L. Towle, sw; Evander G. Snow, jw; LaRoy W. Goodspeed, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, January; chartered June 23, 1820. 11
- Hiram, 180, Cape Elizabeth. Gordon R. Garden, m; Eben N. Perry, sw; Hiram Ellis, jw; William Atwood, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered November 1, 1875. 17
- Horeb, 93, Lincoln. Luna B. Batchelder, m; Thomas W. Porter, sw; Orrick H. Wakefield, jw; James M. Adams, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Monday in December; chartered June 5, 1858. 6

- Howard, 69, Winterport. James Freeman, m; Albert B. Clark, sw; Charles E. Jones, jw; Luther D. Curtis, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May, 1852. 8
- Ionic, 136, Gardiner. Benj. S. Smith, m; Philip H. Winslow, sw; Weston Lewis, jw; Barrett A. Cox, s. Meeting first Monday of each month; election, January; chartered May 9, 1867. 11
- Island, 89, Islesboro'. James F. Grindle, m; Edward Coombs, sw; Winfield S. Pendleton, jw; Daniel A. Hatch, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered November 5, 1857. 8
- Jefferson, 100, Bryant's Pond. Horace C. Berry, m; James L. Bowker, sw; William H. Pearsons, jw; Albert C. Bolster, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 8, 1860. 16
- Katahdin, 98, Patten. Jacob Sanders, m; Oliver Cobb, sw; William B. Mitchell, jw; Charles C. Perry, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered August 24, 1859. 1
- Kenduskeag, 137, Kenduskeag. Charles H. Sleeper, m; William C. Spratt, sw; William K. Nason, jw; Crosby Clements, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1860. 6
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. H. L. Grindall, m; E. W. Whitcomb, sw; W. F. Gilman, jw; Orlando Currier, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered March 17, 1796. 11
- Keystone, 80, Solon. Alonzo Moore, m; Luther P. French, sw; Thaddeus F. Boothby, jw; Turner Buswell, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 4, 1855. 13
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Henry A. Peirce, m; Robert W. Perry, sw; Henry W. Duncan, jw; David Howe, s. Meeting Tuesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered January 13, 1850. 8
- King Hiram, 57, Dixfield. Lamont C. Willoughby, m; Daniel F. Newton, sw; John S. Swett, jw; John F. Stanley, s. Meeting Tuesday on or after full moon; election, October; chartered April 10, 1828. 16
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro'. C. P. Redman, m; J. K. Willet, sw; C. E. Palmer, jw; Augustine Kennedy, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December 27th; chartered May 4, 1849. 10
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. J. Eugene Lewis, m; George A. Russell, sw; Sewall J. Hawes, jw; Fred. E. Beane, s. Meeting first Saturday in each month; election, February; chartered May 20, 1850. 12
- Lebanon, 116, Norridgewock. Seth H. Willard, m; Plummer H. Butler, sw; George H. Baston, jw; Edward C. Hale, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered April 30, 1863. 13
- Lewy's Island, 138, Princeton. Joseph S. Farrar, m; Andrew J. Deuplizia, sw; Reuben J. Crafts, jw; Charles A. Rolf, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, December, St. John's Day; chartered May 8, 1867. 2
- Liberty, 111, Liberty. James Leeman, m; Gustavus H. Cargill, sw; Hanson T. Gove, jw; Ambrose P. Cargill, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 8, 1862. 7
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Edwin Farnham, m; T. Carlton Dole, sw; Isaac G. Williamson, sw; Joseph W. Taggart, s. Meeting Thursday evening on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 19, 1792. 10
- Lookout, 131, Cutler. Alex. D. Ross, m; Isaac Wilder, sw; Moses B. Stevens, jw; Alden Z. Cates, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1866. 3

- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. John B. Redman, m; Carlton McGown, sw; Edmund McFarland, jw; Levi B. Wyman, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, January; chartered April 11, 1822. 4
- Lynde, 174, Hermon. J. W. Leathers, m; C. H. Patten, sw; Emery Morrill, jw; S. A. Smith, s. Meeting Saturday before the full moon each month; election, December; chartered May 7, 1874. 6
- Maine, 20, Farmington. George B. Cragin, m; Roliston Woodbury, sw; Hiram C. Barnard, jw; David H. Knowlton, s. Meeting Monday in week of full moon; election, October; chartered June 13, 1808. 15
- Marine, 122, Deer Isle. George H. Howard, m; John W. Green, sw; Charles H. M. Pressey, jw; Martin V. B. Green, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered March 18, 1864. 4
- Mariners', 68, Searsport. Jasper N. Nichols, m; Alvah M. Dutch, sw; Joseph A. Clements, jw; Henry A. Webber, s. Meeting Tuesday on before full moon; election, January; chartered May 10, 1853. 8
- Marsh River, 102, Brooks. David Brackett, m; Jeremiah Webb, sw; William C. Rowe, jw; Marcellus J. Dow, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before the full moon each month; election, December; chartered May 9, 1861. 7
- Mechanics', 66, Orono. Henry C. Powers, m; Edgar E. Ring, sw; William C. Taylor, jw; Albert J. Durgin, s. Meeting first Wednesday each month; election, December 27; chartered May 12, 1851. 6
- Meduncook, 120, Friendship. Albion Murphy, m; Frank A. Geyer, sw; Silas A. Morton, jw; Luther A. Marshall, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered February 6, 1864. 10
- Meridian, 125, Pittsfield. Charles E. Vickery, m; Llewellyn Parks, sw; G. W. Willis, jw; Albion Runnells, s. Meeting Friday evening on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1865. 13
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Nelson C. Smith, m; Wilbur H. Miles, sw; Charles H. Merrill, jw; Hollis J. Rowe, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 13, 1826. 6
- Messalonskee, 113, West Waterville. Charles Rowell, m; George W. Goulding, sw; Abraham Batchelder, jw; Louis Belanger, s. Meeting on the first Saturday of each month; election, December; chartered May 16, 1862. 12
- Molunkus, 165, Sherman Mills. Edward A. Cushman, m; James M. Emery, sw; James W. Washburn, jw; Geo. R. Blodgett, s. Meeting Tuesday on or last preceding full moon of each month; election, October; chartered August 26, 1871. 1
- Monmouth, 110, North Monmouth. J. Gordon, m; H. S. Gordon, sw; Benj. Ellis, jw; John W. Foss, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, September; chartered May 21, 1861. 11
- Monument, 96, Houlton. Sabine F. Berry, m; Henry B. Black, sw; George G. Bickford, jw; John H. Bradford, s. Meeting*second Wednesday of each month; election, March; chartered May 5, 1859. 1
- Morning Star, 41, Litchfield Corner. Cyrus Kendrick, m; Thomas Holmes, sw; William H. Dustin, jw; J. W. Starbird, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered July 11, 1822. 11
- Mosaic, 52, Foxcroft. Wm. T. Elliott, m; Simon B. Cilley, sw; Wainwright Cushing, jw; Elihu B. Averill, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 16, 1827. 5
- Moses Webster, 145, Vinalhaven. Chas. B. Vinal, m; Wm. L. Bowden, sw; Maruel Morsman, jw; Wm. W. Kittredge, s. Meeting second Tuesday each month; election, September; chartered January 13, 1868. 9

Mount Desert, 140, Mount Desert. Thaddeus S. Somes, m; Edwin C. Parker, sw; John J. Somes, jw; Lyman H. Somes, s. Meeting Saturday eve on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered May 8, 1867.

4

Mount Hope, 59, South Hope. Minot D. Hewitt, m; Asa P. StClair, sw; Henry H. Fogler, jw; Thaddeus Hastings, s. Meeting Wednesday before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1848.

9

Mount Kineo, 109, Abbot. Charles N. Rand, m; James A. Monroe, sw; Marcel L. Hussey, jw; Llewellyn S. Flint, s. Meeting Saturday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 8, 1862.

5

Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. Samuel D. McKusick, m; George S. Bucknell, sw; Albert F. Trumbull, jw; Dominicus G. Tarbox, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered January 23, 1828.

18

Mount Tire'm, 132, Waterford. William Douglass, m; Horace Maxfield, sw; Charles A. Allen, jw; Alfred S. Kimball, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before the full of the moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866.

16

Mystic, 65, Hampden. Erastus B. Thomas, m; George W. Smith, sw; Harrison Greeley, jw; Wm. E. Bogart, s. Meeting third Saturday of every month; election, December; chartered May 12, 1851.

6

Mystic Tie, 154, Weld. Samuel E. Perkins, m; Edwin B. Lufkin, sw; Lyman L. Jones, jw; M. Augustine Phillips, s. Meeting Tuesday of the week of full moon; election, December; chartered June 8, 1869.

15

Narraguagus, 88, Cherryfield. Edw'd C. Wakefield, m; Edw'd R. Wingate, sw; Lycurgus Wasgatt, jw; Geo. A. Herrick, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered May 28, 1857.

3

Naskeag, 171, Brooklin. Warren Wells, m; George B. Flye, sw; Judson L. Stanley, jw; George R. Allen, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, January; chartered May 8, 1873.

4

Neguemkeag, 166, Vassalboro'. Geo. W. Reynolds, m; Arioch Wentworth, sw; William S. Dutton, jw; Lucien A. Doe, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered December 22, 1871.

12

Nezinscot, 101, Turner. Sumner S. Merrill, m; Charles Blake, sw; John E. Ashe, jw; Roscoe Smith, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 3, 1860.

15

Northern Star, 28, North Anson. Benjamin Adams, m; Benjamin Mantor, sw; Charles C. Getchell, jw; Columbus S. Mantor, s. Meeting Tuesday on or next preceding full moon; election, December; chartered December 15, 1818.

13

Ocean, 142, Wells. Jere. G. Hall, m; Owen M. Davis, sw; Josiah L. Parsons, jw; Clement L. Mildram, s. Meeting Wednesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered March 22, 1867.

19

Olive Branch, 124, Charleston. J. Hovey Leason, m; G. W. Dunning, sw; Jos. Ellis, jw; O. L. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1865.

5

Orient, 15, Thomaston. Levi Morse, m; H. G. Copeland, sw; A. O. Robinson, jw; E. O. Cushing, s. Meeting first Tuesday in each month; election, January; chartered September 10, 1805.

9

Oriental, 13, Bridgton. Millard M. Caswell, m; Albert F. Richardson, sw; George H. Willard, jw; Micajah Gleason, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 12, 1804.

18

- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Ebenezer Humphrey, m; Charles T. Moulton, sw; Everett L. Philoon, jw; John Larrabee, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered June 11, 1811. 15
- Oxford, 18, Norway. Freeland Howe, m; John Garry, sw; George A. Cole, jw; James O. Crooker, s. Meeting Monday on or next before full moon; election, September; chartered September 14, 1807. 16
- Pacific, 64, Exeter. Justus H. Jackman, m; Joseph A. Clark, sw; Merritt Southard, jw; Charles E. Merriam, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon in each month; election, January; chartered May 12, 1851. 5
- Palestine, 176, Biddeford. Charles P. Emery, m; James F. Boardman, sw; Charles Y. Foss, jw; John Etchells, s. Meeting third Monday in each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1875. 19
- Parian, 160, Corinna. Robert Knowles, m; W. W. Nutter, sw; Samuel Fowles, jw; Jno. S. Burrill, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered September 9, 1870. 5
- Paris, 94, South Paris. Geo. W. Hammond, m; Elisha F. Stone, sw; David I. Black, jw; Freeman T. Crommett, s. Meeting Tuesday on or preceding full moon; election, December, St. John's Day; chartered May 5, 1859. 16
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Alton P. Fassett, m; William H. Dustin, sw; Joseph S. Campbell, jw; Newell H. Bates, s. Meeting Monday on or next before each full moon; election, December; chartered January 24, 1822. 5
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Everett S. Carter, m; Jed. C. Cates, sw; Alfred A. Small, jw; Russell G. Dyer, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered February 9, 1816. 8
- Pine Tree, 172, Mattawamkeag. Alexander McClain, m; Danyille S. Chadbourne, sw; Charles O. Libbey, jw; George W. Smith, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1874. 6
- Pioneer, 72, Ashland. Leroy C. Dorman, m; Washington Hawes, sw; Angus Young, jw; Ebn R. McKay, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, March; chartered May 5, 1854. 1
- Piscataquis, 44, Milo. James M. Palmer, m; Orrin Hamlin, sw; Lambert Sands, jw; William P. Young, s. Meeting Friday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered October 23, 1823. 5
- Pleasant River, 163, Brownville. Edward P. Fifield, m; Moses W. Brown, sw; Elmer H. Poole, jw; Fred. M. Morrill, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, November; chartered July 28, 1871. 5
- Pleiades, 173, Millbridge. George Googins, m; Vinal D. Wass, sw; Fred. Dyer, jw; Andrew R. Perkins, s. Meeting Monday; election, January; chartered May 6, 1874. 3
- Plymouth, 75, Plymouth. Orin Thorn, m; William H. Conant, sw; William Harris, jw; Clarendon Butman, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1854. 7
- Polar Star, 114, Bath. Edwin M. Fuller, m; George F. Stacy, sw; James T. Reed, jw; Frank Brown, s. Meeting second Wednesday of each month; election, March; chartered March 7, 1863. 14
- Portland, 1, Portland. George L. Bailey, m; John H. Hall, sw; William N. Prince, jw; Convers O. Leach, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, November; chartered March 20, 1762. 17
- Pownal, 119, Stockton. Samuel H. West, m; Edward Partridge, sw; Simon B. Littlefield, jw; Warren F. Griffin, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, January; chartered July 4, 1863. 8

- Preble, 143, Sanford. George E. Allen, m; Edwin S. Wright, sw; Gilbert G. Littlefield, jw; Louis B. Goodall, s. Meeting Monday on or next before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1868. 19
- Presumpscot, 127, Windham. E. A. Plummer, m; Calvin Morrell, sw; Lorenzo D. King, jw; Cornelius N. Morrell, s. Meeting Saturday evening on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866. 17
- Pythagorean, 11, Fryeburg. Frank Y. Bradley, m; Wyman H. Jones, sw; Thomas S. Pike, jw; Seth W. Fife, s. Meeting Monday on or after full moon; election, December; chartered June 13, 1803. 18
- Quantabacook, 129, Searsmont. Alexander Cooper, m; Charles M. Cunningham, sw; Ira A. Cammett, jw; Otis D. Wilson, s. Meeting first Saturday in each month; election, October; chartered May 3, 1866. 7
- Rabboni, 150, Lewiston. George G. Hartwell, m; Oscar G. Douglass, sw; Fred. Kelly, jw; Hernando N. Emery, s. Meeting Wednesday succeeding full moon; election, September; chartered December 28, 1868. 15
- Relief, 108, Belgrade. Benjamin F. Mitchell, m; Asa W. Robinson, sw; Charles H. Lovejoy, jw; James C. Mosher, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 8, 1862. 12
- Reuel Washburn, 181, Livermore Falls. Levi H. Daggett, m; Wm. H. Wood, sw; Dr. A. G. French, jw; Geo. O. Eustis, s. Meeting second Wednesday of month; chartered May 4, 1876. 15
- Richmond, 63, Richmond. Geo. B. Randlette, m; Albion J. Drew, sw; William H. Whitney, jw; Ambrose P. Jewett, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, October; chartered May 10, 1860. 14
- Rising Star, 177, Penobscot. Benjamin H. Cushman, m; E. R. Bowden, sw; F. M. Clement, jw; I. P. Grindal, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, November; chartered June 17, 1875. 4
- Rising Sun, 71, Orland. Asa Conary, m; Hudson Saunders, sw; Aaron G. Page, jw; James C. Saunders, s. Meeting first Tuesday in each month; election, December; chartered October 18, 1852. 4
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Clarence L. Dakin, m; William H. Thompson, sw; Charles York, jw; Charles I. Collamore, s. Meeting last Tuesday in each month; election, December; chartered September 16, 1802. 6
- Riverside, 135, East Jefferson. E. B. Benner, m; L. M. Staples, sw; Geo. C. Pitcher, jw; S. H. Bond, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered March 13, 1866. 10
- Rockland, 79, Rockland. Edwin T. G. Rawson, m; Henry E. Hutcheson, sw; Charles L. Lothrop, jw; Edgar A. Burpee, s. Meeting first Tuesday eve of each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1855. 9
- Rural, 53, Sidney. Adelbert H. Bailey, m; Charles T. Hamlen, sw; James F. Warren, jw; Ambrose Sawtelle, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered July 25, 1827. 12
- Saco, 9, Saco. Stephen G. Dorman, m; Winfield S. Dennett, sw; Melville M. Ridlon, jw; George A. Emery, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, June; chartered June 16, 1802. 19
- St. Andrew's, 83, Bangor. George Lansil, m; Aug. B. Farnham, sw; George L. Wentworth, jw; Arlington B. Marston, s. Meeting last Friday in each month; election, December; chartered February 6, 1856. 6
- St. Croix, 46, Calais. Alexander Milligan, m; Charles A. McCollough, sw; William Parrott, jw; Stephen D. Morrell, s. Meeting first Monday each month; election, December, St. John's day; chartered May 29, 1845. 2

- St. George, 16, Warren. Hilliard W. Robinson, m; John R. Andrews, sw; Warren Morse, Jr., jw; U. H. Hovey, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 10, 1806. 9
- St. John's, 51, South Berwick. George H. Wakefield, m; A. Grafton Nealley, sw; Isaac B. George, jw; George H. Muzzey, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, May; chartered February 13, 1827. 19
- St. Paul's, 82, Rockport. Joseph F. Morton, m; Andrew J. Morton, sw; William F. Hopkins, jw; John S. Fuller, s. Meeting Monday evening on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 2, 1856. 9
- Sea Side, 144, Boothbay. William I. Adams, m; James F. Dunton, sw; J. C. Pool, jw; Freeman Boynton, s. Meeting Friday before the full moon; election, December; chartered October 7, 1867. 10
- Sebastiecook, 146, Clinton. David S. Wardwell, m; Fred. W. Hatch, sw; Simon W. Baker, jw; Alpheus Rowell, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered February 3, 1868. 7
- Shepherd's River, 169, Brownfield. Charles H. Fogg, m; D. D. Meserve, sw; Andrew Martin, jw; S. B. Bean, s. Meeting Saturday of each month, on or before full moon; election, June; chartered July 1, 1872. 18
- Siloam, 92, Fairfield. Thomas B. Brown, m; Charles A. Ward, sw; George L. Leeman, jw; A. H. Duren, s. Meeting Thursday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered March 8, 1858. 13
- Solar, 14, Bath. W. Scott Shorey, m; John H. Stantial, sw; John R. Knowlton, jw; J. Lufkin Douglas, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered September 10, 1804. 14
- Somerset, 34, Showhegan. George W. Nash, m; Albert R. Smiley, sw; William Tucker, jw; Charles M. Lambert, s. Meeting Monday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered January 11, 1821. 13
- Standish, 70, Standish. Alanson M. Rich, m; Orville S. Sanborn, sw; Ansel Hawkes, jw; John D. Higgins, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 5, 1858. 17
- Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. Asa T. Wing, m; Edgar B. Weeks, sw; Stephen C. Morse, jw; Charles A. Bailey, s. Meeting Monday on or next preceding full of the moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1848. 6
- Star in the West, 85, Unity. Richard Whitten, m; Warren Jones, sw; Reuel S. Ward, jw; Gorham Hamilton, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 24, 1856. 7
- Temple, 25, Winthrop. Wm. E. Whitman, m; C. S. Kimball, sw; Ronald C. McIlroy, jw; Wallace R. White, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered October 6, 1817. 11
- Temple, 86, Saccarappa. Edward H. Sampson, m; Adelbert Chute, sw; Archelaus Batchelder, jw; Stephen A. Cordwell, s. Meeting Wednesday evening of the week in which the moon is full; election, December; chartered May 6, 1856. 17
- Timothy Chase, 126, Belfast. Andrew E. Clark, m; Joseph C. Townsend, sw; Robert P. Chase, jw; Jones E. Davis, s. Meeting first Thursday each month; election, January; chartered May 3, 1805. 8
- Tranquil, 29, Auburn. John B. Jordan, m; Henry D. Donovan, sw; Algeron M. Roak, jw; James F. Atwood, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 20, 1847. 15
- Tremont, 77, Tremont. Danforth P. Mareyes, m; William Stanley, sw; Nathan Clark, jw; John T. R. Freeman, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1856. 4

- Trinity, 130, Presque Isle. John F. Dyer, m; Charles M. Spooner, sw; Jas. F. Barto, jw; Asahel H. DeWitt, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 17, 1865. 1
- Trojan, 134, Heald's Corner, Troy. Joseph P. Sturgis, m; William F. Mitchell, sw; Timothy W. Hawes, jw; William E. Dorman, West Troy, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered February 19, 1866. 7
- Tuscan, 106, Addison Point. Christopher Curtis, m; William A. Sawyer, sw; Benj. F. Cleaves, jw; Amasa D. Tracy, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 9, 1861. 3
- Tyrian, 73, Mechanic Falls. John Richardson, m; Edward F. Stevens, sw; John F. Briggs, jw; Edward F. Edgecomb, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, October; chartered May 10, 1853. 16
- Union, 31, Union. Wm. A. Albee, m; Aaron D. Wiley, sw; Oscar A. Bartlett, jw; Cyrus R. Morton, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered April 8, 1820. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. Daniel E. Fuller, m; Benjamin F. Morse, sw; Charles J. Gilman, jw; L. H. Stover, s. Meeting third Tuesday evening on or next preceding full moon; election, December; chartered December 14, 1801. 14
- Unity, 58, Thorndike. Joseph C. Whitney, m; Addison B. Sparrow, sw; William L. Busher, jw; Wm. F. White, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election January; chartered May 6, 1803. 7
- Vassalboro', 54, North Vassalboro'. Warren A. Evans, m; Thomas Williams, sw; Orrick Hawes, jw; Thomas Ballantine, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 31, 1827. 12
- Vernon Valley, 99, Mount Vernon. Charles H. Severi, m; Augustus F. Smart, sw; George McGaffey, jw; Silas Burbank, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered May 3, 1860. 12
- Village, 26, Bowdoinham. Samuel Donnell, m; Silas Adams, sw; William H. Wood, jw; Benj. L. Higgins, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered June 9, 1817. 14
- Warren, 2, East Machias. Austin F. Kingsley, m; George D. Cosseboom, sw; William Rushton, jw; Lewis S. Cary, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon, election, December 27; chartered September 10, 1778. 3
- Washington, 37, Lubec. Alfred Small, m; Emilus W. Brown, sw; George Morrison, jw; John Thayer, Jr., s. Meeting first Wednesday in the month; election, December; chartered June 16, 1822. 2
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Charles R. McFadden, m; Frank A. Smith, sw; Leslie S. Getchell, jw; Levi A. Dow, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 20, 1820. 12
- Webster, 164, Webster. Frank E. Sleeper, m; William H. Wright, sw; Retiah D. Jones, jw; Thaddeus C. Billings, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered July 28, 1871. 14
- Whitney, 167, Canton. James Ripley, m; Alpheus Packard, sw; Joseph S. Mendall, jw; Wm. H. H. Washburn, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 9, 1872. 15
- Wilton, 156, Wilton. Justus Webster, m; Alonzo B. Adams, sw; Anson Morseman, jw; Ansil Walker, s. Meeting Wednesday of the full of the moon; election, September; chartered May 4, 1870. 15

York, 22, Kennebunk. Robert A. Kimball, m; Joseph H. Hill, sw; George A. Gilpatric, jw; Edward W. Morton, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered March 19, 1813. 19

Yorkshire, 179, North Berwick. Benjamin P. Parker, m; Haven A. Butler, sw; George S. Dutch, jw; C. W. Greenleaf, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered September 18, 1875. 19

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M.W. REUEL WASHBURN,	Livermore,	P. G. M.
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	Lancaster, Mass.,	"
" HIRAM CHASE,	Belfast,	"
" JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	Portland,	"
" WILLIAM P. PREBLE,	Portland,	"
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	Portland,	"
" DAVID CARGILL,	Augusta,	"
" ALBERT MOORE,	North Anson,	"
R.W. PELEG SPRAGUE,	Boston,	P. D. G. M.
" JOHN J. BELL,	Exeter, N. H.,	"
" EZRA B. FRENCH,	Washington, D. C.,	P. S. G. W.
" ISAAC DOWNING,	Kennebunk,	"
" GUSTAVUS F. SARGENT,	Boston,	"
" DAVID BUGBEE,	Bangor,	"
" FRANCIS L. TALBOT,	East Machias,	"
" THADDEUS R. SIMONTON,	Camden,	"
" WILLIAM O. POOR,	Belfast,	"
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	Ellsworth,	P. J. G. W.
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	Wiscasset,	"
" STEPHEN B. DOCKHAM,	Massachusetts,	"
" OLIVER GERRISH,	Portland,	"
" FRANCIS J. DAY,	Hallowell,	"
" JOHN W. BALLOU,	Bath,	"
" HENRY H. DICKEY,	Lewiston,	"
" A. M. WETHERBEE,	Warren,	"

GRAND OFFICERS DECEASED.

M. W. WILLIAM KING,	P. G. M.	R.W. JAMES L. CHILD,	P. D. G. M.
" SIMON GREENLEAF,	"	" ELISHA HARDING,	"
" WILLIAM SWAN,	"	" SAM'L L. VALENTINE,	"
" CHARLES FOX,	"	" DAVID C. MAGOUN,	"
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	"	" AMOS NOURSE,	"
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	"	" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	P. S. G. W.
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	"	" GEORGE THACHER,	"
" HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	"	" JOEL MILLER,	"
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	"	" WILLIAM ALLEN,	"
" ALEX'R H. PUTNEY,	"	" EDMUND B. HINKLEY,	"
" JOHN MILLER,	"	" J. W. MITCHELL,	P. J. G. W.
" JOHN T. PAINE,	"	" REUBEN NASON,	"
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	"	" FRYE HALL,	"
" JABEZ TRUE,	"	" JOSEPH COVELL,	"
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,	"	" T. K. OSGOOD,	"
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	"	" WILLIAM KIMBALL,	"
" JOHN H. LYNDE,	"	" JOHN WILLIAMS,	"
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	"	" STEPHEN WEBBER,	"
R.W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	P. D. G. M.		

Brethren Died during the Year,

From March 1, 1876, to March 1, 1877.

Portland Lodge—Isaac P. Folkins, April 4, aged 35 y'rs 7 mo's; James Freeman, April 25, 57 y'rs; Robert T. Sterling, June 19, 45 y'rs 6 mo's; Elijah Adams, 2d, Sept. 1, 62 y'rs; Geo. W. King, Oct. 3, 73 y'rs 7 mo's; Charles Littlejohn, Nov. 24, 62 y'rs; Thomas S. Smith, Jan. 27, 25 y'rs; Simeon Smith, supposed to have been lost at sea several years ago.

Lincoln—Dirk Rose, Wm. E. Jewett—both lost at sea.

Hancock—Albert G. Quimby, died away from town.

Kennebec—Phineas Sweetser, Nov. 13; S. W. Huntington, Nov. 20; T. J. Meservey, Dec. 1; Samuel Smith, Henry Read and Albert Berry, about ten years ago.

Amity—Elbridge G. Knight, June 21; Joseph E. Brown, died at Portland in the fall of 1876.

Eastern—W. H. Patterson, March 15; Amos R. Langthorn, Feb. 10; Wm. R. Langthorn, Feb. 28.

United—Wm. H. Morse, Jacob Sands.

Saco—Mark Prime, March 15; Past Master and Honorary member.

Rising Virtue—Rev. Chas. G. Porter, March 18; Chas. A. Babcock, June 13; Joseph W. Humphrey, Dec. 2:—all buried at Mount Hope.

Oriental—Orrin B. Edeley, May 22; Nathan Freeman, April 30; Washington Bray, May 14.

Solar—Ralph M. McIntire, April 23; Alexander Robinson, July 8.

Orient—Henry Dockham; Edmund B. Hinkley; Chas. G. Chase; R. L. Gilchrist; Richard McKnight.

Ancient Landmark—Thomas Nichols; Charles H. Adams, August; Robert Williams, February.

Oxford—Frank M. Farris, May 7, buried with masonic honors; Claudius M. Favor, Dec. 10.

Felicity—William W. Rich; Andrew J. Smith, Nov. 27, at home, of consumption; David S. Brown, Dec. 4, of consumption.

Maine—Thomas Wright, December.

Oriental Star—Lewis Stacy, Nov. 26.

York—Israel Kimball, April 6, of consumption; masonic funeral.

Freeport—Hezekiah Means, April 6.

Phoenix—Hollis M. A. Poor, Aug. 20, at Philadelphia; Reuben H. Burgess, Oct. 9, at Darien, Ga.

Temple, No. 25—Isaac Foster.

Village—Edward Lagard; Daniel H. Cary, July 15.

Northern Star—George A. Fletcher, May 6—Treasurer of the lodge for many years.

Tranquil—Edward A. Little, April 14; Oliver Lucas, Oct. 6; Stillman T. Allen, Nov. 21.

Union—John Adams, June 29; Geo. Cummings, Feb. 5.

Waterville—Wadsworth Chipman, May 2, aged 74—Past Master; Edwin Rounds, Feb. 17, 57 years; R. B. Gove, October.

Somerset—Eben H. Neil, April 7; Paoli H. Steward, April 28; Samuel F. Fogg, July 27; Charles W. Snow, Sept. 29; Alvin H. Robinson, December.

Bethlehem—N. Trudeau; Fred Peterson, September; Homer Hyson, November.

Casco—Antonio Viannello—lost at sea; Henry C. Greenleaf, June; John A. Dunham; Sylvanus Baker, June; George F. Tabor, October; Jacob G. Loring—supposed lost at sea; Frank M. Knight, died in England.

Harmony—Frederick Johnson; H. B. Files, March 12; James Phinney, October; Ira Witham, Feb. 1.

Lygonia—Benj. F. Thomas, March 4, Past Master; George C. Gilbert, June 16.

Piscataquis—Benj. H. Davis, April 30—masonic burial.

Central—Elias T. Bryant, March.

St. Croix—James Shehan, Dec. 27.

Dunlap—Jeremiah Stimson, June 14; Thomas K. Lane, June 21.

Lafayette—Dudley S. Fogg, April 6.

Meridian Splendor—Elbridge G. Perkins, Feb. 28.

Aurora—James N. Brown, June 14, 46 y'rs; Anthony E. Piston, Aug. 25, 56 y'rs 3 mo's; Joseph Arey, Nov. 2, in Brunswick, Me.—buried by Rising Virtue Lodge, of Bangor; Moody E. Thurlow, Nov. 26, 66 y'rs 1 mo., 28 d's—cause of death, railroad accident in Old Town; George H. Norton, Jan. 13.

St. John's—Charles C. Merrill, March 12; Geo. L. Morrison, April 10; Frank Seymour, July 23; Granville Grant, Oct. 4.

Mosaic—Hiram Anderson, Sept 14—buried by the lodge; Lucius M. Bullard, Jan. 7—consumption—interred with masonic ceremonies.

Rural—Henry T. Stedman, December; Daniel G. Houghton, Jan. 21.

Vassalboro'—Levi Dunham, September—died in Massachusetts.

Mount Moriah—Francis L. Rice, April 4, at Saco.

King Solomon's—George Overlock.

King David's—Joseph Gould, Jan. 12—buried with masonic honors.

Richmond—Capt. James Herbert, Master Mariner—died at his residence in England.

Pacific—Joel C. Cloudman, of Stetson, Jan. 28, aged 60 years; George O. Jordan, of Stetson, Feb. 25, aged 27 years.

Mystic—Henry L. Severence, May—lost at sea; Erastus F. Harding, Nov 3, at Hampden.

Mechanics'—George Smith, September; David S. Farris, October.

Blue Mountain—Philip M. Stubbs, Wm. Soule.

Mariners'—J. Waldo Mathews, October; Charles F. Nichols and John Blake, drowned at sea.

Howard—Edward E. Kent, lost at sea; John Lorenston, Jan. 12, of consumption—masonic funeral.

Tyrian—David Nash; Charles Packard, April 20.

Bristol—William Daggett, January, aged 92—was a charter member; Wilbur Lewis, Feb. 18—buried with masonic honors.

Plymouth—James B. Morse, March 24; Samuel A. Davis, April 2; Samuel T. Perkins, May 30.

Arundel—Daniel Chick, Aug. 17—buried with masonic honors.

Tremont—Halsey R. Newman, April 2—drowned; Lewis H. Bracey, Jan. 31, of yellow fever.

Crescent—Thomas Abrahams, Aug. 7; Hugh Porter, Oct. 28. Worthy brethren, and beloved by their fellow citizens.

Rockland—A. J. Jackson, February, in Florida; Joseph L. Giofray, July 7; Oscar Davis, Oct. 4; William H. Shields, in New York, 1876; Charles B. Morse, Jan. 13; Levi U. Verrill, Feb. 6.

Keystone—James S. Pierce.

Atlantic—Jerathmael C. Sloan, March 14—buried with masonic honors March 16; Matthias Morton, March 10—buried with masonic honors, at Cumberland, where he died; Ezra Calderwood, Sept. 20—died at Salina, Boulder Co., Colorado; Daniel Winslow, Dec. 6, in Deering—buried with masonic honors.

St. Paul's—George W. Shepherd, lost at sea; Joshua G. Norwood, May 9.

St. Andrew's—Alora W. Leighton, March 28; John W. Pope, April 9; Abram Woodard, May 24.

Eureka—S. S. Bickmore, May 5; E. G. Barker, Sept. 3; John Dorman, Feb. 8, in Dalbeattie, Scotland.

Star in the West—Richard Cornforth, May 4.

Temple, 86—George Warren, July 29—Past Master; Samuel T. Raymond, Dec. 15.

Benevolent—James Garland, May 10.

Narraguagus—W. H. Penney; William Handy.

Harwood—John Beverly, June 9.

Siloam—Moses Fogg, March 10.

Horeb—Horace J. Averill, March 15.

Paris—Albion B. Andrews; Andrew Bennett, Sept. 30. Both buried with masonic rites.

Corinthian—Azil Stilson, Sept. 4—had been a mason sixty years.

Monument—Chas. M. Herrin, May 8; James H. Ketchum, Jan. 15.

Bethel—Galen C. Holt, April 30—sick eight years with palsy; Samuel S. Dunn, Sept. 29—sun-stroke, which produced insanity.

Vernon Valley—Alonzo Brown, June 3.

Jefferson—Ezra Jewell, July 29—drowned while sailing, by boat capsizing.

Dresden—Hamilton M. Call, Sept. 11.

- Tuscan—Roswell Nash, Aug. 6; Jared C. Nash, Aug. 12; James W. Hinkley—supposed lost at sea, vessel not heard from.
- Mount Kineo—Elisha M. Johnson.
- Liberty—W. Frank Neal, Aug 2, in Liberty; Augustus Longfellow, October, in New Jersey; Elbridge C. Norton, January, in Palermo.
- Messafonskee—Junius F. Hallett, May 18; Charles H. Arnold, Jan. 31.
- Polar Star—Daniel S. Small, July 12, in Oakland, Cal.
- Drummond—John Durgin, Jan. 19.
- Pownal—Crawford S. Fletcher.
- Marine—Jonathan Bray, Oct. 27.
- Franklin—Luther Curtis, August; Charles H. Dyer, Oct. 12.
- Meridian—Harvey Robinson, Feb. 12.
- Timothy Chase—John W. Haraden, March 25—former Secretary; Frederick Bean, Sept. 7.
- Eggemoggin—Edward T. Fuller, July 13, at Camden.
- Lookout—John P. Mathews, May 27, of old age; Caleb B. Randall, Sept. 17, of fever.
- Asylum—Edward H. Randall, April 12; Willis S. Proctor, October.
- Riverside—Thomas Babb, Feb. 16.
- Ionic—Fred. B. Faunce, Aug. 26, of fever.
- Kenduskeag—Moses B. Watson, June 15, in Kansas.
- Archon—George Tollman, March 22; William H. Chase, April 1; Asa Thurlough, July 1.
- Augusta—Clement P. Richards, May 11, of consumption; Lemuel C. Cummings, Nov. 22.
- Ocean—Jacob Taylor.
- Preble—Joseph Travis, Jan. 11.
- Seaside—David L. Farnham, April 13, at Philadelphia; George C. Dunham, Feb. 6,—on board schooner Mary E. Oliver, off harbor of Pensacola, Florida.
- Crooked River—William Twombly, May 2—Past Master.
- Mystic Tie—Winfield S. Libby, March 31.
- Ancient York—Edwin R. Small, May 20; Cephas H. Douglass, Nov. 16.
- Cambridge—Josiah A. Folsome, Aug. 16—died from cancer, away from home; buried with masonic honors.
- Anchor—John P. Thorp, March 14, 1872—(omitted in return at the time). He was the first Secretary of the lodge, and a faithful worker.
- Parian—Freeman Knowles, June 21.
- Molunkus—Spaulding Robinson, July 2—buried with masonic honors July 4.
- Naskeng—William B. Walker, supposed lost at sea.
- Pine Tree—George B. Chase, March 1, 1876.
- Lynde—Robert Bryant, August 24.
- Baskahegan—Alexis W. Dudley, March 1, 1877.

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

John Dove,

GRAND SECRETARY OF THE GRAND LODGE OF
VIRGINIA.

BORN SEPTEMBER 2, 1792.

DIED AT RICHMOND, NOVEMBER 16, 1876.

"The righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the
Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High."

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

George Frank Gonley,

GRAND SECRETARY OF THE GRAND LODGE OF
MISSOURI.

BORN IN WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, FEBRUARY 15, 1832.

DIED IN ST. LOUIS, APRIL 12, 1877,

In the prime of life and vigorous manhood, perishing in the fire
which destroyed the Southern Hotel.

"The ways of Heaven are dark and intricate;
Puzzled in mazes and perplexed with errors,
Our understanding traces them in vain,
Lost and bewilder'd in the fruitless search,
Nor sees with how much art the windings run,
Nor where the regular confusion ends."

INSCRIBED
TO THE MEMORY

OF

Amos Nurse,

PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF MAINE.

BORN IN BOLTON, MASS., DECEMBER 17, 1794.

DIED IN BATH, APRIL 7, 1877.

Non moritur cujus Fama vivit.

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

Edmund B. Hinkley,

PAST SENIOR GRAND WARDEN OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF MAINE.

BORN IN WARREN, MAY 29, 1825.

DIED IN WARREN, AUGUST 23, 1876.

Mors est certa ; Tempus incerta.

REPRESENTATIVES

of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Maine.

JOSEPH C. STEVENS, Lancaster, Mass.,—Minnesota.

WILLIAM P. PREBLE, Portland,—New York, Oregon.

EZEKIEL ROBINSON, Readfield,—Iowa.

IRA BERRY, Portland,—Missouri, Maryland.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland,—New Jersey, Nova Scotia, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, Texas, Florida, Tennessee, Kansas and Kentucky.

DENISON E. SEYMOUR, Calais,—New Brunswick.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, Saco,—Nebraska.

TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, Portland,—Colorado.

STEPHEN BERRY, Portland,—District of Columbia.

JOHN W. BALLOU, Bath,—Arkansas.

HENRY H. DICKEY, Lewiston,—California.

ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, Bangor,—Montana.

ALBERT MOORE, North Anson,—North Carolina.

CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, Bangor,—Mississippi.

JOSEPH W. CLAPP, Augusta,—Idaho.

CHARLES M. RICE, Portland,—Michigan.

STEPHEN J. YOUNG, Brunswick,—New Hampshire.

AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, Bangor,—Delaware.

F. LORING TALBOT, East Machias,—Nevada.

EDWIN F. DILLINGHAM, Bangor,—Indiana.

SILAS ALDEN, Bangor,—South Carolina.

AUSTIN D. KNIGHT, Hallowell,—Connecticut.

MARQUIS F. KING, Portland,—Wisconsin.

WILLIAM R. G. ESTES, Skowhegan,—West Virginia.

ALDEN M. WETHERBEE, Warren,—Manitoba.

REPRESENTATIVES

of the Grand Lodge of Maine near other Grand Lodges.

- Alabama*—JAMES B. LUCKIE, Montgomery.
Arkansas—OLIVER C. GRAY, Little Rock.
California—ALEXANDER G. ABELL, San Francisco.
Colorado—EDWARD C. PARMELEE, Georgetown.
Connecticut—ALBERT H. CARGILL, Fairhaven.
Delaware—J. THOMAS BUDD, Middletown.
District of Columbia—EZRA B. FRENCH, Washington.
Florida—DEWITT C. DAWKINS, Jacksonville.
Georgia—G. W. MAXSON, Talbotton.
Illinois—DANIEL WADSWORTH, Auburn, Sangamon County.
Indiana—WILLIAM HACKER, Shelbyville.
Kansas—JOHN H. BROWN, Leavenworth.
Kentucky—H. M. FAIRLEIGH, M. D., Hopkinsville.
Louisiana—CLIFFORD BELCHER, New Orleans.
Manitoba—WILLIAM N. KENNEDY, Winnipeg.
Michigan—REV. D. B. TRACY, Detroit.
Minnesota—A. T. C. PIERSON, St. Paul.
Mississippi—JOHN F. MCCORMICK, Shubuta.
Missouri—XENOPHON RYLAND, Lexington.
Montana—CORNELIUS HEDGES, Helena City.
Nebraska—N. S. HARDING, Nebraska City.
Nevada—GEORGE ROBINSON, Washoe City.
New Brunswick—DAVID BROWN, St. Stephens.
New Hampshire—ALEXANDER M. WINN, Portsmouth.
New Jersey—JAMES G. AITKIN, Trenton.
New York—JOSEPH D. EVANS, New York City.
North Carolina—LEWIS S. WILLIAMS, Charlotte.
Nova Scotia—L. F. DARLING.
Ohio—THEODORE ROSS, Cleveland.
Oregon—JOSIAH MYRICK, Oregon City.
Quebec—JOHN HELDEN ISAACSON, Montreal.
Rhode Island—NATHAN H. GOULD, Newport.
Tennessee—LEWIS R. EASTMAN, Nashville.
Vermont—PARK DAVIS, St. Albans.
Washington Territory—T. F. MCILROY, Olympia.
West Virginia—HUGH STERLING.
Wisconsin—MELVIN S. YOUNG, Milwaukee.

STANDING REGULATIONS.

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) attend during the session, ten cents per mile (one way) from the Lodge Hall to the Grand Lodge Hall, when the delegate is a member of the lodge he represents; the distance in all cases to be computed by the usually traveled route. [1865, p. 98.]

2. *Resolved*, That after all the lodges shall have furnished their histories to the present time, it shall be their duty once in ten years, commencing in 1870, to furnish their history for the preceding decade, or so much as shall be lacking. [1866, p. 165.]

3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will not remit Grand Lodge dues to subordinate lodges on account of loss by fire of property not insured. [1866, p. 192.]

4. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Maine disapproves of the public use of masonic emblems, especially that ostentatious display calculated to lead the world to suppose that we are still an operative fraternity and endeavoring to receive more wages. [1867, p. 113.]

5. *Resolved*, That every lodge, after adopting or revising by-laws, shall send a transcript of such by-laws or revision immediately to the Grand Secretary for examination, and await the approval of the Grand Master before recording or printing. [1868, p. 225.]

6. *Resolved*, That Masters of lodges be required to report to the Grand Master all invasions of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge by lodges of other jurisdictions, with all the circumstances

attending, so far as they may be able—to be by the Grand Master reported at each annual communication. [1869, p. 406.]

7. *Resolved*, That no action shall be had in any lodge under this jurisdiction, upon a petition for degrees, or for an election of an officer or officers of a lodge, under a dispensation from the Grand Master, until the expiration of *forty-eight* hours from the time the notices calling the meeting for action have been issued and delivered. Notices calling the meeting in either case, shall be delivered either in person, or left at the last and usual place of abode of every member within a distance of one mile of the lodge room. Notices to other members may be sent by *mail*. [1871, p. 346.]

8. *Resolved*, That no person shall be examined for the purpose of visiting lodges in this jurisdiction until he presents satisfactory written evidence under seal that he was made in a regular lodge, and shall be allowed to visit only after examination, or being legally vouched for. [1873, p. 184.]

9. *Resolved*, That whenever a lodge, after being constituted, requests a Grand Officer to visit them and install their officers, or dedicate a hall, the expenses attending such visit must be paid by the lodge requesting the services, and not by the Grand Lodge. [1874, p. 308.]

10. *Resolved*, That no Brother charged with unmasonic conduct, and on trial before any lodge, or this Grand Lodge, should be refused a right to testify in his own behalf. [1876, p. 44.]

11. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of, and is hereby enjoined upon the District Deputy Grand Masters in the several Masonic Districts, to use their best endeavors to impress upon the various lodges in their several jurisdictions, and their Masters and Wardens, the importance of the attendance of said officers upon the communications of the Grand Lodge, and to make use of their best efforts to have every lodge represented at all such communications by their first three officers. [1877, p. 301.]

12. *Resolved*, That no action shall be had in any lodge under this jurisdiction, upon a petition for the approval or recommendation for a new lodge, until the same shall have been before the lodge one month. [1877, p. 453.]

Grand Lodges and

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND MASTERS.
Alabama,	Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile.
Arkansas,	M. L. Bell, Pine Bluff.
British Columbia,	Frederick Williams, Esquimalt.
California,	John Mills Browne, Vallejo.
Canada,	James K. Kerr, Toronto.
Colorado,	Harper M. Orahoad, Central.
Connecticut,	Edward B. Rowe, New London.
Dakota,	George W. Hand, Yankton.
Delaware,	Thomas N. Williams, Seaford.
District of Columbia,	E. G. Davis, Washington.
Florida,	Enos Wasgate, Jacksonville.
Georgia,	David E. Butler, Macon.
Idaho,	E. A. Stevenson, Pioneer City.
Illinois,	Joseph Robbins, Quincy.
Indiana,	Frank S. Devol, New Albany.
Indian Territory,	G. McPherson, Caddo, Choctaw Nation.
Iowa,	Henry W. Rothert, Keokuk.
Kansas,	Jacob D. Rush, Fort Scott.
Kentucky,	R. M. Fairleigh, Hopkinsville.
Louisiana,	Samuel J. Powell, St. Francisville.
Maine,	Edward P. Burnham, Saco.
Manitoba,	W. N. Kennedy, Winnipeg.
Maryland,	John H. B. Latrobe, Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	Percival L. Everett, Boston.
Michigan,	William Dunham, Manistee.
Minnesota,	James C. Braden, Litchfield.
Mississippi,	John Y. Murry, Ripley.
Missouri,	Xenophon Ryland, ————
Montana,	Julian M. Knight, Virginia City.
Nebraska,	George W. Lininger, Omaha.
Nevada,	Merrill P. Freeman, Elks.
New Brunswick,	Robert F. Clinch, St. John.
New Hampshire,	John J. Bell, Exeter.
New Jersey,	Marshall B. Smith, Passaic.
New York,	Joseph J. Couch, Brooklyn.
North Carolina,	Horace H. Munson, Wilmington.
Nova Scotia,	J. W. Lawrie, Halifax.
Ohio,	Charles A. Woodward, Cleveland.
Oregon,	Robert Clow, ————
Pennsylvania,	Robert Clark, ————
Prince Edward Island,	John Yeo, Port Hill.
Quebec,	John Hamilton Graham, Richmond.
Rhode Island,	Charles R. Cutler, Warren.
South Carolina,	Wilmot G. De Saussure, Charleston.
Tennessee,	E. Edmundson, Pulaski.
Texas,	Marcus F. Mott, Galveston.
Utah,	Joseph Milton Orr, Salt Lake City.
Vermont,	Henry H. Smith, Rutland.
Virginia,	Richard Parker, Winchester.
Washington,	Platt Adams Preston, Waitsburg.
West Virginia,	George W. Atkinson, Charleston.
Wisconsin,	Jed. P. C. Cottrill, Milwaukee.
Wyoming,	F. E. Addoms, Cheyenne.

Addresses of Grand Officers.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

Daniel Sayre, Montgomery.
 Luke E. Barber, Little Rock.
 Coote M. Chambers, Victoria.
 Alexander G. Abell, San Francisco.
 J. J. Mason, Hamilton.
 Edward C. Parmelee, Georgetown.
 Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford.
 W. E. Eaton, Elk Point.
 William S. Hayes, Wilmington.
 Wm. R. Singleton, Washington.
 DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.
 J. Emmett Blackshear, M. D., Macon.
 Charles Himrod, Boise City.
 John F. Burrill, Springfield.
 John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis.
 R. P. Jones, Caddo, Choctaw Nation.
 Theodore S. Parvin, Iowa City.
 John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
 John M. Todd, Louisville.
 Jas. C. Batchelor, M. D., New Orleans.
 Ira Berry, Portland.
 John H. Bell, Winnipeg.
 Jacob H. Medairy, Baltimore.
 Charles H. Titus, Boston.
 Ellery I. Garfield, Detroit.
 A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
 J. L. Power, Jackson.
 John W. Luke, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
 William R. Bowen, Omaha.
 Samuel W. Chubbuck, Gold Hill.
 W. F. Bunting, St. John.
 John A. Harris, Concord.
 Joseph H. Hough, Trenton.
 James M. Austin, New York City.
 D. W. Bain, Raleigh.
 Benjamin Curren, Halifax.
 John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati.
 R. P. Earheart, Portland.
 John Thomson, Philadelphia.
 B. W. Higgs, Charlotteton.
 John H. Isaacson, Montreal.
 Edwin Baker, Providence.
 Charles Inglesby, Charlestown.
 John Frizzell, Nashville.
 George H. Bringham, Houston.
 Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Henry Clark, Rutland.
 William B. Isaacs, Richmond.
 Thomas M. Reed, Olympia.
 Odell S. Long, Wheeling.
 John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee.
 William G. Tonn, Evanston.

CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.

William T. Walthall, Mobile.
 George E. Dodge, _____
 William H. Hall, _____
 Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
 David C. Collier, Central.
 Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford.
 George W. Chaytor, Wilmington.
 W. R. Singleton, Washington.
 D. C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.
 Samuel D. Irvin, Macon.
 O. H. Purdy, Silver City.
 Theodore T. Gurney, Chicago.
 Elisha L. McLallen, Columbia City.
 J. S. Murrow, Atoka.
 T. S. Parvin, Iowa City.
 John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
 Thomas Todd, Louisville.
 George H. Braughn, New Orleans.
 Josiah H. Drummond, Portland.
 John S. Tyson, Baltimore.
 Ellery I. Garfield, Detroit.
 A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
 Thomas S. Gathright, Gholson.
 John W. Luke, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
 J. N. Wise, Plattsburgh.
 Robert H. Taylor, Virginia.
 Joseph E. Burnett, Manchester.
 Marshall B. Smith, Passaic.
 John W. Simons, New York.
 George Badger Harris, Henderson.
 Allen H. Crowe, Halifax.
 John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati.
 Stephen F. Chadwick, Salem.
 Richard Vaux, _____
 Thomas A. Doyle, Providence.
 Chas. Inglesby, Charleston.
 John Frizzell, Nashville.
 C. Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Henry Clark, Rutland.
 William F. Dunkard, Richmond.
 T. M. Reed, Olympia.
 O. S. Long, Wheeling.
 John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee.
 William G. Tonn, Evanston.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge,

1877.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, G. M.	Ex Officio.
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, D. G. M.	"
MARQUIS F. KING, S. G. W.	"
SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, J. G. W.	"
IRA BERRY, R. G. S.	"
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	elected May 4, 1875, for three years.
DAVID CARGILL,	" " " "
WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,	" May 2, 1876, "
WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD,	" " " "
JOSEPH M. HAYES,	" May 1, 1877, "
ALBERT MOORE,	" " " "

ADDRESSES.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, <i>Grand Master</i> ,.....	SACO, ME.
IRA BERRY, <i>Grand Secretary</i> ,.....	PORTLAND, ME.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, <i>Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence</i> , PORTLAND, ME.	

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ISSUED AUGUST 24, 1877.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge will be held at Masonic Hall, Portland, Tuesday, May 7, 1878, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Grand Lodge of Maine.

1878.

FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND,
Tuesday, May 7, A. L. 5878. }

This being the day fixed by the Constitution for the Annual Communication, the Officers and Representatives assembled at nine o'clock A. M.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	Grand Master;
R. W. CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	Deputy Grand Master;
" MARQUIS F. KING,	Senior Grand Warden;
" S. J. CHADBOURNE,	Junior Grand Warden;
" MOSES DODGE,	Grand Treasurer;
" IRA BERRY,	Grand Secretary;
" JOSEPH M. HAYES,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. & Rev. CHARLES C. MASON,	Grand Chaplain;
" CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "
" CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "
W. BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	Grand Marshal;
" AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	Senior Grand Deacon;
" ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	Junior Grand Deacon,
" ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	Grand Steward;
" AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "
" CHARLES E. WELD,	" "
" W. R. G. ESTES,	" "
" H. H. BURBANK,	Grand Sword Bearer;
" WM. H. SMITH,	Gr. Standard Bearer;
" LEVI W. SMITH,	Grand Pursuivant;
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	Grand Lecturer;
" GEORGE M. HOWE,	Grand Organist;
Bro. WARREN PHILLIPS,	Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by W. and Rev. CHARLES C. MASON, Grand Chaplain, who read the twenty-third Psalm.

On motion of Bro. R. E. PAINE,

Voted, That an Assistant Grand Secretary and an Assistant Grand Tyler be appointed.

The Grand Master appointed Bro. STEPHEN BERRY Assistant Grand Secretary, and Bro. WARREN O. CARNEY Assistant Grand Tyler.

On motion of Bro. PAINE,

Voted, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors during this communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. LEANDER W. FOBES,

Voted, That the reading of the Records of the last Annual Communication be dispensed with.

Bro. WILLIAM H. SMITH, for the Committee on Credentials, reported as follows :

Your Committee on Credentials have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report, that they find the lodges in this jurisdiction represented as follows :

1. *Portland*, by John H. Hall, WM ; William N. Prince, SW ; John Evans, JW ; Joseph A. Locke, Proxy.
2. *Warren*, by Austin F. Kingsley, WM ; Austin Harris, Proxy.
3. *Lincoln*, by T. Carleton Dole, WM ; George B. Sawyer, Proxy.
4. *Hancock*, by John P. Stevens, SW.
5. *Kennebec*, by Elhanan W. Whitcomb, SW.
6. *Amity*, by Thomas C. Atwick, SW ; Samuel Q. Day, Proxy.
7. *Eastern*, by Wilford J. Fisher, WM ; Randall B. Clark, Proxy.
8. *United*, by Stephen J. Young, Proxy.
9. *Saco*, by John Quinby, JW ; Joseph F. Chadbourne, Proxy.
10. *Rising Virtue*, by William H. Thompson, WM ; Charles York, SW.
11. *Pythagorean*, by Seth W. Fife, Proxy.

12. *Cumberland*, by John J. Sturgis, WM; Albert W. Larrabee, SW; Wm. A. Knight, JW; Charles Megquier, Proxy.
13. *Oriental*, by George Peirce, Proxy.
14. *Solar*, by Winfield Scott Shorey, WM; John O. Shaw, Proxy.
15. *Orient*, by Horatio G. Copeland, SW; Wm. E. Crawford, Proxy.
16. *St. George*, by John R. Andrews, Proxy.
17. *Ancient Land-Mark*, by Henry F. Perry, WM; Clayton J. Farrington, SW; Emery S. Redlon, JW; Leander W. Fobes, Proxy.
18. *Oxford*, by Morrill M. Fuller, Proxy.
19. *Felicity*, by Guy W. McAllister, WM.
20. *Maine*, by David H. Knowlton, Proxy.
21. *Oriental Star*, by Everett L. Philoon, WM; Elisha Coolidge, Proxy.
22. *York*, by Francis C. Simonds, Proxy.
23. *Freeport*, by Stephen A. Thurlow, WM; Harry G. Sleeper, Proxy.
24. *Phoenix*, by Jediah C. Cates, Jr., WM.
25. *Temple*, by R. C. McIlroy, SW; W. H. Pettingill, JW.
26. *Village*, by Silas Adams, SW.
27. *Adoniram*, not represented.
28. *Northern Star*, by Benjamin Adams, WM.
29. *Tranquil*, by John B. Jordan, WM; Algernon M. Roak, JW; Albert R. Savage, Proxy.
30. *Blazing Star*, by Lewis W. Childs, Proxy.
31. *Union*, by William A. Albee, WM.
32. *Hermon*, by John F. Holmes, Proxy.
33. *Waterville*, by Andrew L. McFadden, SW; Richard T. Beazley, JW; Wm. A. R. Boothby, Proxy.
34. *Somerset*, by James H. Frost, SW; Albert G. Blunt, Proxy.
35. *Bethlehem*, by Samuel W. Lane, Proxy.
36. *Casco*, by Monroe Stoddard, WM; Edward Davis, Proxy.
37. *Washington*, by E. W. Brown Proxy.
38. *Harmony*, by William Hasty, WM.
39. *Penobscot*, by Alton P. Fassett, WM.
40. *Lygonia*, by John B. Redman, WM.
41. *Morning Star*, by Cyrus Kindrick, WM.
42. *Freedom*, by Harry V. Moore, Proxy.
43. *Alna*, by J. F. Sumner, WM; F. Clark, SW; E. H. Winslow, JW; J. D. Genthner, Proxy.
44. *Piscataquis*, by Lambert Sands, JW; William H. Owen, Proxy.
45. *Central*, by Lynn W. Rollins, WM; Willis W. Washburn, Proxy.
46. *St. Croix*, by William Parritt, WM.
47. *Dunlap*, by N. S. Drown, SW; George H. Monroe, JW; Calvin A. Tarr, Proxy.
48. *Lafayette*, by Samuel Nesbitt, Proxy.

49. *Meridian Splendor*, by Wilbur H. Miles, WM; Elijah W. Devereaux, Proxy.
50. *Aurora*, by William A. Barker, Proxy.
51. *St. John's*, by George H. Wakefield, WM.
52. *Mosaic*, by Elbridge A. Thompson, WM.
53. *Rural*, by Charles T. Hamlen, WM.
54. *Vassalboro'*, by Warren A. Evans, WM.
55. *Fraternal*, not represented.
56. *Mount Moriah*, by George S. Bucknell, SW.
57. *King Hiram*, by Lamont C. Willoughby, WM; William M. Kidder, Proxy.
58. *Unity*, by Addison B. Sparrow, WM.
59. *Mount Hope*, by Asa P. St. Clair, WM.
60. *Star in the East*, by Jesse Prentiss, Proxy.
61. *King Solomon's*, by Charles P. Redman, WM.
62. *King David's*, by Robert W. Perry, WM.
63. *Richmond*, by William H. Whitney, SW; John C. Flagg, Proxy.
64. *Pacific*, by Justus H. Jackman, WM.
65. *Mystic*, by George W. Smith, WM.
66. *Mechanics'*, by William C. Taylor, SW.
67. *Blue Mountain*, by Solomon S. Williams, Proxy.
68. *Mariners'*, by Alvah M. Dutch, WM.
69. *Howard*, by Henry T. Sanborn, WM.
70. *Standish*, by Bryan Paine, Proxy.
71. *Rising Sun*, by Asa Conary, WM.
72. *Pioneer*, not represented.
73. *Tyrian*, by Edward F. Stevens, WM.
74. *Bristol*, not represented.
75. *Plymouth*, by Grenville Mansur, WM.
76. *Arundel*, by Seth E. Bryant, Proxy.
77. *Tremont*, by Danforth P. Marcyes, Proxy.
78. *Crescent*, by Justin A. Leighton, WM.
79. *Rockland*, by Henry E. Hutchinson, WM; Charles F. Kittredge, Proxy.
80. *Keystone*, by Charles B. McIntire, SW; Turner Buswell, Proxy.
81. *Atlantic*, by Richard K. Gatley, WM; Algernon D. Pearson, SW; Charles C. Bedlow, JW; George R. Shaw, Proxy.
82. *St. Paul's*, by Perez B. Cooper, JW.
83. *St. Andrew's*, by Augustus B. Farnham, SW; Frank H. Drummond, Proxy.
84. *Eureka*, by Charles C. Crocker, WM.
85. *Star in the West*, by Richard Whitten, Proxy.
86. *Temple*, by William L. Warren, WM; Charles W. Foy, Proxy.
87. *Benevolent*, by Camillus K. Johnson, Proxy.
88. *Narraguagus*, by Edward R. Wingate, WM.

89. *Island*, by Calvin W. Sherman, Proxy.
90. *Hiram Abiff*. [Charter revoked.]
91. *Harwood*, by Leander H. Crane, WM.
92. *Siloam*, by Charles E. Ward, WM.
93. *Horeb*, by Thomas W. Porter, WM.
94. *Paris*, by David J. Black, WM; George A. Wilson, Proxy.
95. *Corinthian*, by Thomas Walker, WM.
96. *Monument*, by Sabine F. Berry, WM.
97. *Bethel*, by Jarvis C. Billings, WM.
98. *Katahdin*, by Charles D. Fish, SW.
99. *Vernon Valley*, by George C. Hopkins, SW; Moses S. Mayhew, Proxy.
100. *Jefferson*, by James L. Bowker, WM; Horace C. Berry, Proxy.
101. *Nezinscot*, by Sumner S. Merrill, WM; Francis T. Faulkner, Proxy.
102. *Marsh River*, by David Brackett, Proxy.
103. *Dresden*, not represented.
104. *Dirigo*, by Wm. F. Rowe, WM.
105. *Ashlar*, by George H. Benson, WM; Albert Ring, Proxy.
106. *Tuscan*, by Christopher Curtis, WM.
107. *Dayspring*, by Usher B. Thompson, Proxy.
108. *Relief*, by Charles A. Yeaton, WM.
109. *Mount Kineo*, by C. N. Rand, WM.
110. *Monmouth*, by Luther R. Lothrop, Proxy.
111. *Liberty*, by Gustavus H. Cargill, WM.
112. *Eastern Frontier*, by Samuel E. Jewett, Proxy.
113. *Messalonskee*, by George W. Goulding, SW; Hiram C. Winslow, Proxy.
114. *Polar Star*, by John W. Ballou, Proxy.
115. *Buxton*, not represented.
116. *Lebanon*, by Benj. D. Bowden, SW; Edward C. Hale, Proxy.
117. *Greenleaf*, by Preston Durgin, WM; Charles C. O'Brien, SW; Cyrus G. Marr, Proxy.
118. *Drummond*, by Almon O. Smart, Proxy.
119. *Pownal*, by Simon B. Littlefield, WM.
120. *Meduncook*, by Albion Murphy, Proxy.
121. *Acacia*, by Joseph H. Davis, WM; Augustus H. Parker, SW; Charles W. Harding, Proxy.
122. *Marine*, by George H. Howard, Proxy.
123. *Franklin*, by Jabez S. Mooars, WM.
124. *Olive Branch*, by Thomas H. Wentworth, WM.
125. *Meridian*, by William S. Howe, Proxy.
126. *Timothy Chase*, by Robert P. Chase, JW.
127. *Presumpscot*, by John R. Rollins, Proxy.
128. *Eggemoggin*, not represented.
129. *Quantabacook*, by Charles M. Cunningham, WM.
130. *Trinity*, by George H. Freeman, Proxy.

131. *Lookout*, by Alexander D. Ross, WM.
132. *Mount Tire'm*, by Alfred S. Kimball, Proxy.
133. *Asylum*, by Thomas Wing, JW; L. R. Sturtevant, Proxy.
134. *Trojan*, by Abner Hodgdon, Proxy.
135. *Riverside*, by James L. Burns, JW.
136. *Ionic*, by Philip H. Winslow, WM; Ansyl B. Booker, Proxy.
137. *Kenduskeag*, by Moses M. Hodsdon, Proxy.
138. *Lewy's Island*, by Aaron H. Woodcock, Proxy.
139. *Archon*, by Benjamin F. Porter, WM.
140. *Mount Desert*, by Thaddeus S. Somes, WM.
141. *Augusta*, by Charles C. Hunt, SW; Charles A. Curtis, JW; Harry W. Gallison, Proxy.
142. *Ocean*. [Charter surrendered.]
143. *Preble*, by John G. Adams, Proxy.
144. *Seaside*, by Emery D. Winchenbaugh, SW.
145. *Moses Webster*, by Hanson M. Roberts, Proxy.
146. *Sebasticook*, by David S. Wardwell, WM; John P. Billings, Proxy.
147. *Evening Star*, by Charles R. Whitten, WM; Preston S. Lowe, Proxy.
148. *Forest*, by Hiram Stevens, WM.
149. *Doric*, by Sumner A. Patten, WM.
150. *Rabboni*, by Oscar G. Douglass, WM; A. K. P. Knowlton, Proxy.
151. *Excelsior*, by Albert W. Hasson, JW.
152. *Crooked River*, by M. E. Hall, SW.
153. *Delta*, by Augustus N. French, WM.
154. *Mystic Tie*, by Abel D. Russell, Proxy.
155. *Ancient York*, by William S. Cotton, WM; George B. Shorey, Proxy.
156. *Wilton*, by Justus Webster, WM; Loren Adams, Proxy.
157. *Cambridge*, by John W. Cole, Proxy.
158. *Anchor*, by George C. Farrar, Proxy.
159. *Esoteric*, by Arthur W. Greely, WM.
160. *Parian*, by Gustavus B. Frost, SW.
161. *Carrabassett*, not represented.
162. *Arion*, by Cyrus W. Murphy, WM; James W. Smith, SW.
163. *Pleasant River*, by Alvin S. Wilkins, WM; William F. Jenks, SW.
164. *Webster*, by Frank E. Sleeper, WM; E. H. Johnson, Proxy.
165. *Molunkus*, by Cyrus Daggett, Proxy.
166. *Neguemkeag*, by Arioch Wentworth, WM.
167. *Whitney*, by James Ripley, WM; Alpheus Packard, SW; Herbert J. Deshon, Proxy.
168. *Composite*, by Manly G. Brackett, JW.
169. *Shepherd's River*, not represented.
170. *Caribou*, by Joseph D. Emery, Proxy.
171. *Naskeag*, by Warren Wells, Proxy.
172. *Pine Tree*, by Alexander McClain, Proxy.

173. *Pleiades*, by Vinal D. Wass, WM.
 174. *Lynde*, by Stephen S. Hewes, WM.
 175. *Baskahegan*, not represented.
 176. *Palestine*, by James F. Boardman, WM.
 177. *Rising Star*, by Robert S. Leach, Proxy.
 178. *Ancient Brothers'*, by Albert M. Penley, WM; Milton J. Loring, SW;
 Marcellus B. Preble, Proxy.
 179. *Yorkshire*, by Louis L. Henderson, Proxy.
 180. *Hiram*, by Thomas B. Haskell, WM; William F. Rundlett, SW; Robert
 S. Melcher, JW; Albert B. Barrett, Proxy.
 181. *Reuel Washburn*, by William H. Wood, WM; Albert G. French, SW.

[Total number of chartered lodges, 179; represented, 169.]

Your committee further report, that the following Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge are present, namely :

JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	P. G. M.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	"
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	"
DAVID CARGILL,	"
ALBERT MOORE,	"
JOHN J. BELL,	P. D. G. M.
WILLIAM O. POOR,	P. S. G. W.
OLIVER GERRISH,	P. J. G. W.
JOHN W. BALLOU,	"
HENRY H. DICKEY,	"
A. M. WETHERBEE,	"

And Grand Officers as follows :

M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W. CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	<i>Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Senior " Warden.</i>
" SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	<i>Junior " "</i>
" MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
" IRA BERRY,	<i>Recording Grand Secretary.</i>
" JOSEPH M. HAYES,	<i>Cor. " "</i>
" E. HOWARD VOSE,	<i>D. D. G. M. 2d District.</i>
" DAVID W. WEBSTER, JR.,	" 4th "
" DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR.,	" 5th "
" MANLY G. TRASK,	" 6th "
" JOHN H. GORDON,	" 7th "
" GEORGE L. MERRILL,	" 8th "
" CLARK D. SMALLEY,	" 9th "
" GEORGE P. HASKELL,	" 11th "

R. W. R. WESLEY DUNN,	<i>D. D. G. M. 12th District.</i>
" FESSENDEN I. DAY,	" 15th "
" ALDEN CHASE,	" 16th "
" GEORGE W. DEERING,	" 17th "
" SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	" 18th "
" JOHN S. DERBY,	" 19th "
W. & Rev. CHARLES C. MASON,	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "
" CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "
W. BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	" <i>Marshal.</i>
" AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
" ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
" ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	<i>Grand Steward.</i>
" AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "
" CHARLES E. WELD,	" "
" W. R. G. ESTES,	" "
" HORACE H. BURBANK,	" <i>Sword Bearer.</i>
" WM. H. SMITH,	" <i>Standard Bearer.</i>
" LEVI W. SMITH,	" <i>Pursuivant.</i>
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	" <i>Lecturer.</i>
" GEORGE M. HOWE,	" <i>Organist.</i>
" WARREN PHILLIPS,	" <i>Tyler.</i>

The following Grand Lodges are represented, to wit:

ALABAMA,	LOUISIANA,	NEW HAMPSHIRE,
ARKANSAS,	MANITOBA,	NEW JERSEY,
CALIFORNIA,	MARYLAND,	NORTH CAROLINA,
COLORADO,	MICHIGAN,	NOVA SCOTIA,
DELAWARE,	MINNESOTA,	SOUTH CAROLINA,
DIST. OF COLUMBIA,	MISSISSIPPI,	TENNESSEE,
FLORIDA,	MISSOURI,	TEXAS,
GEORGIA,	MONTANA,	WEST VIRGINIA,
KANSAS,	NEBRASKA,	WISCONSIN.
KENTUCKY,	NEW BRUNSWICK,	

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. F. ANDREWS, }
STEPHEN BERRY, } *Committee.*
WILLIAM H. SMITH, }

Which report was accepted.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

On Doings of Grand Officers.

DAVID CARGILL, JOSEPH C. STEVENS, ALBERT MOORE.

On the Pay Roll.

A. M. WETHERBEE, ALBERT W. LARRABEE, JOHN B. REDMAN.

On Unfinished Business.

EDWIN STONE, AUGUSTUS BAILEY, C. N. RAND.

On By-Laws.

AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY, MANLY G. TRASK, E. HOWARD VOSE.

Which appointments were confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Bro. DRUMMOND announced that the illness of Past Grand Master PREBLE would prevent his attendance at the present Communication, and Bro. GEORGE W. DEERING was named to serve upon the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence in his stead.

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE:

By the mercy of the Grand Architect of the Universe, we are permitted again to assemble in Annual Communication, to take action upon the doings of the past year, and to make preparation for the year to come. The God of our fathers hath been with us during the year. May our conduct be such that we can confidently look for His favor to bring us on our way to the close of the year upon which we are now entering.

REUEL WASHBURN, P. G. M.

At each communication we are called to take notice of the departure of some of our associates. At this time, we miss our Senior Past Grand Master, REUEL WASHBURN, of Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, at North Livermore. Bro. WASHBURN died very suddenly, March 4th, at Livermore. The funeral service was performed by

his lodge, March 8th. Bro. DAY, D. D. G. M., attended in behalf of the Grand Lodge. I was in a distant State at the time of the death and of the funeral. Bro. WASHBURN had been a mason about sixty years, having been made June 16, 1818, in Oriental Star Lodge; was Master seven years, Secretary eleven years; Royal Arch Mason about fifty years. He was Master of his lodge in 1822. He was D. D. Grand Master 1826, 1827; Senior Grand Deacon 1832; Deputy Grand Master 1833, 1834; Grand Master 1835, 1836, 1837; a Trustee of the Charity Fund 1841 to 1847; D. D. Grand Master 1850. For many years he has attended our annual gatherings, the last time being at the session of 1876. He has always felt great interest in the prosperity of his lodge, and was very constant in attending the meetings. Bro. WASHBURN was born in Raynham, Mass., May 21, 1793, the son of ISRAEL WASHBURN. He was graduated at Brown University 1814; studied law with Hon. ALBION K. PARRIS, at Paris, and settled in Livermore in 1817. He was a member of both branches of the Legislature, and of the Executive Council; was Register and Judge of Probate, and was three times the candidate of his party for Congress. He was always faithful in the performance of the many duties devolving upon him, in all the relations of life. Our sympathy is for his widow, the partner of more than fifty years of his life, and for his sons and daughters, both at home and away. He obeyed the command, and is now enjoying the fruition of the promise, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

DEDICATIONS, ETC.

On the 21st of June, the new hall of Oriental Star Lodge, at North Livermore, was dedicated. The D. D. G. M., Bro. DAY, and P. G. Masters WASHBURN, DRUMMOND, CARGILL, MOORE, Rev. Bro. JOHNSON, Bro. CHASE, and others, rendered me assistance. An address was delivered by Bro. DRUMMOND. The attendance was good, and the occasion one of much interest. The same evening Reuel Washburn Lodge was constituted at Livermore Falls. This new lodge is under good management and bids fair to succeed.

On the 25th of June, I attended the celebration at Rockland, of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. All of the lodges of the

9th District, also the Chapters and the Commandery within the same limits, were in the procession. An address was delivered by Bro. DRUMMOND.

On the 21st of November, Deputy Grand Master COLLAMORE dedicated, at Thorndike, the new hall of Unity Lodge, and was assisted by D. D. G. M. GORDON, Bros. WIGHT, MATHEWS, MARSTON and others.

On the 20th of February, P. G. Master DRUMMOND dedicated at Bethel the new hall of Bethel Lodge, No. 97, assisted by D. D. G. M. CHASE and others. Bro. DRUMMOND also delivered an address.

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS.

No dispensations for new lodges have been asked for.

On the 12th of November, the charter of Ocean Lodge, No. 142, at Wells, in the 19th District, was surrendered. The cause thereof seems to be lack of interest among part of the members, and their scattered residences in different portions of the town.

Dispensations have been granted in four cases to allow lodges to ballot, before the usual time, upon petitions for the degrees; in several instances permitting lodges to form public processions upon occasions of public installation; also authorizing the election of officers in place of several who declined.

GRIEVANCES.

I have received ten reports of trials, which I have given to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Complaints of violation of jurisdiction have been made by three lodges, and the difficulties have been adjusted.

The Grand Master of Massachusetts has called attention to a complaint of violation of jurisdiction made some time ago by a lodge in his jurisdiction against a lodge in Maine. The case bids fair to be satisfactorily adjusted.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The Grand Orient of France, at the meeting which commenced Sept. 15, 1877, adopted a proposition submitted the previous year,

to strike out of the constitution the declaration, "The foundation of Freemasonry is a belief in the existence of God and the immortality of the soul." The Freemasons of Maine, while they are very tolerant of the many varieties of religious belief, do require some religious belief. They do believe in the existence of God and the immortality of the soul. We should put forth our protest against this innovation, striking at the foundation of our Freemasonry.

The latter part of April, I received circular letters from the Grand Master of the newly formed body claiming to be the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, asking our recognition thereof, and from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, declaring said newly organized body to be irregular and unconstitutional. It is desirable that some action be taken at this session in relation to the questions involved in these communications.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Having been invited by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, M. W. Bro. PERCIVAL LOWELL EVERETT, to be present, Sept. 17, 1877, at the dedication of the Army and Navy Monument erected by the city of Boston, on Boston Common, I accepted the invitation, and was very cordially received as your representative.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

In September I received a notice from M. W. Bro. JOHN J. BELL, Grand Master of Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, announcing the death, September 3d, of R. W. JOHN ATHERTON HARRIS, Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge, and that he had appointed as acting Grand Secretary, Bro. GEORGE P. CLEAVES, of Concord. With Bro. HARRIS I had but slight personal acquaintance. He had long rendered faithful service in all the masonic Grand Bodies in New Hampshire, and was a zealous and intelligent mason, whose loss is much felt in our sister jurisdiction.

APPOINTMENT OF GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES.

L. F. DARLING near Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, July 2, 1877.

LEWIS R. EASTMAN near Grand Lodge of Tennessee, Aug. 20, 1877.

JOHN W. MURTON, near Grand Lodge of Canada, Jan. 18, 1878.

The Grand Lodge of Canada has appointed P. G. M. DAVID CARGILL, Representative near this Grand Lodge.

OPINIONS.

1. A Past Master of a chartered lodge may, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, open the lodge, preside therein at the transaction of ordinary business, including the election of officers, as well as the conferring of degrees, and also may close the lodge.

2. A lodge cannot properly confer the Master Mason's degree at the request of another lodge, the requesting lodge not having waived jurisdiction of the candidate. The constitution does not authorize the conferring of degrees or admitting to membership without a previous application and a ballot being had thereon. The conferring of the third degree constitutes the recipient a member of the lodge. One lodge cannot elect members for another lodge.

3. A lodge attending the burial of a deceased member should perform the service at the grave, even though a Commandery of Knights Templar also perform their service. The custom of burying a Brother as a Master Mason, is more ancient than the existence in this country of an organized body of Knights Templar. While, therefore, there is no clashing between these masonic organizations, the lodge should perform its own duty or not appear as a lodge.

4. It is not an infringement of Sec. 105, Art. VI, Part 3 of the Constitution, for a lodge to hold a meeting for the purpose of installing the officers elect in the afternoon of the same day in which the stated communication occurs in the evening. Said section refers only to the conferring of degrees.

5. After a lodge has received an application for the degrees and voted to refer it to the committee, the Secretary has no right to return it to the applicant, but only holds it for the purpose of carrying out the vote of the lodge.

6. Objection having been made to the advancement of an

Entered Apprentice, the lodge should not refund the deposit and fee for the degree conferred. Each degree is worth the money paid therefor, and the lodge incurs expense in conferring, and pays a fee to the Grand Lodge.

7. Sec. 112, Art. VI, Part 3 of the Constitution, relative to enrolling masons upon the Grand Lodge Register, does not apply to unaffiliated masons who have not been rejected from membership.

8. A Brother who is going away, cannot put in a protest against a man who is likely to be made a mason in his absence. He can only object to an actual candidate.

9. A lodge which voted at a stated communication to attend the celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, and to assess upon the members the expense of music, can collect the same, such celebrations and having music thereat, being ancient customs.

10. A masonic hall, after dedication, cannot be used for other than masonic purposes. A lodge having been obliged to vacate its hall, may, if necessary, having obtained consent from the proper authority, temporarily occupy a hall used by another society, until a suitable hall can be procured.

11. A person who has irregularly received the degrees in a regular lodge, and who desires to be formally healed as a mason, must petition the lodge which he wishes to enter. The lodge must ask of the Grand Master a dispensation to act upon the petition, and send the dispensation fee. The ordinary course will then be taken with the petition. After a clear ballot is had, the person must be re-obligated in all the degrees, and a record thereof made.

DISPENSATION TO TRANQUIL LODGE.

I granted permission to Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, to accept the invitation of the city, to join in the procession and be present at the unveiling, October 11th, in the City Park at Auburn, of a statue erected in honor of EDWARD LITTLE, formerly a member of said lodge. A desire to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrate, and to the memory of a worthy brother, prompted the issuing of the dispensation. If you consider this to have been not the renew-

ing of an ancient custom, but an innovation, I trust that you will so express yourselves at the present session.

MAINE MASONIC TEXT BOOK.

The Maine Masonic Text Book, compiled by P. G. M. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, has been published and distributed to the lodges. By its study the lodges will be better enabled to decide the questions which are continually arising, and they will find it very useful as a monitor of the various ceremonies. Wherever the opinions of the compiler are at variance with the action of the Grand Lodge, the latter will continue to be the guide. A careful study of chapter XVII, relating to masonic offenses, will prove very useful to officers of lodges, and save much labor to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals. Evidently a great amount of time and care was bestowed upon the work, and Bro. DRUMMOND merits the thanks of the Fraternity for the services rendered them. Opportunity should be given during the session to compare the Text Book with our accustomed methods of work and procedure, in order that the discrepancies may be as few as possible, and that the lodges may understand what is expected of them.

STATUE OF P. G. M. KING.

The statue of WILLIAM KING, first Governor and first Grand Master of Masons in Maine, has been placed in the National Statuary Hall, at Washington, and was presented to the United States in January. Gov. KING was also President of the Convention which, in 1819, framed the Constitution of the State. Many of the members of that Convention and of the State Government, in its early years, were masons. The lessons of toleration learned in the lodge assisted them in forming a liberal constitution and equitable laws afterward. GOVS. KING, PARRIS and DUNLAP, U. S. Senators CHANDLER, HOLMES, SPRAGUE, DANA and NOURSE, Chief Justices WESTON and WHITMAN, Judges EMERY, FULLER, PIERCE and WASHBURN, General FESSENDEN, SIMON GREENLEAF and ERASTUS FOOTE, with many others, were masons as well as civilians.

PORTLAND MASONIC HALLS.

We meet at this time in the new apartments which our Portland Brethren have made to rise from the midst of the fire. Elegant, capacious and convenient indeed they are. Long may they be occupied by them and by us.

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

The Returns of the Lodges and the Reports of the D. D. G. Masters show that a reasonable degree of prosperity has been enjoyed during the year, and that the Fraternity is about the same, numerically, as a year ago.

Information of the affairs of the Grand Lodge, and the condition of the Fraternity at home and abroad, may be obtained from these reports—and the reports, soon to be rendered, from the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, the Committees on Returns, on Foreign Correspondence, on Masonic Jurisprudence, and other committees of the Grand Lodge.

We will now address ourselves to the transaction of the business incident to the Annual Communication. Let me express the hope that in the performance of these duties, harmony and brotherly love will prevail.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, *Grand Master*.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Master's Address be referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.

The Reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters were submitted with the Grand Master's Address, and referred to the same committee.

The Grand Treasurer submitted his Annual Report, as follows:

PORTLAND, May 7, 1878.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The receipts by the Treasurer for the year last past were	\$4,445.98
The disbursements amount to	4,350.14
An account current, exhibiting the amount received and paid out, and on what account, is herewith submitted.	
The balance in the treasury is	\$1,237.64

Dues have been received from all the lodges within the jurisdiction except Ocean Lodge, at Wells.

No addition has been made to the Charity Fund proper the past year, and facts warrant me in saying that there is now no prospect of any being made in the future.

I have, in accordance with a vote of the Trustees, deposited three hundred dollars as the nucleus of a Reserved Fund of the Charity Fund. This sum was a part of the amount proper to be distributed in charity, and this Reserved Fund is established as a contingent against future depreciations of the funds, lest the small sum available for distribution among the many needy and worthy Brethren, Widows and Orphans within our jurisdiction, should in future years become still more meagre in amount.

The amount received from the subordinate lodges for the year ending May, 1875, was \$5,348.00; for the year ending May, 1878, the amount is less than \$4,500.00—thus annually decreasing, until at the end of a term of three years there is a diminution of the income of this Grand Lodge of nearly \$900.00. The amounts paid the same years for the ordinary legitimate expenses, was in 1875 \$4,566.00, nearly \$800.00 less than the income, while in 1878 the amount paid for expenses has been about \$4,350.00, or an amount equal to the income within less than \$100.00; and the expenses of the year last past would have exceeded the income had it not been that peculiar circumstances reduced them \$200.00, which sum will necessarily become an addition to the expenses of the next year.

There is no probability that the expenses will be any less in future years, and if the receipts should diminish yearly, as they have for the three years last past, the expenses will exceed the income nearly \$1,000.00 at the end of three years to come.

It may be said or thought, that there is a balance in the Treasury (although it would not have been called by State Financiers of years ago, a "good working balance,") which will supply the deficiency for a term of years; and that the Treasurer, like the fabled shepherd's boy of olden time, is crying "Wolf" when there is no wolf, yet I give it as my firm conviction, that, if no measures are instituted to increase the revenue of this Grand Body, many years will not elapse ere the wolf will be at the door.

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

ACCOUNT CURRENT.

*Dr. The M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MAINE,**in account with MOSES DODGE, Grand Treasurer.*

1877.

May 3,	For paid Henry F. Collins, D. D. G. M. 1st District,.....	\$ 35.96
	“ E. Howard Vose, “ 2d “	11.75
	“ Henry R. Taylor, “ 3d “	19.07
1,	“ James T. Cushman, “ 4th “	27.00
3,	“ Daniel Dolloff, Jr., “ 5th “	48.50
	“ Manly G. Trask, “ 6th “	42.85
	“ John H. Gordon, “ 7th “	31.85
	“ Wm. A. Pendleton, “ 8th “	14.85
	“ Clark D. Smalley, “ 9th “	42.52
	“ Almore Kennedy, “ 10th “	26.80
	“ George P. Haskell, “ 11th “	24.25
	“ Peter Williams, “ 12th “	37.50
	“ Simeon S. Brown, “ 13th “	—
	“ Simeon Stone, “ 14th “	19.70
	“ F. I. Day, “ 15th “	44.35
	“ Diman B. Perry, “ 16th “	23.10
	“ George E. Taylor, “ 17th “	13.25
	“ Samuel G. Davis, “ 18th “	25.00
2,	“ John S. Derby, “ 19th “	18.60
3,	“ J. H. Drummond, cash paid for Proceedings, &c.,	17.75
	“ Albert Moore, Grand Master, expenses,	15.00
4,	“ R. E. Paine, Committee on Masonic History,.....	1.00
10,	“ Chas. Jones, fee as Representative in May, 1876,..	1.50
12,	“ Stephen Berry, Asst. Grand Secretary, (per vote),	20.00
	“ W. O. Carney, Asst. Grand Tyler, (per vote),.....	15.00
	“ T. J. Murray, Grand Lecturer, (per vote),.....	25.00
	“ J. H. Drummond, Com. on For. Cor., (per vote),..	80.00
21,	“ Portland Safe Deposit Vault, rent of box,.....	15.00
June 2,	“ Warren Phillips, Grand Tyler, (per vote),.....	30.00
July 17,	“ Carney & Merrill, labor, &c.,.....	15.55
18,	“ Union Mutual Life Ins. Co., rent,.....	131.25
19,	“ C. C. Hayes, labor,.....	5.00
Sept. 9,	“ Stephen Berry, printing Proceedings, &c.,.....	501.53
Oct. 1,	“ H. N. Jose, rent,.....	33.33
Dec. 1,	“ W. C. Clark, gas fixture,.....	1.00
8,	“ Ira Berry, Grand Secretary, salary,.....	500.00
	“ Moses Dodge, Grand Treasurer, (per vote),.....	40.00
28,	“ Masonic Trustees, use of hall, gas, &c.,.....	100.00

1878.

Jan. 1,	For paid H. N. Jose, rent,.....	50.00
3,	" Premium for insurance,.....	10.00
Feb. 11,	" American Bank Note Company, Diplomas,.....	100.00
Mar. 9,	" Carney & Merrill, repairs of furniture, &c.,.....	7.00
April 1,	" H. N. Jose, rent,.....	50.00
May 2,	" Ira Berry, Gr. Sec., postage, office expenses, &c.,..	80.86
	" Stephen Berry, printing Report For. Cor., &c.,....	274.05
	" Pay Roll of 1877,.....	1,710.70
	" Grand Treasurer's incidental expenses,.....	14.72
7,	" Balance in Treasury,.....	1,237.64
		<hr/> \$5,587.78

1877. Cr.

By balance in Treasury May 1, 1877,.....\$1,141.80

May 1,	Cash of H. F. Collins, D. D. G. M.	1st Dist.	121.40
	" E. Howard Vose, "	2d Dist.	155.80
	" Henry R. Taylor, "	3d Dist.	139.40
April 30,	" James T. Cushman, "	4th Dist.	262.50
	" Daniel Dolloff, Jr., "	5th Dist.	264.60
May 1,	" Manly G. Trask, "	6th Dist.	333.40
	" John H. Gordon, "	7th Dist.	144.55
	" Wm. A. Pendleton, "	8th Dist.	173.80
	" Clark D. Smalley, "	9th Dist.	386.30
	" Almore Kennedy, "	10th Dist.	167.25
April 25,	" George P. Haskell, "	11th Dist.	278.05
May 1,	" Peter Williams, "	12th Dist.	159.30
	" Simeon S. Brown, "	13th Dist.	210.30
April 10,	" Simeon Stone, "	14th Dist.	194.10
May 1,	" F. I. Day, "	15th Dist.	289.70
April 17,	" Diman B. Perry, "	16th Dist.	214.00
May 1,	" George E. Taylor, "	17th Dist.	380.65
2,	" Samuel G. Davis, "	18th Dist.	156.45
1,	" John S. Derby, "	19th Dist.	262.15
	" J. W. Taggart, dues of Lincoln Lodge,		26.40
Dec. 28,	" R. H. Hinkley, Grand Chapter rent, &c.,		57.14
1878.			
May 2,	" Ira Berry, Grand Secretary, charter fee		
	Reuel Washburn Lodge,.....		30.00
	" Ira Berry, Diplomas sold, registration		
	fees, &c.,.....		38.74
			<hr/> \$5,587.78

THE CHARITY FUND consists of—

25 shares Canal National Bank Stock,.....	\$2,500.00
37 shares Casco National Bank Stock,.....	3,700.00
5 shares Freeman's National Bank Stock,.....	500.00
5 shares First National Bank Stock,.....	500.00
\$6,000.00 Mortgage and Bonds on Real Estate,.....	6,000.00
800.00 U. S. 5-20 Bonds,.....	800.00
1,900.00 deposit in Portland Savings Bank,.....	1,900.00
1,900.00 deposit in Maine Savings Bank,.....	1,900.00
1,000.00 City of Portland Bond (Municipal),.....	1,000.00
	<u>\$18,800.00</u>

RESERVED FUND OF THE CHARITY FUND—

\$300 deposit in Maine Savings Bank,.....	\$300.00
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MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

Which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Grand Secretary presented his annual report, as follows :

PORTLAND, May 7, 1878.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

With the Records of the Grand Lodge and the Charity Fund, I have the honor of presenting my twenty-second annual report as your Secretary.

The routine duties of the office, as preparing Proceedings for the press, forwarding them when printed, preparing and forwarding Commissions, Diplomas, etc., and Correspondence, have been attended to, as well as the recording of the Proceedings.

The extra labor attendant on the removal of our archives, and re-arranging the documents, has prevented me from giving as much time to the examining and filing of the old papers as I had hoped ; but I have been able to do something toward it, and so far as progress has been made, the work has been done carefully.

I have procured a book and made a catalogue of the bound Proceedings of Grand Lodges in our Library, which will prove a convenience, by enabling us to find anything wanted, being so arranged as to serve as a sort of Index.

Respectfully submitted,

IRA BERRY, *Grand Secretary.*

Which was referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.

The Grand Secretary presented papers, as follows :

Report of trial of J. J. HOLBROOK by Piscataquis Lodge ; and petition of ANDREW LACY for restoration ; which were referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Petition of J. P. STEVENS and others for a new lodge in Brooksville, which was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

R. W. DAVID W. WEBSTER presented a petition for a new lodge in Bluehill, which was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition from members of Composite Lodge, asking that two names might be added to their charter, was laid before the Grand Lodge by the Grand Master, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

R. W. SAMUEL G. DAVIS presented a petition from Drummond Lodge, for permission to remove their Lodge Room from North Parsonsfield to Parsonsfield Centre, which was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND submitted the following report :

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence have considered the expediency of reviving, as a standing regulation of this Grand Lodge, the following resolution :

“Resolved, That in all applications for dimits, the lodges within our jurisdiction be governed by the ancient usages and charges of our Institution, and suffer no member to withdraw, unless to form a new lodge or to join another.”
and ask leave to report :

The evils of non-affiliation, and the proper and successful remedy for them, have occasioned more discussion than any other subject, and that, too, without finding a full remedy. The number of non-affiliates, including those sus-

pended for non-payment of dues, is immense, approximating *twenty* and perhaps *twenty-five* per cent. of the whole number of masons in the country. In this State the proportion is very much less, owing probably, in part, to the fact that the expenses of our lodges and our dues are less than in most other jurisdictions.

But great and extensive as are the evils of non-affiliation, your committee believe that an attempt to force affiliation, by retaining members against their will, will not tend materially to lessen those evils. Our present Constitution, while declaring affiliation a masonic duty, leaves the performance of that duty to the free will of the individual mason, but prescribes the consequences of a non-performance of this duty.

This system seems to work so well, that the evil of non-affiliation is less in this State than in most other jurisdictions, and for that reason we deem it inexpedient to make any change. We therefore recommend that the resolution be not revived. -

But there is one evil in our present system which we think should be remedied. Now a member, desiring to change his membership from one lodge to another, must first procure his dimit and become a non-affiliate, and then be unanimously accepted by the other lodge, and if, for any cause, his petition is denied, he remains a non-affiliate. We submit herewith a proposed standing regulation, allowing a lodge to receive and act upon a petition for membership before the candidate procures his dimit from the lodge of which he is a member.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
GEO. W. DEERING,	

The report was accepted, and the recommendation, that the Standing Regulation about dimitts be not revived, was adopted.

The resolution allowing a Brother desiring to change his membership to petition to the lodge he wishes to join, before procuring a dimit from his present membership, was re-committed. It was subsequently reported in a new draft and adopted, as follows :

Resolved, That with the consent of his lodge a member may petition another lodge for membership without taking a dimit; the lodge receiving the application may act thereon, but the applicant shall not become a member of such lodge until he has filed his

dimit and signed the by-laws; and, unless he procures his dimit and signs the by-laws within six months after his election, he shall lose all rights thereunder.

M. W. DAVID CARGILL presented Credentials as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, near the Grand Lodge of Maine, and was duly received and welcomed.

BRO. JOSEPH A. LOCKE submitted the report of the Committee on Returns, which was accepted, as follows:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your Committee on Returns have attended to the duty assigned them, and make the following report:

Number of chartered lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, is one hundred and seventy-nine; and returns have been received from all, giving the following exhibit:

	1877.	1878.
Initiated,.....	703.....	572
Admitted,.....	880.....	775
Re-instated,.....	23.....	54
Dimitted,.....	297.....	296
Died,.....	216.....	211
Suspended,.....	3.....	4
Expelled,.....	6.....	7
Suspended from Membership,.....	136.....	} 262
Deprived of Membership,.....	163.....	
Number of Members ....(corrected), 19,350.....		19,436
Non-affiliates, .....192 }	335 {	363 }
Add Dep. of Membership,.....143 }		262 }
Rejected,.....	332.....	201

Your committee also report that most of the Secretaries of the Lodges have been very prompt this year in making their returns, for which they have the thanks of the committee.

Several of the Secretaries have evidently taken pains to comply with the resolution of last year, in regard to ascertaining and reporting the number of non-affiliates. Portland, Rising Virtue and St. Croix Lodges send large lists.

Respectfully submitted,

IRA BERRY,	} Committee.
JOSEPH A. LOCKE,	
WARREN PHILLIPS,	

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.

Nos.	Lodges.	Initiated.	Admitted.	Re-instated.	Dimitted.	Died.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Deprived of Membership.	Members.	Non-affil'd.	Rejected.
1	Portland,.....	8	13	..	2	6	..	..	9	328	53	..
2	Warren,.....	..	1	..	1	6	..	..	..	106	..	..
3	Lincoln, .....	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	93	3	..
4	Hancock,.....	3	2	1	6	1	..	..	..	94	4	..
5	Kennebec,....	10	14	..	4	2	..	..	11	158	..	5
6	Amity,.....	1	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	134	..	..
7	Eastern,.....	1	2	..	3	1	..	1	35	162	..	..
8	United,.....	6	4	..	1	3	..	..	1	128	12	1
9	Saco,.....	4	7	..	5	1	..	..	..	153	..	..
10	Rising Virtue,.....	8	9	..	2	3	..	..	8	220	54	5
11	Pythagorean,	5	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	70	..	1
12	Cumberland,.....	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	85	8	..
13	Oriental,.....	1	1	..	5	1	..	..	2	158	2	1
14	Solar,.....	5	6	..	3	..	..	..	..	226	4	1
15	Orient,....	3	7	..	1	1	..	..	..	168	..	1
16	St. George,.....	5	5	..	1	2	..	..	..	88	..	1
17	Ancient Landmark,.	11	19	..	1	3	..	1	22	363	..	4
18	Oxford,.....	6	9	..	2	2	..	..	..	134	6	5
19	Felicity,.....	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	157	2	2
20	Maine,.....	3	5	1	10	1	..	..	20	73	..	2
21	Oriental Star,.....	8	10	..	26	..	..	..	2	108	1	1
22	York, .....	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	83	5	..
23	Freeport,.....	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	..	2
24	Phoenix,.....	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	2	179	..	3
25	Temple,.....	2	2	..	2	3	..	..	1	85	..	..
26	Village,.....	..	3	..	1	3	..	..	..	112	3	1
27	Adoniram,	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	12	52	..	1
28	Northern Star,.....	2	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	130	..	..
29	Tranquil,.....	6	10	..	..	1	..	..	..	200	2	2
30	Blazing Star,....	6	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	97	..	1
31	Union,.....	7	14	..	..	2	..	..	..	117	4	2
32	Hermon,.....	8	12	1	1	6	1	..	..	180	3	..
33	Waterville,.....	3	4	..	2	2	..	..	8	151	..	1
34	Somerset,.....	3	3	1	3	2	..	..	..	216	6	2
35	Bethlehem,.....	2	7	..	5	2	..	..	..	216	..	7
36	Casco,.....	7	5	..	4	2	..	..	..	149	6	..
37	Washington,.....	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	90	3	..
38	Harmony,.....	5	5	1	5	2	..	..	3	147	..	2
39	Penobscot,.....	3	2	..	3	1	..	..	..	144	4	3
40	Lygonia,.....	4	5	..	1	3	..	..	..	260	..	1
41	Morning Star,.....	5	3	..	2	2	..	..	..	70	..	..
42	Freedom,.....	3	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	67	..	..
43	Alna,.....	7	8	1	..	..	..	..	12	159	1	3
44	Piscataquis,.....	2	5	1	4	1	..	1	..	91	1	1
45	Central,.....	4	5	..	4	1	..	..	..	147	..	2
46	St. Croix,.....	2	5	..	3	3	..	..	..	207	23	..
47	Dunlap,.....	4	7	..	3	2	..	..	..	186	..	1
48	Lafayette,.....	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	96	3	2
49	Meridian Splendor,.	2	4	..	3	..	..	..	3	81	..	..
50	Aurora,.....	5	6	..	2	6	..	..	..	440	11	..
51	St. John's,.....	1	4	..	1	2	..	..	8	166	..	1

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
52	Mosaic,.....	2	2	2	4	2	..	..	4	162	1	..
53	Rural,.....	2	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	59	..	..
54	Vassalboro',.....	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	88	..	4
55	Fraternal,.....	1	7	3	3	2	..	2	2	94	..	..
56	Mount Moriah,.....	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	..	..
57	King Hiram,.....	6	7	..	..	1	..	..	..	75	..	2
58	Unity,.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	..
59	Mount Hope,.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	..	..
60	Star in the East,...	6	8	..	6	1	..	..	..	160	..	3
61	King Solomon's,...	11	11	..	..	1	..	..	..	130	..	1
62	King David's,	3	6	..	3	4	..	..	..	103	2	..
63	Richmond,.....	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	4	106	5	1
64	Pacific,.....	1	6	..	..	2	..	..	..	100	1	..
65	Mystic,.....	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	4	132	5	2
66	Mechanics',.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	103	6	2
67	Blue Mountain,.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	6	..
68	Mariners',.....	5	5	2	1	1	..	..	4	164	..	1
69	Howard,.....	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	8	101	1	1
70	Standish,.....	4	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	67	..	..
71	Rising Sun,.....	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	12	95	5	..
72	Pioneer,.....	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	38	..	..
73	Tyrian,.....	2	3	..	2	2	..	..	10	161	2	2
74	Bristol,.....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	128	..	..
75	Plymouth,.....	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	52	..	..
76	Arundel,.....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	66	8	..
77	Tremont,.....	3	4	..	1	1	..	..	..	122	1	..
78	Crescent,.....	2	2	..	1	3	..	..	..	147	..	..
79	Rockland,.....	5	11	..	2	5	..	..	..	378	..	1
80	Keystone,.....	7	8	2	3	2	..	..	..	100	..	4
81	Atlantic,.....	4	10	..	4	3	..	..	..	273	14	3
82	St. Paul's,.....	6	6	..	..	3	..	..	..	134	..	..
83	St. Andrew's,.....	3	4	..	6	4	..	..	1	300	..	6
84	Eureka,.....	3	2	..	3	4	..	..	..	125	1	2
85	Star in the West,...	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	107	4	..
86	Temple,.....	6	5	1	1	1	..	..	..	200	4	2
87	Benevolent,.....	1	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	53	1	..
88	Narraguagus,.....	2	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	141	..	1
89	Island,.....	3	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	75	..	..
90	Hiram Abiff, <i>ch. rev.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
91	Harwood,.....	1	..	..	3	4	..	..	4	150	4	2
92	Siloam,.....	5	6	4	3	..	..	..	..	123	..	3
93	Horeb,.....	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	99	..	..
94	Paris,.....	7	9	..	..	2	..	..	..	108	..	1
95	Corinthian,.....	2	2	..	3	1	..	..	6	68	..	1
96	Monument,.....	3	4	..	2	3	..	..	..	121	3	1
97	Bethel,.....	4	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	125	..	4
98	Katahdin,.....	4	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	70	..	2
99	Vernon Valley,.....	3	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	108	..	..
100	Jefferson,.....	5	5	1	1	1	1	..	..	85	1	1
101	Nezinscot,.....	2	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	85	2	..
102	Marsh River,.....	3	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	87	..	3
103	Dresden,.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	..	..
104	Dirigo,.....	5	4	..	2	1	..	..	13	88	11	2
105	Ashlar,.....	3	4	..	1	3	..	..	..	175	4	2
106	Tuscan,.....	2	2	3	..	1	..	..	..	161	1	..
107	Day Spring,.....	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	68	..	..
108	Relief,.....	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	72	3	..

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	Ad.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	D.	Mem.	N.	R.
66	Neguemkeag,.....	3	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	63	2	..
67	Whitney,.....	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	61	1	3
68	Composite,.....	3	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	32	2	2
69	Shepherd's River,	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	30	..	..
70	Caribou,.....	5	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	..	1
71	Naskeag,.....	1	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	52	..	..
72	Pine Tree,.....	5	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	53	..	3
73	Pleiades,.....	8	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	57	..	1
74	Lynde,.....	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	..	2
75	Baskahegan,....	16	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	..	2
76	Palestine,.....	9	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	..	3
77	Rising Star,.....	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	..	..
78	Ancient Brothers',	5	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	42	..	1
79	Yorkshire,.....	2	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	38	..	..
80	Hiram,.....	5	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	73	..	..
81	Reuel Washburn,	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	1	1
		572	775	54	296	211	4	7	262	19,436	363	201

NOTE.—Ocean Lodge having surrendered its charter, the members become non-affiliated masons. In 1876 the Lodge returned 70 members.

M. W. DAVID CARGILL submitted the following report:

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers having attended to their duty, make the following report:

That so much of the Grand Master's Address as refers to the death of Past Grand Master REUEL WASHBURN be referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the Grand Master.

That so much as refers to the Grand Orient of France, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

So much as refers to New South Wales to the same committee.

So much as refers to decisions given by the Grand Master properly belongs to the same committee.

The Treasurer's Report having been referred directly to the Committee on Finance, does not fall within our jurisdiction.

The Secretary makes his Twenty-second Annual Report, showing his unflinching devotion to the interests of the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID CARGILL, }
J. C. STEVENS, } Committee.
ALBERT MOORE, }

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations were adopted.

The Grand Master appointed Bros. JOSEPH C. STE-

VENS, OLIVER GERRISH and CHAS. C. MASON a special committee relative to the decease of Past Grand Master REUEL WASHBURN.

The Grand Master presented resolutions of Oriental Star Lodge on the death of Bro. WASHBURN, and a condensed account of his funeral, which were referred to the committee on that subject.

The M. W. Grand Master announced that the Dedication of Masonic Hall would take place at two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, and that at three o'clock work would be exemplified.

At high twelve the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, to meet at two o'clock P. M.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
Tuesday, May 7, 1878. }

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

Complaint of HORATIO BLAISDELL against Saco Lodge, and the answer of the lodge to the same, were presented, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Past Grand Master DRUMMOND introduced M. W. JOHN J. BELL, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and Past Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine; who was welcomed by the

Grand Master, and responded in an earnest and eloquent manner, alluding to his former connection with this Grand Lodge, and to those familiar faces which he still recognized as having met here fourteen years ago.

BRO. R. E. PAINE, for the Committee on the History of Masonry in Maine, reported as follows:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your committee have attended to the duties assigned them, and beg leave to present the following report:

Since the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge we have received the following lodge histories, viz:

Rural Lodge, No. 53; Meridian Lodge, No. 125; Ancient Landmark, No. 17, all in manuscript.

The following lodges are still delinquent, viz: Ashlar, No. 105; Mechanics, No. 66; Marine, No. 122; Narraganset, No. 88; Polar Star, No. 114; Rabboni, No. 150; Star in the East, No. 60; Solar, No. 14; United, No. 8.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. E. PAINE,	} Committee.
C. C. VINAL,	
C. I. COLLAMORE,	

Which report was accepted.

BRO. GEORGE W. DEERING presented credentials as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois near the Grand Lodge of Maine, and was welcomed by the Grand Master.

BRO. WILLIAM H. SMITH offered a resolution, that an assessment, equal to five cents per member, be made upon the lodges, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

BRO. DRUMMOND submitted the following Report:

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which were referred the decisions announced by the M. W. Grand Master last year, recommend that the same be approved as announced, except as follows:

1. So much of the third as decides that a Master may, for good cause, refuse to admit a member to a communication of the lodge, having been questioned, we deem it proper to state the decision in less general terms.

The adverse criticism probably arises from the phrase "for good cause." No one can doubt the power and right of the Master to exclude a member who applies for admission in a state of intoxication, while insane, or in any other condition, which would disturb the proceedings of the lodge. The scope of the decision, as we understand it, goes no further: it does not extend, as some have understood it, to cases in which a member is alleged to have committed some offense for which he has not been tried by the lodge, for in such case he is presumed to be innocent until he has been adjudged guilty in due form, and until then is legally entitled to exercise his rights as a member.

2. The seventh decision, viz: "All the lodges having concurrent jurisdiction over a candidate, must waive the same before he can petition for the degrees to a lodge in another jurisdiction," is in conflict with a decision of the Grand Lodge in 1862: that decision was based on the "settled practice" prior to that time, which we also understand has prevailed since. The reason is, that as one lodge may accept and initiate the candidate without the consent of the other lodges having concurrent jurisdiction, so that lodge may take jurisdiction and then transfer it to another lodge, without such consent. But of course, if he applies to one lodge for transfer of jurisdiction and is refused, he cannot then apply to another for such transfer.

We recommend that the seventh decision be not approved.

3. The question whether one lodge can properly do the work of another has been frequently decided in other States, but never before in this. Your committee know of but one instance in this State in which one lodge has conferred the degrees for another. In other States, the decisions are in conflict in respect to many of the consequences of such action.

The prevailing decision is that the lodge which confers the degrees is the mere *proxy* of the other lodge, and the work is the work of the latter, of which the candidate becomes a member, even under a constitutional provision as explicit as our own.

The committee fully concur with Grand Master MOORE in his doubts as to the expediency, if not the authority, of thus conferring the degrees. In this jurisdiction an objection by a member after ballot, and before initiation, is equivalent to a rejection: and even after initiation, objections may be made to advancement, and must be considered and determined. This right of objection may be wholly lost if another lodge can confer the degrees. There are other complications which may arise; and your committee recommend that the Grand Lodge decide that one lodge cannot confer the degrees upon the candidate of another lodge, except when one waives jurisdiction and the other accepts the candidate as its own in the regular manner.

Since the foregoing was written, Grand Master BURNHAM has announced a

decision upon the same question, in which the authority of one lodge to confer the third degree for another lodge, is denied.

We recommend that his decision, modified so as to apply to all the degrees, be confirmed as follows:

"One lodge cannot confer a degree at the request of another lodge, unless the requesting lodge waives jurisdiction, and the other lodge accepts the candidate in the usual manner, and for its usual fees.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
H. H. DICKEY,	
GEO. W. DEERING,	

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations were severally adopted.

The hour for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, the Grand Master called P. G. M. DRUMMOND to the chair, who appointed Bros. HORACE H. BURBANK, JESSE PRENTISS and GEORGE P. HASKELL a committee to receive, sort and count votes; and Bros. AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, SABINE F. BERRY and WILLIAM A. BARKER a second committee for the same purpose.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to ballot, and the following Brethren were reported to be duly and legally elected, viz:

M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Saco;
R. W. CHAS. I. COLLAMORE,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Bangor;
" MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Portland;
" SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	East Dixmont;
" MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland;
" IRA BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	"

Which report was accepted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to ballot for a Committee of Finance, and elected Brothers

OLIVER GERRISH,	Portland;
HENRY H. DICKEY,	Lewiston; and
BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS,	Portland.

BROS. DAVID CARGILL, of Augusta, and TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, of Portland, were elected Trustees of the Charity Fund for three years.

BRO. JOHN B. REDMAN was appointed to serve as one of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters in place of Bro. EDWIN B. STONE, who was not present.

M. W. ALBERT MOORE, for the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution, submitted the following report, viz :

The Committee on Amendments to the Constitution having considered the subjects presented, make the following report :

1. That Section 7 be amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting instead thereof the following, "A majority of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice," so that the section shall read :

"SEC. 7. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary, shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Communication on the first Tuesday of May, the election to commence at three o'clock P. M. A majority of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice. All Grand Officers not herein designated for election shall be appointed by the Grand Master."

2. That Section 38, providing for the appointment of a Committee on By-Laws, be stricken out, as Section 86, providing that every lodge, after adopting its by-laws, shall send a copy to the Grand Secretary and await their approval by the Grand Master, obviates the necessity of such a committee.

3. That the proposition to amend Section 53 by striking out the words "by it," so that it will read :

"SEC. 53. The Grand Lodge may restore any Brother suspended or expelled, but he shall not thereby be restored to membership in his lodge," be not approved, being in direct conflict with Section 54.

4. That the proposition to add to Rule 8 in Section 115 the words "except as provided in the fifty-third section," so that said Rule may conform to the proposed amendment to Section 53, be not approved.

5. That Section 113, Article VII, reading as follows :

"SEC. 13. No fee for affiliation shall be required in any lodge," be stricken out.

ALBERT MOORE, }
DAVID CARGILL, } *Committee.*
C. I. COLLAMORE, }

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations of the committee were severally adopted :

Complaint of Bethel Lodge against Seabasticook Lodge was presented, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, to meet to-morrow, at two o'clock P. M.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
WEDNESDAY, May 8, 1878. }

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

The M. W. Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers, then dedicated the new masonic halls in ample and ancient form. The ceremonies were rendered more impressive by the performance of an ode and a hymn by the masonic quartette, and appropriate music on the organ, at which Bro. KOTZSCHMAR presided.

Bros. CHARLES E. WELD, ALBERT W. LARRABEE and FRANCIS C. SYMONDS were appointed a Committee on Leave of Absence.

M. W. JOSEPH C. STEVENS, for the Committee on the death of Past Grand Master WASHBURN, reported as follows:

The special committee to whom was referred that part of the M. W. Grand Master's Address, having reference to the decease of our Past M. W. Grand Master REUEL WASHBURN, hereby submit the following report:

In the death of Brother WASHBURN, this Grand Lodge has lost one of its brightest ornaments; he was a zealous and upright mason of long standing,

filling various high positions among the fraternity with efficiency and great fidelity, and also holding honorable and responsible public offices of trust, with great integrity and credit to himself.

His funeral took place on Friday, March 8th ; and was attended by Oriental Star Lodge, of Livermore, Whitney Lodge, of Canton, Reuel Washburn Lodge, of Livermore Falls, and Representatives of various other lodges. The services were conducted by Rev. Bro. ROBERT BLACKER.

Resolutions in testimony of his high standing in the estimation of his Brethren were passed by Oriental Star Lodge ; and a similar testimonial was made by the members of the Bar of Androscoggin County.

Thus another prominent landmark in our order has been removed, teaching us the great uncertainty of life. Let us then, Brethren, seek to imitate his virtues, his Christian example, that the summons shall not meet us unprepared. With the bereaved family of our deceased Brother, we would mingle the tear of sympathy, commending them to Him who never willingly afflicts any who trust in Him.

We recommend that the resolutions of Oriental Star Lodge, and of the Androscoggin Bar, in memory of our deceased Brother, be published with the Proceedings of this Communication, in token of our appreciation of his worth, and estimation of his character.

We further recommend, that a page in our Records and Published Proceedings, properly inscribed, be devoted to his memory, and that a copy of our Proceedings be forwarded to the family.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. STEVENS, } Committee.
OLIVER GERRISH, }

The report was accepted, and the recommendations adopted.

RESOLUTIONS OF ORIENTAL STAR LODGE.

Whereas, It has pleased the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe to remove from our midst, and call to the glories of the higher life our revered Brother REUEL WASHBURN, after a useful and honored life of more than four score years ; by the members of Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, be it therefore

Resolved, That Oriental Star Lodge will miss from its meetings his familiar form and presence, his untiring energy, his wise and prudent counsels, and his ever friendly greetings, and will recognize the value to the lodge of his example of prompt attendance, zealous devotion to labor, love of the principles of Freemasonry, rigid adherence to order, and ever faithful support of the Masonic Fraternity as a worthy and beneficent Institution.

That we cherish with grateful pride the honors which have been bestowed on our revered Brother in our Fraternity, and public and private life, as reflecting high honor upon this lodge, of which he was a member for such a long term of years. That tokens of sorrow shall be displayed in the lodge room for the term of one year from his decease, during which term the members of Oriental Star Lodge will wear crape at their meetings.

That the sympathy of Oriental Star Lodge be respectfully tendered to the family and relatives of Bro. WASHBURN in this bereavement, and a copy of these resolves be conveyed to the family, and also that the resolves be conspicuously displayed on a separate page of the records of Oriental Star Lodge, and a copy of them, with an account of the funeral ceremonies, be reported to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine by the Secretary.

ROBERT BLACKER, }
J. D. THOMPSON, } Committee.
MARSHALL CHILD, }

Copy.

Attest:

JOHN LARRABEE, *Secretary.*

RESOLUTIONS OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN BAR.

On Monday, April 29th, in the Supreme Judicial Court, sitting at Auburn, Judge MORRILL, President of the Bar Association, presented the following resolutions, and moved their entry upon the records of the court, prefacing the motion by remarks highly complimentary to Judge WASHBURN:

"The members of the Androscoggin Bar, having for more than a quarter of a century enjoyed the association of their late brother REUEL WASHBURN, senior member of this Bar, who has been removed by death, we who survive him desire to express our appreciation of his character and our estimation of his worth as a man, in the various relations which he sustained in life. Therefore

"*Resolved*, That in the death of our Brother, we recognize the removal of one who, in his intercourse with others in all his social and business relations, has ever exhibited that candor, probity, and stern integrity which at once made him a guide to be followed and revered, and a friend to be held in long remembrance.

"*Resolved*, That as a lawyer he had a mind richly stored with general intelligence and a knowledge of his profession, capable of wisely discriminating between the right and the wrong in human actions, and ever eager to carry out in practice the great principles of the law in their truest sense; that always faithful to his clients as well as to the court, he was never wanting in the most scrupulous regard for the feelings and rights of his adversary; kind and courteous to his brethren of the Bar without regard to age; thus making himself an example to be followed by all who would practice the profession or engage in the business of the courts.

"*Resolved*, That we tender our sympathies to the widow and family of our deceased brother, and direct a copy of these resolutions to be presented to them.

"*Resolved*, That these resolutions be presented to the court for their concurrence, to the end that they may be entered upon their records; and that they be published in the several newspapers of this County.

ASA P. MOORE, }
GEORGE C. WING, } Committee.
CALVIN RECORD, }

M. T. LUDDEN, Esq., seconded the motion, in remarks testifying the highest respect for the character of the deceased.

Judge WALTON then spoke as follows:

"In speaking of the dead it may be well to dwell somewhat at length upon their virtues, and to speak sparingly of their faults; but exaggerated and indiscriminate eulogy should be avoided. It is neither just to the dead nor useful to the living. In speaking of the intellectual qualities of our deceased friend, Judge WASHBURN, it is enough to say that they were far above the average. He possessed a sound and clear judgment, and was therefore, a safe and reliable counsellor. He was not eminently successful as a *nisi prius* lawyer, but in the argument of questions before the law court, and in giving advice, he had few superiors. In speaking of his moral worth, of those qualities which go to make up that noblest work of God—an honest man, there is no language too strong. He was truly a noble man. Quick to perceive what was right, firm in his adherence to it, in his public life he was active, and in the discharge of his public duties always punctual and faithful. In private life he was amiable and kind to the last degree. We shall see him no more. His long and useful life is ended; but he has left to posterity the rich inheritance of an example how to live, which cannot fail to have a lasting and beneficial influence. The motion to place upon the files of the court the resolves adopted by members of this Bar is granted. And, as a further mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, the court will now adjourn."

The Grand Master announced that Atlantic Lodge would now exemplify the work of the third degree.

Atlantic Lodge entered the hall and the officers took their stations.

A lodge of Master Masons was opened, and Bro. ALBERT L. MERRY was raised to the degree of Master Mason.

Atlantic Lodge was then closed and its officers retired.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor, and sundry points in the ritual were discussed. It was

Voted, That the word "Compasses" be adopted as the authorized word to be used in Work and Lectures, instead of "Compass."

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND,
Thursday, May 9, 1878. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at nine o'clock A. M.

BRO. HORACE H. BURBANK presented the report of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, as follows:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your Committee on Dispensations and Charters, to whom were referred sundry petitions, have considered the same, and report thereof as follows:

In the matter of petition of JOHN P. STEVENS and others for a lodge at West Brooksville, we recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw, the preliminary constitutional requirements not being fulfilled.

In the matter of petition of JOSEPH WEDGWOOD and others for removal of Drummond Lodge, No. 118, from North Parsonsfield to Parsonsfield Centre, we recommend that the same be granted, the written certificate of consent of Day Spring Lodge being first filed with this petition, and the petitioners having also satisfied the Grand Master that a suitable lodge-room has been provided.

In the matter of petition of MARCELLUS NASON and others that the name of SAMUEL D. ATWOOD be inserted in the charter of Composite Lodge, No. 168, at La Grange, issued May 9, 1872, we think the action asked for is beyond the power of this Grand Lodge, and were it otherwise, we have heard no good reasons urged for such action, and therefore recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

In the matter of the petition of H. A. TRIPP and others for a dispensation for a lodge at Bluehill, your committee believe that there are lodges enough in that portion of our masonic field. Whether or not they are properly located, (while we have decided opinions thereon), was not a question for us to determine; but your committee believe these are not the times for this Grand Lodge to be lavish of its charters. We therefore recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Your committee also recommend that the surrender of its charter by Ocean Lodge be accepted.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. H. BURBANK,
W. R. G. ESTES,
JOHN B. REDMAN, } Committee.

Which report was accepted, and the recommendations of the committee were severally adopted.

On motion of Bro. WILLIAM H. SMITH,

Voted, That the standing regulation numbered 8, passed in 1873, and reading as follows :

“Resolved, That no person shall be examined for the purpose of visiting lodges in this jurisdiction until he presents satisfactory written evidence under seal that he was made in a regular lodge, and shall be allowed to visit only after examination, or being legally vouched for,”

be repealed ; leaving the W. Masters of lodges to exercise their discretion as to examination of visitors.

Bro. JOHN B. REDMAN presented the Report of the Committee on the Pay Roll ; which was accepted, and the Grand Treasurer was authorized to make payments in accordance therewith.

In accordance with the recommendation of said committee, it was

Voted, That lodges be required to return to the Grand Secretary, before the next Annual Communication, the distances from their lodge rooms to the Grand Lodge, by the routes usually traveled, where found to be incorrect, authenticated by the seal of the lodge in each case.

Bro. JOSEPH M. HAYES, for the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, reported as follows :

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully present the following report, viz :

In the case of Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, Ellsworth, vs. G. HOWARD PROCTOR, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the doings of Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, Ellsworth, in expelling G. HOWARD PROCTOR from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Ionic Lodge, No. 136, vs. HAROLD F. BLAKE, your committee recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the doings of Ionic Lodge, No. 138, Gardiner, in expelling HAROLD F. BLAKE from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Piscataquis Lodge, No. 44, vs. JAMES J. HOLBROOK, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Piscataquis Lodge, No. 44, Milo, in expelling JAMES J. HOLBROOK from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Hermon Lodge, No. 32, vs. JOHN BROWN, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Hermon Lodge, No. 32, Gardiner, in indefinitely suspending JOHN BROWN, be approved and confirmed.

On the petition of ANDREW LACY for restoration to rights and benefits of masonry and to membership, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That in the case of ANDREW LACY, petitioner for restoration, the petitioner have leave to withdraw, on account of want of jurisdiction.

In the case of Fraternal Lodge, No. 55, vs. NATHANIEL B. NEWELL, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Fraternal Lodge, No. 55, Alfred, in the expulsion of NATHANIEL B. NEWELL from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Fraternal Lodge, No. 55, vs. MARCELLUS S. CRENNER, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Fraternal Lodge, No. 55, Alfred, in the expulsion of MARCELLUS S. CRENNER from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 17, vs. WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 17, Portland, in the expulsion of WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Shepherd's River Lodge, No. 169, vs. L. D. POOR, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Shepherd's River Lodge, No. 169, Brownfield, in the expulsion of L. D. POOR from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Greenleaf Lodge, No. 117, vs. ALBERT G. O'BRIEN, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Greenleaf Lodge, No. 117, Cornish, in the expulsion of ALBERT G. O'BRIEN from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Yorkshire Lodge, No. 179, vs. JOSEPH H. PERRY, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Yorkshire Lodge, No. 179, North Berwick, in the indefinite suspension of JOSEPH H. PERRY from all the rights and benefits of masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of HORATIO BLAISDELL, petitioner for dimit from Saco Lodge, No. 9, Saco, your committee recommend the following:

Resolved, That whenever HORATIO BLAISDELL, petitioner, pays his dues in full he is entitled to a dimit from Saco Lodge, No. 9, without any comments.

In the case of NATHAN L. MARSHALL, appellant, vs. Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, Bryant's Pond, in suspending for two years NATHAN L. MARSHALL, be set aside, and that he be acquitted of the charge.

In the case of Maine Lodge, No. 20, complainant, vs. LEWIS A. GUILD and Caribou Lodge, No. 170, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That the doings of Caribou Lodge, No. 170, Lyndon, in acquitting LEWIS A. GUILD, for obtaining the degrees in that lodge fraudulently, be set aside, and that he is hereby convicted of the offense, and that he be expelled from all the rights and benefits of masonry.

In the case of Vernon Valley Lodge, No. 99, vs. Reuel Washburn, No. 181, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby censures Reuel Washburn Lodge, No. 181, Livermore Falls, for not complying with Art. 6, Sect. 92 of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, in regard to the application of Bro. HENRY MASON.

In the case of Bethel Lodge, No. 97, vs. Seabasticook Lodge, No. 146, your committee would recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That in consideration of important witnesses not being obtainable at the present session, the case be continued to the next session of this Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

JOS. M. HAYES,
ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, } Committee.

Which report was accepted, and the resolutions were severally adopted.

On motion of Bro. FESSENDEN I. DAY,

Voted, That Reuel Washburn Lodge have permission to confer the third degree on Bro. HENRY MASON.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND submitted the following report :

The Committee on Library ask leave to report.

Since the last Annual Communication, the Grand Secretary, with the concurrence of the committee, has removed the library to his present office, for which a less rent is paid.

There is no fire in the present building, as it is heated by steam brought from across the street. The office has a large fire proof vault, which will hold all the books and papers of the Grand Lodge, and, in case of a fire, a large part of the library could be put in it.

Since the removal of the library, a careful examination of our files shows that only about a dozen pamphlets have been lost or ruined: several of the rarest of which have been supplied—one by M. W. Past Grand Master CARRILL, and three by M. W. Past Grand Master MOORE, for which the thanks of the Grand Lodge are due these Brethren.

The committee have expended *ten dollars* for reprints and copying one year's Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, and they ask an appropriation for that amount.

In behalf of the committee,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, *Chairman.*

Which report was accepted; and, on motion,

Voted, That the sum of Ten Dollars be appropriated to defray the expense incurred by the Committee for Reprints and Copying.

BRO. BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS submitted the report of the Committee on Finance, as follows :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

Your Committee of Finance present the following report :

We have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and find them correct.

We recommend that the Grand Treasurer pay for services rendered to the Grand Lodge, as follows :

The Assistant Grand Secretary,.....	\$20.00
“ “ “ Tyler,.....	15.00
“ Grand Tyler,.....	30.00
“ Grand Treasurer,.....	40.00
“ Grand Lecturer,.....	25.00
“ Grand Organist,... ..	10.00
“ Chairman Committee on Correspondence,.....	80.00

We find, in the bills of D. D. G. Masters, that wide discrepancies exist in

charges made for visiting the lodges, many of which, we think, should not exist. We believe that in many cases the bills can be materially reduced, and while we have approved the bills as presented this year, we would request the D. D. G. Masters to take this matter under consideration, and endeavor to make their bills in future in such amounts as will leave no doubts in the minds of your committee in regard to them.

Your committee would say, in regard to the financial condition of the Grand Lodge, that the decreasing revenues, with no decrease in expenses, necessitates some action with reference thereto; otherwise, we may soon find that the expenses will exceed the revenues.

As a temporary expedient, we recommend an extra assessment of five (5) cents on the lodges for each member of the lodges in this jurisdiction, to be due and payable with the annual dues, as prescribed by the Constitution.

We would make the suggestion that a saving might be made by leaving the contract for printing open to competition.

H. H. DICKEY,
BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS, } *Committee.*

Which report was accepted, and amounts were appropriated for services, as therein recommended.

On motion,

Voted, That a tax, equal to five cents per member, be assessed upon the several lodges in this jurisdiction, to be due and payable with the annual dues to the Grand Lodge.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, was adopted:

Resolved, That on application at a stated communication, and on paying all dues and assessments, a member shall be entitled to a discharge from membership at the next stated communication, without a vote of the lodge, unless charges are pending against him. But this shall not prevent a lodge from recommending a dimitted member to the favorable consideration of the Craft.

Propositions to amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge were offered, as follows, viz:

By Bro. JOHN B. REDMAN,

That Article V. Sec. 6, of the Constitution be amended so as to read as follows :

"No Brother shall be eligible to an office in the Grand Lodge, except he be a Permanent Member thereof, or a member of a subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction; and a Brother having been duly elected to either of the stations of Grand Warden, and having served in said station for one year, shall not be re-elected to the office the year following."

By Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,

Amend Section 53, by striking out the words "by it," so that said section shall read as follows :

"Sec. 53. The Grand Lodge may restore any Brother suspended or expelled, but he shall not thereby be restored to membership in his lodge."

That Section 54 be amended so as to read as follows :

"Sec. 54. No restoration by his lodge of an expelled, or indefinitely suspended mason shall take effect until confirmed by the Grand Lodge."

Add to Rule 8, Section 115, the words "except as provided in Section Fifty-three."

Which propositions were entertained, and referred to the Standing Committee on Amendments to the Constitution.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That we greatly regret to learn that M. W. Past Grand Master WILLIAM P. PREBLE has been prevented from meeting with us on account of illness; and we hereby tender him our hearty wishes for his speedy recovery.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which in accordance with a general regulation had been made to the Grand Master in advance of the annual communication, printed, and submitted with the Grand Master's annual address, was presented

and distributed to the members of the Grand Lodge in attendance.

Report on Foreign Correspondence.

TO THE M. W. GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN MAINE:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence herewith submit their annual report.

For the first time in our experience, we believe, we are able to review the Proceedings of every one of the North American Grand Lodges, including those of Dakota for two years.

The following Table shows the Proceedings received, the date and length of the Annual Communication, and the page of the report upon which the review commences. As usual, we commenced printing with Arkansas: Idaho, being the last received, does not come in its alphabetical course.

Grand Lodge.	Date and length of Annual Communication.	Page.
Alabama,	December 3 to 6, 1877.	581
Arkansas,	October 8 to 10, 1877.	585
British Columbia,	February 17 to 20, 1877.	591
California,	October 9 to 13, 1877.	591
Canada,	July 11 and September 12 and 13, 1877.	597
Colorado,	September 18 and 19, 1877.	599
Connecticut,	January 16 and 17, 1878.	602
Dakota,	June 13, 1878.	604
Dakota,	June 12, 1877.	605
Delaware,	October 3 and 4, 1877.	605
District of Columbia,	November 14, 1877.	630
Florida,	January 9 to 11, 1877.	606
Georgia,	October 30 to November 1, 1877.	607
Idaho,	September 11 to 13, 1877.	583
Illinois,	October 2 to 4, 1877.	600
Indiana,	May 22 and 23, 1877.	617
Indian Territory,	September 4 and 5, 1877.	618
Iowa,	June 5 to 7, 1877.	619
Kansas,	October 17 and 18, 1877.	622
Kentucky,	October 16 to 19, 1877.	602
Louisiana,	February 11 to 15, 1878.	605
Manitoba,	June 13 to 16, 1877.	625
Maryland,	November 20 and 21, 1877.	635
Massachusetts,	December 12, 1877.	626
Michigan,	January 23 and 24, 1877.	629
Minnesota,	January 15 and 16, 1878.	697

Mississippi,	February 6 to 8, 1878.	700
Missouri,	October 9 to 11, 1877.	631
Montana,	October 2 and 3, 1877.	636
Nebraska,	June 19 and 20, 1877.	639
Nevada,	June 12 to 14, 1877.	705
New Brunswick,	September 26 and 27, 1877.	645
New Hampshire,	May 16, 1877.	649
New Jersey,	January 16 and 17, 1878.	706
New Mexico,	August 6 to 10, 1877.	651
New South Wales,	December 3, 1877.	651
New York,	June 5 to 8, 1877.	653
North Carolina,	December 4 to 6, 1877.	658
Nova Scotia,	June 6 to 8, 1877,	659
Ohio,	October 16 and 17, 1877.	660
Oregon,	June 11 to 13, 1877.	662
Pennsylvania,	December 28, 1877.	664
Prince Edward Island,	February 21 and 22, 1877.	667
Quebec,	September 26 and 27, 1877.	667
Rhode Island,	May 21, 1877.	669
South Carolina,	December 11 and 12, 1877.	671
Tennessee,	November 12 to 14, 1877.	708
Texas,	December 13 to 17, 1877.	673
Utah,	November 13 to 15, 1877.	677
Vermont,	June 13 and 14, 1877.	678
Virginia,	December 10 to 12, 1877.	679
Washington,	September 26 to 28, 1877.	685
West Virginia,	November 13 and 14, 1877.	686
Wisconsin,	June 12 and 13, 1877.	687
Wyoming,	October 9 and 10, 1877.	689
Colon and Cuba.		708

ALABAMA, 1877.

One hundred and eighty-two lodges represented: the work on each degree reported upon and the report concurred in: five charters granted, two restored and two dispensations continued.

The Grand Master (PALMER J. PILLANS) was unable to be present, and his brief address was read by the Grand Secretary.

He says:

"I am happy to say to you that to me there appears to be a better dawning for masonry in this State. Fewer new lodges have, to be sure, been formed; but on the other hand, some of those which had become dormant have been recalled to life and vigor; and better still, fewer, very much fewer, appeals from the judgments of the lodges have been taken to this communication than usual. Indeed, none until within the last few days. These disclosed oftentimes a mass of moral turpitude, and their absence proves that

such unworthy members have been pretty thoroughly weeded out, and the hope may now be entertained that a greater degree of moral elevation may be attained under the teachings of our beautiful degrees.

"In addition to the foregoing, I would also mention that fewer questions involving any intricacy have been submitted to your Grand Master for his decision. This betokens a more thoughtful and intelligent administration of the affairs of the several lodges by their Worshipful Masters."

The death of P. G. M. JAMES MCC. WILEY was announced, and a tribute paid to his memory.

Ten committees on chartered lodges were appointed: we like best our system of having the report prepared in advance of the meeting of the Grand Lodge. We think, by adopting a similar system with all the more important committees, our Alabama Brethren would save one or two days in the length of their annual sessions.

In 1874, the Grand Lodge recognized the Lavradio organization in Brazil, and it having been suggested that this action was erroneous, a committee reported thereon, that they were unable to decide which is the lawful organization, and that they do not mean to decide that the other is not, but under the circumstances, they recommended to allow the action of the Grand Lodge to stand unchanged, and it was so ordered.

The Committee on Grievances say that it is evident that some lodges do not know of the existence of the "Code"—a book prepared for the use of lodges in that State, or deliberately disregarded its provisions.

Many interesting questions of jurisprudence were before the Grand Lodge, as the Grand Master's decisions for three years were passed upon.

It was decided that when a charter is restored, all who were members at time of forfeiture, except those who have taken a certificate from the Grand Secretary (equivalent to a dimit), become members of the lodge.

Also that no one, not a member of the lodge, can appeal from its decision, except the *accused*. We are not sure that, under the old charges, the *accuser* cannot appeal, whether a member or not.

Several questions were considered and discussed, but finally re-committed for action at the next session.

We perceive that their Constitution contains the barbarous provision (formerly in our own), that when the Grand Lodge reverses for illegality, the action of a lodge in suspending or expelling a member, he nevertheless loses his membership.

The form of petition for initiation was amended by inserting in it a declaration as to whether the candidate had ever applied and been rejected in any other lodge—substantially the same as our own form.

The Grand Lodge decided that it could not authorize a Master to resign.

The Report on Correspondence (190 pp.) was again presented by Bro. OLIVER S. BEERS. He styles his report "an aggregation of quotations," saying, however, that he would prefer to devote a fair portion of his space to discussion; and that hereafter, time and circumstances permitting, he may

do so. We hope they *will* permit, as Bro. B.'s discussions are *always* interesting.

He concurs with us, that a lodge has jurisdiction over any mason who commits an offense in its jurisdiction.

He differs from the most of us upon one question:

"Here we beg to take issue with Brother Robbins; we once thought as he now writes on this subject, but have learned, alas, too sadly, the lesson that charity, like 'faith without works is dead.' We must have some stimulant, some recognized and noble object in view; some call for *united*, persistent, yea, laborious effort, demonstrating the existence and vigor of our charity, as well as assisting its growth and development; or that saving grace of our theological ladder will, like the *unused* muscles of the human frame, wither, contract and die. What nobler object than an orphans', a widows' Home, can appeal to masonic sympathy or claim masonic union and effort? Whatever of difficulty or failure may lie in the way of final success in such an enterprise, will disappear before the tread of the 'Grand Army' of Illinois Masons marching on in union and strength to the call of duty. Individual effort has failed to meet the demand for succor to the helpless and distressed, the call is now for united labor and means to accomplish results suited to the emergency."

He devotes six pages to Maine, quoting largely from Grand Master Moore's address.

He would apply the "heroic treatment" to those who are able to pay dues and will not do so. He says:

"We think the trouble arises mainly from lack of masonic principle and knowledge. Most of the delinquents are what the church people call 'backsliders.' All who *will not pay* dues (if able), or, in other words, *help* to support the organization, should be expelled, and then with careful selection of new material in the future, and generous forbearance with and assistance to the few who would but *cannot* contribute, the end of tribulation in this direction would soon be reached."

We find in his report, but not in the body of the Proceedings, the disposition made of Bro. SAYRE's resolutions copied by us last year (p. 310). Speaking of our report, he says:

"He quotes in full Bro. Sayre's preamble and resolutions on Negro Masonry (referred to a special committee in 1876 and acted upon in 1877, the chairman, Bro. S., reporting favorably, and Bros. Walthall and Woolf, the other members of the committee, reporting adversely to the adoption of the resolution—resulting after a protracted discussion to an indefinite postponement of the whole subject), and says of them:

"We think our good Bro. Sayre cannot sustain or prove his propositions of fact; and if he cannot, his conclusion fails, of course. A somewhat extended examination fails to find the proof of his assertions, but decidedly the reverse. In the earliest records we have found, there are declarations as to the *universality* of masonry utterly at variance with his views. We shall look with much interest for the report of the committee (of which he is chairman)."

"The action of our Grand Lodge, as indicated above in parenthesis, virtually decided against the resolutions, though it was a hard struggle to combat Bro. Sayre's earnest and able advocacy of his views as embodied therein."

IDAHO, 1877.

We receive these Proceedings just in season to squeeze a brief review of them into our report. We are more fortunate than Bro. PURDY was, as he

received of our Proceedings only a few pages of the Report on Correspondence and the abstract in the *Token*.

The eleven lodges were all represented: the Grand Lodge of Cuba recognized: and the usual routine business transacted.

The Grand Master (E. A. STEVENSON), in his address, eloquently discusses the duties and obligations of Masons to each other.

He says the "Orphan Fund" had reached the sum of \$4,250.

He announces the deaths of Bro. D. B. RANDALL, killed by the Indians while defending women and children from their attack, and of Bro. LEWIS DAY, who was killed in the same way while he was endeavoring to pass the Indian lines for aid to save the community. A tribute is paid to their memories by the Grand Lodge. And nobly was it deserved, as both sacrificed their lives to save the lives of others—of women and children. In addition, the Grand Lodge placed in charge of Idaho Lodge two hundred dollars, to be used for the benefit of the children of Bro. DAY.

The Report on Correspondence (115 pp.) was presented by Bro. O. H. PURDY. His report is an excellent one, although we cannot agree with him in all his positions.

He endorses the resolutions of Bro. SAYRE quoted by us last year (p. 310): but, so far as we have noticed, is the only one who does so.

He believes in the *exclusive* sovereignty, in their territory, of all Grand Lodges, and hence holds that the Minnesota lodges in Dakota ought to be *ordered* to give in their adhesion to the Grand Lodge of Dakota, and dissents from the qualified recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec tendered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, as based upon principles that would justify the recognition of the Colored Grand Lodge of Ohio. We have marveled that any American mason could give the slightest degree of countenance to a doctrine that would absolutely overturn the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction, and so utterly at variance with the fundamental principles of government: and we are glad to see Bro. PURDY taking this decided stand, as it seems to us that the matter has been too lightly passed over.

He also, heretofore, has commended the action of Missouri in reference to Scotland, but in reviewing the discussion Iowa had with Scotland, he is "*forced*" to call back" the opinion before expressed. He considers the question a "grave" one, and condemns severely the action of Scotland. Apply our Maine rule—that a resident of Maine, made a mason in a foreign jurisdiction, shall not be recognized here as a mason—and all disputes are avoided, and the *occasion for them rarely occurs*.

These Proceedings are very neatly gotten up, and we notice that they are printed in Washington, at the office of the *Masonic Electic*. If that is to be continued, we suggest that arrangements be made to have the Proceedings for other Grand Lodges distributed directly from the printing office—they would be received much earlier: the session was held early in September, and we in Maine received the Proceedings in May, eight months afterwards.

ARKANSAS, 1877.

The Proceedings come to us adorned with a fine portrait of Past Grand Master E. H. ENGLISH.

One hundred and two lodges represented: five charters granted: two dispensations granted, three continued, and one withdrawn: a uniform Code of By-Laws for subordinates; the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge; Forms, Instructions, &c., for Secretaries; and the Decisions given in full, arranged in the form of a Digest, published with the Proceedings.

The Grand Master (M. M. McGUIRE) announces the destruction, by fire, of the Grand Secretary's office at Little Rock, with all the records, books and papers of all kinds, the Masonic Library, with all the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, bound and unbound, prior to 1876, and all the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges, many of which had been bound. The loss of the books of the Grand Secretary rendered it impossible for him to tell what lodges had paid dues and what ones had not. But the fire-fiend was not yet satisfied. Some two months afterwards, the office of the Grand Master at Dardanelle was burned, with all his official documents. A call is made for the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for any year, as well as for the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges: and we trust especial pains will be taken to respond to the call.

The Grand Master likens the position of the Grand Lodge in reference to St. John's College to the situation of the man who had purchased an elephant. The man hadn't the means "to run his show": the elephant was too valuable to kill, but would not pay to keep, and, worse than all, could not be sold for want of a purchaser. The comparison is too just to be agreeable. He recommends substantially that it be leased, and that any funds the Grand Lodge may have to appropriate for it be applied in payment of a debt of \$6,000 which the College owes.

The committee, to which the matter was referred, divided in their views: the majority recommended that no aid be given by the Grand Lodge directly to the support of the College, but that it assume and pay the interest on the debt, and that the Trustees be required to apply the proceeds of any land sold to the reduction of the principal: the minority recommended that the interest on the debt be paid out of the current receipts, and the balance applied as the Trustees might see fit; and that the proceeds of the sale of land be applied in payment of the debt, and that no debt be in any event contracted against the Grand Lodge: a substitute for both reports, in substance that the Grand Lodge be divorced from all connection with the College, and that it would not hereafter appropriate any money for the support of the College, or any beneficiaries therein, was lost by a vote of 49 to 185: thereupon the minority report was adopted by a vote of 147 to 103.

The fundamental principle of masonic charity and benevolence is *individual obligation*. All measures, tending to change this obligation from the *individual* to an *association*, are really subversive, in a greater or less degree, of the

ancient plan of masonry; which never contemplated that the individual brother can relieve himself from his obligations by substituting relief by an association, to whose funds he should contribute. It is true that, in consequence of there being so many impostors, an organized method of distributing charity became in many places a necessity. But as the tendency of that method is to lessen the personal responsibility resting upon each brother, it should not be extended. We have therefore been opposed to attempts to create masonic charities on an extended scale for this reason, as well as the manifest difficulty of managing such institutions through our masonic organizations, created for entirely different purposes.

Among his decisions approved by the Grand Lodge are the following:

1. A lodge has no right to charge a fee for a dimit.
2. A belief in a Supreme Being is required of all candidates for the mysteries of masonry.
3. In the case of the death of more than one member near the same time, a vote to wear a badge of mourning in each case calls for the wearing of but one badge.
4. A Warden is liable to be suspended for non-payment of dues, or any masonic offense, the same as any other member.
5. Charges cannot be withdrawn by the accuser, after they have been filed, except by the unanimous consent of the lodge.
6. Entered Apprentices cannot dimit; they can take the remaining degrees in another lodge by permission of the lodge in which they received the first degree.
7. A widow of a mason, by a second marriage loses all rights, of a masonic character, derived through her former husband.

The following reports, in relation to other decisions, were adopted by the Grand Lodge, in whose action we concur:

"We recommend the approval of so much of decision No. *four* (4) as holds it to be wrong for a lodge to reconsider a vote of suspension or expulsion at a subsequent meeting; and the non-approval of so much of the decision as affirms that a lodge may, at a subsequent meeting, set aside its judgment and grant a new trial.

"The lodge has power to grant the suspended or expelled a new trial, when the application therefor is made in the proper time, if it thinks there are good grounds for it. But the proper time for making and acting upon the motion for a new trial is at the convocation of the lodge at which the trial is had and the judgment of suspension or expulsion rendered. After the convocation is terminated, and the lodge finally closed, the judgment becomes final and absolute, and the accused has but two remedies, one by appeal to the Grand Lodge, and the other by application to the lodge in the usual mode, for restoration.

"To permit applications for new trials to be made and acted on at a convocation subsequent to the one at which the judgment of suspension or expulsion is rendered, might open a door for mischief."

* * * * *

"The M. W. Grand Master correctly decides in No. *fourteen* (14) that the reception of the Past Master's degree in a *Chapter* confers no authority on the brother to preside in a Master's lodge—that Symbolical Masonry is not dependent on Capitular Masonry to furnish it with qualified officers, etc.

"We concur in so much of decision No. *fifteen* (15) as holds that it is not necessary for the Past Master's degree to be conferred on a Worshipful Master elect prior to his installation, and that the *full and complete installation* ceremonies seat the Master elect in the *Oriental Chair*, and qualify and empower him to preside.

"The Master elect may preside over the lodge after he is installed in the ordinary open form, but his installation is not full and *complete*, and he is not seated in the *Oriental Chair*, in the true masonic sense, until the order of Past Master is conferred upon him in a convocation of Past Masters duly assembled.

"We do not concur in the remark of the M. W. Grand Master, that 'the Past Master's degree is a modern innovation, accepted by usage, but wholly unsupported by law.'

"The order of Past Master, as conferred in convocations upon Masters elect, is as old and as constitutional as any degree in masonry.

"As a Chapter degree it is American, adopted as part of our caputular system nearly a hundred years ago, as above observed, and is made, by the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the Constitutions of the State Grand Chapters, a regular degree.

"As an order, conferred in convocations, or as a degree of the Chapter series, it is supported by law, and, when properly conferred, like all of the orders and degrees of masonry, is instructive and improving. An accomplished Past Master is familiar with beautiful ceremonies, and with the constitutions and laws of Symbolical Masonry."

* * * * *

"We most respectfully submit that decision No. *seventeen* (17) is not law.

"A man who has lost a foot, a leg, arm or hand, cannot be made a mason, though the missing member be artificially supplied.

"The decision is in conflict with the Ancient Constitutions, and the approved decisions and edicts of this Grand Lodge.

"It is important for a man to have a good heart and a tolerably good head to be made a mason, but legs and feet, and arms and hands are also important and indispensable, and wood, or cork, or metal, will not supply the place of flesh and bone, nerves and muscles.

"We sympathize with men who have been so unfortunate as to lose their limbs, but we cannot make masons of all men for whom our sympathies are aroused."

The Grand Lodge of Cuba was recognized: but we think that the committee were not aware that many of the confessedly legal lodges in the Island were not invited or notified to join in the organization of the Grand Lodge, and that it was actually organized by less than a majority of such lodges.

The Committee on Appeals reported in favor of reversing the judgment of a lodge acquitting the accused, and recommended that the case be remanded *with instructions to the lodge to find the accused guilty*, and to inflict such punishment as the case required; but the Grand Lodge properly adopted the following, which we quote as an excellent form in such cases:

"The Grand Lodge F. and A. Masons of Arkansas being of opinion, on inspection of the record of the proceedings of Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 18, on appeal from the decision of said lodge in the trial of Brother James E. Skaggs, that said lodge has erred, it is considered and ordered that said decision be reversed, and that said James E. Skaggs be indefinitely suspended from all the rights and privileges of masonry, and that this judgment be certified to said lodge and entered on its minutes as the judgment in said case."

The Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory was recognized upon the report of the majority of the committee. We copy a portion of this report, in consequence of the importance of the question involved:

"We are to decide this question just as we would a supposable case of this kind. Suppose that all that portion of North America which is now under the

masonic jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges of Canada—Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba—was without a Grand Lodge, and that three lodges, regularly chartered by the Grand Lodge of England, should meet and form a Grand Lodge called the Grand Lodge of British North America, and then call upon us for recognition. Taking it for granted that the civil allegiance and the internal governments and relations of the various Provinces comprising that vast territory existed just as they exist to-day, then would we have to vex ourselves about their civil allegiance and governmental relations either *inter se* or towards the home government? We think not; but, on the contrary, we think that the only questions demanding an answer at our hands would be these:

"1. Were the lodges which united in the formation of the new Grand Lodge regular?

"2. Did they go about their work and perform it in a regular way?

"3. Was there a regularly organized Grand Lodge within the bounds of the jurisdiction claimed by the new Grand Lodge which might lawfully contest their sovereignty?

"4. Are these limits and boundaries so well defined that no dispute can arise between them and any other sovereign Grand Lodge as to territorial jurisdiction?

"Answers to these questions, when applied to the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, result as follows:

"1. The lodges forming this Grand Lodge we know to be regular, as far as three of them—the requisite number—are concerned, for they held charters granted by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas. If these lodges claimed to hold charters from any other Grand Jurisdiction, we would then wait to hear from such Grand Lodge, and by their statement as to *regularity* we would form an opinion.

"2. Reliable information, officially from the new Grand Lodge, and undisputed from any other source, should govern us in answering this question.

"3. No claim is made, or suggested after the lapse of three years, of any conflicting Grand Lodge within the same territorial limits.

"4. This question is answered by the action of the new Grand Lodge, as follows: 'On the north by the State of Kansas; on the east by the States of Missouri and Arkansas; on the south by the State of Texas, and on the west by the States of Texas and New Mexico.'

"This, certainly, is a 'well-defined boundary,' and, in conclusion, we submit: That this is not a question of *introducing* masonry into the Indian Territory—it is already there. Nor whether we will organize, or permit a Grand Lodge to be organized, within the territorial limits named. This is beyond our power. It has already been accomplished in the only way known to masonic law and usage. But simply shall we recognize the sovereign rights already claimed and exercised, and not assert further jurisdictional rights within such limits.

"If, in the future, another Grand Lodge should be organized within the territorial limits now claimed by the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory—basing their claims to sovereignty upon the ground of this separate and distinct character of their governmental relations or civil allegiance, claiming to be '*Imperium in Imperio*'—and asserting their supposed right to set up a separate Grand Lodge of their own, independent of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, then these questions, which have in the present instance been prematurely raised, would legitimately come up."

Other decisions were made by the Grand Lodge upon the report of the very able Committee on Masonic Law (P. G. M. ENGLISH, chairman):

1. A mason, residing in one State, may become a member of a lodge in another State.

2. A question, as to the right of a member to vote, should be decided by the Master, and not submitted to a vote of the lodge.

"3. 'Can a Master of a lodge, after charges and specifications are pre-

ferred, and the Committee of Investigation has reported, the time for trial set, the accused notified and present, entertain a motion to *throw out the charge?*"

"And the committee answer that such motion should not be entertained, but the lodge should proceed to hear the evidence and vote upon the charge and specification.

"If the charge and specifications are defective in form or substance, the lodge may cause them to be amended, serve the accused with a copy of them as amended, and cause him to be summoned again for trial at a time to be fixed."

4. A brother having been pronounced guilty by a vote of seven to four and then expelled, it was decided:

"It requires two-thirds of the members present to sustain any specification or charge.

"It seems *eleven* votes were cast on the charges and specifications, of which seven voted guilty, and four not guilty. Seven not being two-thirds of eleven, there was a failure to convict, and the accused stood acquitted.

"The accused having neglected to appeal from the judgment of expulsion within the time fixed by the Law of Trials, his remedy by appeal is lost. But the Grand Lodge, on his petition, might issue a mandate to the Secretary of the Lodge to certify up to it a full, true and perfect transcript of the record of the trial, and if, on inspection of the record, the state of case as above made should appear, the Grand Lodge would declare the judgment of expulsion illegal, and annul it."

5. From another report, we infer that it is held that a by-law, providing that members in arrears of dues shall not be allowed to vote in the lodge, is valid and may be enforced without first formally convicting the member of being in arrears, as alleged.

The following amendment to the Constitution was adopted:

"That the regular Annual Communication, after the adoption of this section, shall proceed to elect five brothers learned in masonic law and usage, who shall be a Committee upon Work and Lectures, the members of such committee to hold their office during life, or during good masonic behavior. Said committee shall have full charge of the work and lectures to be used in this Grand Lodge and all subordinate lodges within its jurisdiction. That they shall meet and confer upon such work and lectures, and shall exemplify the same to the Grand Lodge or Grand Master whenever called upon. They shall obtain the work and lectures from the most authentic sources, and, upon all disputed points, their decisions must be unanimous before they become incorporated in the work or lectures. That in case of death of any member or members of said committee, such vacancy shall be filled temporarily by appointment of the M. W. Grand Master, and, at its next regular communication, by election in the Grand Lodge, the term of office of said members being during life or good behavior. That the Deputy Grand Masters shall receive the work and lectures from said committee, or any member thereof, and shall instruct subordinate lodges in such work. That the office of Grand Lecturer be and is hereby abolished."

We shall watch with much interest the working of this plan: while it takes away from the Grand Lodge all power over the ritual, it insures that there will be few changes: and we must say that our experience and observation have led us to the conclusion that the decision of a large body upon questions of ritual, suddenly raised, is quite liable to be erroneous.

The Committee on Correspondence (by Bro. GEORGE E. DODGE) submitted a special report, from which we take the following:

"This review, if desired by this Grand Lodge, will be put in shape for the printer's hands in time for the same to appear in our published Proceedings. If our own convenience and personal wishes are consulted, we prefer that the review remain out of print.

"We also submit that it would be well for this M. W. Grand Lodge to express a decided opinion about the importance and usefulness of a carefully prepared report on Foreign Correspondence; and, if thought best, to define somewhat the scope and limit permitted to such committee.

"The Chairman is apt to feel some degree of uncertainty in the premises when the preparation of such a report is left to his own inclination or leisure or ambition, rather than to a sense of duty, and a feeling that something is expected from him which if lacking will be missed.

"This suggestion is made because whenever the Chairman of this Committee has for good reason, or no reason at all, failed to prepare the usual report, such failure is excused with an alacrity that would seem to imply that the preparation of such a report was a useless task, and its printing a useless expenditure.

"If, on the other hand, the Grand Lodge considers a report on Foreign Correspondence of importance to the craft—in fact, as important to masonry as the standard literary reviews are to literature, science and art—they recognize the fact that our most flourishing sister jurisdictions foster and encourage such reports; that the opinions of the Chairmen of a few of the oldest and wisest of them are sought after eagerly by the masonic world upon all questions of general masonic importance—to the exclusion of the novices in the profession.

"Then it might be well to secure the services of a competent brother to take the matter in hand; one who, by study and research, has equipped himself for the task. If none such can be found—which is not supposable—let an apprentice be put to work, and encourage him in mastering his trade. (This suggestion is made solely with reference to the successors of this committee, and expressly so conditioned.) Such a craftsman would soon become a wise counsellor and safe guide in matters concerning the polity of masonry—and upon questions which concern our relations with other bodies of masonry dispersed about the habitable globe."

On motion of Bro. ENGLISH, by a unanimous vote, these views were concurred in, the suggestions adopted, and Bro. DODGE declared the permanent Chairman of the committee.

To his regular report (64 pp.) we can give but little space.

He says that the proper place for these reports is in the *body of the Proceedings*: objects to putting the names of candidates on notices of meetings: holds that the expenditure of money in masonic charity gives no claim for reimbursement: does not believe in lumbering up the *Proceedings* of Grand Lodges by publishing returns of lodges therein: and on one vexed question expresses himself as follows:

"Of all the devices of the adversary to baffle the progress of masonry, of all the insidious influences calculated to weaken the vitality of organized masonry, commend us to this latter day, free and independent American citizen idea, that masonry is a 'voluntary institution,' that a mason may stay in or out, go in and go out of a lodge at his own sweet will; pay dues or not, as it suits his whim. From all such 'good Lord deliver us.'

"Next in order will be the 'progressive' lunatic with a 'constitutional amendment,' securing to all the world and the balance of mankind their 'inherent rights' to be made masons, with or without dues."

He holds that non-payment of dues is not a *masonic offense*: but that suspension for non-payment of dues is a mere temporary withholding of lodge privileges from a member who *can* pay but won't, which he can remove at

any time by paying his dues; and, therefore, that it may be inflicted without trial.

In his review of Maine he says:

"We always thought, and with proper respect shall continue to think, that a member of a lodge in good standing cannot be excluded from the lodge upon the objection of another member, nor of a dozen others. He is entitled to all the privileges of the lodge until some disability has been incurred *after a full hearing, from which he cannot be excluded*, and of which hearing he cannot be deprived—*lawfully* at least. We will go as far as the next brother in maintaining the sacred and inviolable right of *objection*; but cannot go as far as the above decision would lead."

* * * * *

"A proposition for the formation of some sort of masonic insurance concern, was promptly squelched by the Grand Lodge. Thus may it ever be."

He misapprehends the scope of the decision to which he objects: and we think he will agree that it is correct. Suppose a member, violently insane, insists upon entering the lodge: has the Master no power to exclude him, without a previous trial? Suppose a member comes in grossly intoxicated: must he remain until he is tried and expelled? Or, suppose that a member claims to come in with the avowed purpose of disturbing the lodge: is it at his mercy? From the very necessity of the case, the power of protecting the lodge in such cases is vested in the Master, under his accountability to the Grand Lodge for any abuse of it. The decision says that a member may be excluded for "good cause"; and we apprehend that Bro. DODGE was misled by the use of this general term, which did not indicate the particular cause in the case in which the decision was given.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1877.

Seven of the eight lodges represented: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Indian Territory, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming recognized: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (F. WILLIAMS) reports that he had visited all the lodges except one, and that, on the whole, they are in a prosperous condition, and "that the order to-day is on a sounder basis than ever before in this jurisdiction."

An invitation to the lodges to appear in public at the reception of the Governor-General of Canada was declined by the Board of General Purposes, as there was no masonic labor to be done.

The Benevolent Fund had been increased nearly \$1,000 during the year.

CALIFORNIA, 1877.

We have a pamphlet of 400 pages, of which 16 are taken up by the Grand Master's address; 8 by the Grand Secretary's report; 4 by the Grand Lecturer's report; 105 by the Report on Correspondence; 7 by the Grand Orator's

address; 165 by the returns; and 20 by the statistical and other tables and the index. How to condense into a few pages the matters of interest in these various addresses and reports, is a problem which has not yet been solved.

Of the 203 lodges, 194 were represented: all, as usual, had made returns: three charters granted and one dispensation continued: one half day devoted to a clam-bake, an account of which, by the "Grand Clam-Baker," is given in the Proceedings [Rhode Island must look to her laurels!]: the work exemplified: receipts of San Francisco Board of Relief about \$11,000, of which \$2,000 was from Grand Lodge and \$3,741 from the city lodges; and the disbursements \$9,800, of which \$69.75 was in four cases from Maine: two brothers, suspended by their lodges, on appeal on the ground that the punishment was too mild, were expelled: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized.

The address of the Grand Master (JOHN MILLS BROWN) is chiefly devoted to local matters, but in connection with them he makes many important suggestions.

He opens with the following beautiful legend:

"In Normandy, so runs the legend, some hundreds of years ago, a mighty lord had called together his retainers and set them to work in building a castle. While thus employed an excessive drought prevailed over the land, and the scarcity of water with which to mix the mortar put a stop to the work on the building. The mighty lord had vaults well filled with wine, and in order that the work might go on and the workmen be relieved from the distress succeeding its cessation, he ordered the vaults to be opened and the wine to be brought forth and used in place of water to prepare the mortar. The work continued, the castle was completed and became the wonder and pride of the province; and for centuries afterward, the winds, in passing over the castle, became laden with the fragrance of the old wine used in its building, and was wafted through the valleys and over the plains like unto the incense of a breeze that wanders among sweet-scented plants, and was conveyed to the people who partook of the fragrance which unceasingly told of its origin in the olden time, of its undiminished strength and perpetuity, and evoked reverential emotions and called forth grateful recognitions of the power and goodness of the mighty lord who, in his wisdom and consideration, had thus favored a people.

"Masonry is our castle, and the realization of its lofty and ennobling principles is the wine used to cement the unity of brotherhood, the fragrance of which is the grand though unseen influence which has ever elevated and refined communities, and been acknowledged and fostered by the recipients of its blessings."

Addressing the officers of lodges, he says:

"It is to be supposed that you have made yourselves acquainted with all the requirements demanded for the proper government and piloting of your lodges under the varied conditions to which they may be subjected. You will meet with perplexities and discouragements which will call forth the strongest effort for self-repression; yet, knowing well your duty, and resolutely performing it in fearless truthfulness and confidence, with a force calm and benignant, but simple and direct in purpose, with a judgment which partiality cannot pervert nor prejudice color, irrespective of antipathies and sympathies, you will receive a ready and respectful obedience, enjoy an independence that will not be shaken, and be reputed for an integrity that cannot be corrupted and a moral and intellectual rectitude that will not be questioned. You will have continual opportunities for doing good and being kind, and for the exhibition of tenderness, patience and self-denial; your generosity will be

supposed, your liberality expected, and your charity asked for; these and other things will happen because you are masons. Of you much is expected, but you will not disappoint the expectations if you do your duty, and your duty is to fulfill the claims of the lodge; and in doing your duty let it be combined with love for Masonry, which is a love for the beautiful and true—a love for the cause of right and justice—a love for lofty views of life, nobleness of character, and generosity of disposition—and, strong-hearted and practical, you will have served Masonry in its interests, advancement and honor."

Twenty-five of the thirty-one District Inspectors had made reports, containing, as he says, worthy suggestions: they are not published with the Proceedings. The system of inspection has come to be such a success, that there was no longer any necessity for a Grand Lecturer, the work having been made substantially uniform, in spite of the obstacles arising from the fact that the brethren came from almost every other jurisdiction, each wedded to the work which he had learned in his old home.

He reported a complaint against Oriental Lodge in this State, which resulted in an acknowledgment of the error, a satisfactory explanation, and a due apology.

He reported a case in which a lodge had expended \$569.00 for a member of a lodge in Montana, and had made a claim for re-imbursement: the Montana lodge had no funds, but its *seventeen* members raised \$200.00 by subscription, and the Grand Lodge of Montana paid the balance (\$369.00), being every dollar it had in the treasury. This was exceedingly praiseworthy on the part of Montana, but it illustrates the evil of the doctrine of reimbursement in such cases. Masonic relief is based as much upon the *ability* of the *giver*, as the *necessity* of the *recipient*.

He refused to grant permission to a lodge to hold a public installation, and the Grand Lodge decided that installations can take place only in open lodge. As the proceedings are all published in our Text Books, we can see no more impropriety in public installations than in funerals, or laying of corner stones.

We fully agree in the following, except that we see no reason why the lodge may not remain as spectators of the subsequent proceedings, and not disturb the occasion by leaving:

"A question of precedence arose between Hawaiian Lodge, No. 21, and a Chapter of Rose Croix, Scottish Rite, at Honolulu, which originated in the observance of the ceremonies at the obsequies of a deceased member, the Prince Leleiohoku, heir apparent, and brother of his majesty, King Kalakau. I sustained the position assumed by the Master of Hawaiian Lodge, in the following terms: A lodge of masons, as a lodge, will only appear in a funeral procession when it shall conduct the ceremonies; it will not appear even as an escort, when the funeral services are performed by other societies or appendant orders. The lodge conducting the ceremonies is entitled to the post of honor in the procession, at the left of the line, and nearest the body of the deceased; other lodges in the same jurisdiction take position in the line in accordance with their Grand Lodge number; the lodge may invite or permit other bodies to join in the procession as escort or otherwise, and will assign their position, which must invariably be in advance of the lodge performing the service; after the lodge has completed its services, it cannot prevent ser-

VICES that may be performed by other societies or appendant Orders, but it retires and does not participate therein."

In spite of their length, we copy the following passages from his address, most earnestly recommending them to all who love masonry: *

"By many the institution is regarded as a convenient means whereby the creditor can force payment from his debtor, awarding to it the character of a collector, and moreover a general insurance against the mistakes of trade. A masonic court cannot take the place of, or conflict with, a civil court; it does not establish civil rights, and its highest penalty is expulsion; it is content to give judgment on matters relating to its own affairs and offenses against the laws of morality, but it does not recognize difficulties of a legal character arising from business transactions, nor does it entertain charges for the purpose of adjusting legal rights, unless such charges shall specify fraud. The lodge is not the place to adjudicate accounts of commercial transactions, and charges partake too much of a criminal proceeding to be entertained in the settlement of business difficulties. A like matter ought never to be brought before the lodge; it is not in order; the complaining party should be told that the court room is the proper place to institute lawsuits—and so I advised the Masters.

"This leads to the notice of another error committed by masons, an error of prevalence, that of frequently giving and receiving the word or pledge of a mason in a useless and an unnecessary manner, and on occasions of little or no importance. The word of a mason ought to be equal to his bond, and called forth only in matters of import; it should never be given without deliberation, and when given should be steadfastly kept, for a thoughtless pledge heedlessly broken is without reason, unfortunate and foolish, and deserves censure.

"The habit too many have of ostentatiously giving a sign or a grip in mixed social associations, publicly boasting of being a mason, doing all things 'on the square,' and wearing conspicuous emblems, when without the information necessary to give an intelligent interpretation of their meaning, should be discouraged in manner and terms indicative of displeasure, and a continued effort made for the correction of these unhappy faults which are calculated to bring reproach upon the Fraternity and lessen its influence for the accomplishment of good."

"Masonic pledges are sometimes given in political matters, and, whether broken or not, should be equally frowned upon as subversive of propriety and displaying an ignorance of the purpose of masonry. Living by a law unto itself, espousing no party, sect, nor creed, seeking no outward favors or patronage, independent of foreign power, and laboring for common good, masonry was not created, nor is it kept up, for political or pecuniary purposes. The sooner brethren become aware that masonry is incompatible with politics and business operations the better; the sooner they manifest their displeasure at this inharmonious mixture the better; the sooner they stop the reckless pledging of masonic faith and 'communicating on the square,' the better; for until this be done, we shall have this foolish yet hurtful inconsistency, and suffer within and without from its demoralizing tendency. These things, it seems to me, are not enough considered among us, and for their avoidance it is hardly necessary to legislate, as the best and most effectual remedy is to be found in the discouragement, displeasure, and reproof displayed by the brethren."

"In this connection, it is pertinent to remark upon the injudicious course pursued by some lodges in voluntarily incurring pecuniary embarrassment by the erection of Masonic Halls on borrowed capital. Without funds, in a community scarce of population, with no good prospect of any future material advance in property, an unnecessary debt is entailed by the borrowing of money, the interest of which claims a large proportion of the moneys received,

and thus paralyzes in a marked degree the very object of the organization—relief for the destitute or suffering. A like action may well be considered a poor business transaction, and yet several lodges have this peculiarity and misfortune. Lodges ought to be always in a solvent condition, and ready to cancel all indebtedness if an immediate payment is demanded. It is idle to expect that a lodge is exempt from the fate that awaits any association, of whatever character, that conducts its affairs with exhausted means, and is submerged in pecuniary embarrassment. To apply surplus funds for the purchase of a piece of ground in a locality where real estate is enhancing in value, with the ultimate purpose of building thereon when the state of the treasury will warrant, is strongly advocated; but to plunge recklessly in debt for the accomplishment of a purpose that can wait, is ill-advised, inopportune, injurious, and deserves your disapprobation."

The following, in relation to action upon reports, is such a clear statement of the proper practice, that we copy it:

"To one of the many questions proposed, viz: 'After the reception and approval of our report, can the lodge expunge any part thereof?' I answered, that after the reception and adoption of the report of a committee, it is not competent for the lodge to expunge any part thereof, nor can the lodge, by resolution, change the wording of the report. The reading of the report was its reception, and the proper action then was adoption, non-adoption, or recommitment. If the report was objectionable, it could have been rejected at once on the question of its adoption; then new resolutions could be offered to meet the views of the majority, independently of the report, if it contained resolutions."

To this we would only add, that no resolution or recommendation should ever be incorporated into a report, but in all cases should be submitted separately, for separate action, in order to allow amendment.

The Grand Secretary, among other things, gives a detailed statement of all the matters forwarded to his office requiring the attention of the Grand Lodge, as well as of the unfinished business of the year before.

A General Regulation was adopted to save time in the election of Grand Officers: a box for each elective office, properly labelled, is prepared, and a set of tellers for each box is appointed, and the Brethren proceed to vote for all the elective officers at once, that is, as fast as they can pass from one box to another.

The Grand Orator, AARON H. SARGENT, being absent (in his place in the U. S. Senate), his address was read by the Deputy Grand Master, Brother CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN. It is a fine production, and we should be pleased to make extracts if space permitted.

An institution having been started in San Francisco under the name of the "Masonic Savings and Loan Bank," and an impression having become prevalent that the Grand Lodge was connected with it, a resolution was adopted requesting the proper officers to give public notice to the contrary; and in case they failed to do so, that the Grand Lodge publish the fact for six months in the daily papers. We would have gone further, and requested the officers to change the name of the Bank, and if they refused to do so, and any of them were masons, have expelled them. No mason or set of masons have a right to use the Institution in that manner, as if a disaster *should* happen to the Bank, it would involve masonry in disgrace. There was an attempt in

Maine some years since to use masonic emblems and names for business purposes, but their use for such purposes was expressly prohibited by the Grand Lodge, and the attempt has never been revived.

One singular case came before the Grand Lodge. A brother, who had been a member of a lodge and paid his dues for fifteen years, met with an accident by which he was paralyzed: the lodge was able to assist him, but refused, although he was confessedly destitute, on the ground that he had been dissipated. The Grand Lodge decided that he must be presumed worthy until the contrary had been established upon charges duly filed, and until then the only question is, "Is the party in actual need?" The matter was referred to the Grand Master, with instructions to require the lodge to do what he might deem proper in the premises.

But can a lodge be *required* to give in charity unless it sees fit to do so? Can compulsion be used in such a case, any more than with an individual? These are new questions; but we think that the obligation to relieve the destitute is as binding as any other; and if a lodge, or an individual mason, *of admitted ability*, refuses to assist a distressed brother, they are liable to masonic discipline: we say "*admitted ability*," because, if the refusal should be placed on the ground of inability, the question is a very different one, as each mason is the judge, upon that point, for himself, and it would require a very strong case to override this rule—a case in which it is manifest that the brother is acting in bad faith and alleging his want of ability as a pretence.

The Report on Correspondence (105 pp.) was submitted by Bro. WILLIAM H. HILL. The Grand Secretary gives a few corrections, in an "Errata" slip, and intimates that Bro. HILL's writing is not easily read by any one who has not taken lessons in penmanship of the "late Horace Greeley"! The Report is almost wholly an abstract of the Proceedings, without the comments which Bro. HILL knows so well how to make.

He says that in that State it is not necessary that a Master should have served as Warden: and, moreover, that any Master Mason is eligible to the office of Grand Master; in case a brother, not a Past Master, should be elected, we presume he would be installed with the full ceremonies, and be instructed in the "secrets of the chair," just as was once done in our Grand Chapter, when a Companion, not a Past High Priest, was elected Grand High Priest, and, by virtue of that election, received the order of High Priesthood; otherwise the Grand Master would be unable to install the Master of a lodge.

In his review of Illinois, he speaks of Bro. ROBBINS as the "DRUMMOND of Illinois": as we read this, our hair was inclined to stand on end, for we remembered that Bro. ROBBINS is some three inches taller than we are, with proportional weight and muscular development—being in fact a regular son of Anak: but finally we concluded that Bro. HILL is the one in danger! "Judge," said a brother lawyer, "I just met a man who mistook me for you." "Did you? I'll find him." "What for?" "To knock him down." "You

are too late: *I did that instantly*! We leave the "application" for Bro. HILL to make.

He objects to the use of the word "Order," but he is rather late, as the term is used in Anderson's Constitutions and in Webb's first Monitor.

In his review of Maine, he says the address of Grand Master MOORE is "a plain, straight-forward talk about masonic matters affecting the jurisdiction:" and that his "words of caution" (in relation to using lodge funds for health or life insurance) "are words of wisdom as well."

Having met Grand Master BURNHAM in 1865, he "can but congratulate our Maine brethren upon their fortunate choice."

He speaks of our report of last year as having "the old features of Drummondistic excellence": this is as dubious as the famous reply of an old Maine lawyer, "Your Honor is right, and I am wrong, as your Honor is apt to be"!

CANADA, 1877.

This Grand Lodge held no less than ten special communications during the year to lay corner stones and perform other public ceremonies.

In consequence of the absence of the Grand Master, the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge called off from the eleventh day of July to the twelfth day of September.

Two hundred and forty lodges represented: thirteen charters granted, and one dispensation continued: the time of the Annual Communication changed to September: a proposed amendment to the Constitution, requiring business to be done in a Master's lodge instead of an Apprentice's lodge, lost: business chiefly of a routine character: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (J. K. KERR) says, that being unexpectedly called out of the country in July, and being unwilling to throw the responsibility of his office upon another, he directed the Grand Secretary to give notice that the meeting in July would be a mere formal one, and would be adjourned until September, when the business of the Grand Lodge would be transacted.

The Board of General Purposes reported that they did not agree with the Grand Master in the necessity for a postponement of the session, and could not recommend the proceeding as a precedent, as the Constitution fixes the time of the Annual Communication, and it can be changed only as therein directed; and the report was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master says:

"The year just ended has contributed largely to the marked prosperity which has uniformly attended our Grand Lodge. Notwithstanding the continued depression in trade and business of all branches during the past year, affecting all classes of the community, masonry has advanced and prospered. New lodges have been formed in improving sections of the country, and give promise of successful operations. Old lodges have increased their membership and spheres of usefulness. Resources and pecuniary means have been improved. The attention which is being given to masonic matters by its membership is greater than at any previous time. The moral and financial

strength of the Order is better than it has ever been within our jurisdiction. The position which masonry occupies throughout the length and breadth of the land furnishes ample reason for proud congratulation on the part of all connected with it."

* * * * *

"The so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario is now without any recognition from any masonic authority. A large number of Grand Lodges have declared this organization spurious and clandestine, and have prohibited all communication with its members, while the Grand Masters of the Grand Lodges of Quebec, Maine, New Jersey, and of other jurisdictions, have prohibited the craft under their direction from any association with persons hailing from the unrecognized and illegal society.

"Many of those who allied themselves to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario have severed their connection with that body. Some have desired to be placed in good standing, and others have strongly expressed the regret they feel at having been misled into that clandestine association.

"I would venture to suggest that the Grand Master, for the time being, might be empowered by this Grand Lodge to take such action as may prove just and proper with individual cases of those who, through misunderstanding on their own part and misrepresentation on the part of others, have been induced to join the above organization, so that not even the appearance of injustice may be done to any through the operation of our much loved institution.

"The brethren may have every confidence that, in exercising the prerogative which may thus be conferred upon the Grand Master, nothing will be done to compromise the dignity or affect the rights of the Grand Lodge."

The Grand Master recommended that the amount contributed to the "Benevolent Fund" by lodges in Quebec, be turned over to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and it was so ordered.

We find the following in the proceedings of the Board of General Purposes; their recommendation was adopted:

"The Board had under consideration a strong appeal for assistance from Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293, Jerusalem, Palestine. The Board deeply sympathize with the members of this lodge in the very trying circumstances in which they are said to be placed, and sincerely trust that their trials and difficulties will soon pass away, and that they may speedily enter upon a more prosperous era. The Board recommend that a set of Officers' Collars and Jewels, suitable engraved, be purchased and presented to this lodge."

The following action was taken upon the recommendation of the Grand Master in relation to Brethren who have adhered to the spurious Grand Lodge of Ontario:

"The Board would not have deemed it necessary in any manner to allude to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, had it not been for the suggestion submitted by the M.W. the Grand Master, as to the granting to the Grand Master for the time being, power to treat with such persons that were expelled by this Grand Lodge by reason of having joined that spurious body, and who may desire to return to the folds of this Grand Lodge.

"The Board hold that if at all the power of removing the punishment of expulsion does exist, that that power can only be exercised by the same body that inflicted it, namely, the Grand Lodge, in open session.

"The Board recommend that Grand Lodge declare that it possesses the power to remove the punishment of expulsion, and that an application for such removal ought only to be entertained upon a recommendation of the lodge of which the expelled person desiring to be restored was a member at the time of such expulsion; or by the lodge in the jurisdiction of which he then resided, or is residing at the time such application is made."

COLORADO, 1877.

Twenty-one of the twenty-two lodges represented, and the other sent a proxy, who was ineligible because he was not a member of the lodge: one charter granted: the Grand Lodge of Cuba recognized: the usual routine business transacted.

The address of the Grand Master (HARPER M. ORAHOOD) is a business-like document, chiefly confined to matters of merely local interest. He says the year had been prosperous: the harvest had been abundant, the mines more than usually productive, and our institution undisturbed by discord. He announced the resignation of the Grand Lecturer, GEORGE M. HOWE, who had returned to Maine to reside.

The Grand Orator, BYRON L. CARR, delivered an interesting address, in which he insists that, while due attention is given to accurate working and the proper maintenance of our forms and ceremonies, the instruction intended to be conveyed thereby is overlooked and neglected. He says:

"How many Grand Lodges are there in America to-day which have never taken any decided action in the premises, or that have adopted any rule or provided any means whereby the great mass of the fraternity should become educated in all that pertains to the duties and responsibilities of masons?"

"How many of these supreme legislative bodies have ever taken the trouble to inquire whether the men elected to preside over subordinate lodges are men competent to instruct the members in the symbolism and work of the several degrees, much less to adopt any rule requiring such to be the case?"

"How many lodges are there within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to-day which have adopted any regular system of instruction in the symbolism and work of Freemasonry, either for the standing members or for initiates? I venture the assertion, there is not one.

"How many Worshipful Masters ever make a practice of instructing their lodges, or even of thoroughly informing themselves, upon the symbolism of masonry? and how many masons are there who have carefully studied and fully comprehend the symbolic meaning of the work they are performing?"

"How many, when they contemplate that lesson of charity so impressively conveyed in the first degree, can divest their minds of the ludicrous element connected with it, and *do* govern their actions by the rule there laid down?"

"How many comprehend the symbolism of the legend of the Winding Stairs and the Middle Chamber, and strive to enrich their minds and elevate themselves in the scale of manhood in conformity to the lesson of the legend?"

"How many pause to consider that impressive lesson of inflexible fidelity to trust exemplified in the third degree, or the lesson of immortality symbolized by the raising of a brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason? And how many, when they drop the sprig of acacia upon the coffin of a departed brother, understand the full significance of the act?"

"Is it not indeed true, to a certain degree, of Freemasonry in America, as well as in France, that 'the initiated fail to perceive anything of mystery beyond the ceremonies and ornaments of the lodge, and do not suspect that a hidden meaning is attached to the knowledge conveyed by the symbols'? That Freemasonry, as practiced in America to-day, in the language of Bro. Moreau, 'is powerless to enlighten its own members, to say nothing of enlightening the rest of mankind; that that great masonic light, which should be made to shine out clear and brilliant, is in reality a light under a bushel'?"

We commend these questions to the attention of the craft, and especially to the officers of lodges.

The majority of a special committee on founding a Masonic Asylum reported in favor of the project and a plan for raising the necessary funds; but the matter was indefinitely postponed—as we think, wisely.

During the session Bro. MACKAY delivered an address upon the “Symbolisms and Traditions of Masonry,” which is spoken of as “able and interesting.”

The Grand Secretary reports the binding of two hundred and fifty volumes of Proceedings, &c., for the Grand Lodge Library.

Bro. D. C. COLLIER (we notice that most of our brethren in Colorado have only *letters* for “given names”) presented the Report on Correspondence (72 pp.). The special review of each Grand Lodge is very brief, and Maine is not among those reviewed. He devotes some twenty-five pages to a “collation of the facts, arguments, conclusions and opinions” in relation to “Colored Masonry.”

From his conclusion we take the following:

“It will be seen from the data presented that the question of Grand Lodge jurisdiction was not well settled at the time of the issuing of the charter of Prince Hall Lodge, and it is asserted the powers of Provincial Grand Master must have been conferred on Prince Hall. At that time the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was acting independently and claiming independent jurisdiction in Massachusetts. St. John's Grand Lodge claimed concurrent jurisdiction as a Provincial Grand Lodge under the English Grand Lodge, with its Grand Master granting charters by virtue of his Provincial authority. The Grand Lodge of Scotland exercised authority in the same Province by retaining the willing allegiance of St. Andrew's Lodge; and, lastly, both Grand Lodges of Britain still exercised their supremacy by retaining on their lists until 1813 all the lodges chartered by them in Massachusetts, and, for that matter, in the American Colonies.

“If the doctrine laid down by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at its last session, and that sustained so many years by St. Andrew's Lodge, of Boston, is correct, that to constitute a valid Grand Lodge ‘there must be had the recognition of the Grand Body out of whose former jurisdiction the new Grand Body claims to exercise jurisdiction,’ then no legally instituted, independent Grand Lodge, existed in Massachusetts until 1813, when the *quasi* consent to recognition of the new order of things by cutting off all American lodges was given, and the British Grand Lodges must be regarded as the supreme authority up to that time.

“If, however, we concede with Brother Pike the regularity of their origin, it still remains that for many years the doctrine of State sovereignty, or rather the exclusive jurisdiction of the various Grand Lodges within their territorial limits, has been taken as the true American rule, and one which is not to be violated or ignored. This settlement of the law, and the frequent declaration that all lodges existing without the authority of the several pre-existing Grand Lodges are clandestine, seems to settle the question so far as we are concerned.

“It is clear that, after the time when the American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction became the recognized law of masonry, a lodge or Grand Lodge, colored or white, established within the jurisdiction of a pre-existing Grand Lodge, must be regarded as clandestine by the first Grand Lodge established in that jurisdiction, and that all its work must also be regarded as clandestine. An example of the working of this rule is presented in the case of Canada and the Ontario Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Canada had for years occupied the field, and contained some 350 subordinate lodges. Certain disaffected brethren two years ago attempted to establish a new Grand Lodge, to be known as the Grand Lodge of Ontario, within the jurisdiction of Canada. This new establishment was at once denounced as clandestine by the Grand Lodge of Canada,

and has in like manner been so denounced by nearly all the Grand Lodges of the United States—in short, by all that have taken any action at all.

"In the State of Michigan the Grand Lodge of Michigan, with its hundreds of subordinate lodges, had existed. Six years ago the colored masons of Michigan formed a Grand Lodge, known as Unity Grand Lodge, now numbering six subordinate lodges. Inasmuch as the Grand Lodge of Michigan already existed, the latter erection can, under the American rule, be regarded in no other light than that of being clandestine. And, since in no instance was a colored Grand Lodge organized in any jurisdiction until after a white Grand Lodge had been first organized, it follows that no one of these colored Grand Lodges organized after the recognition of the American Jurisdiction rule, can be regarded as anything but clandestine. So far as their relation to white Grand Lodges is concerned, if they are clandestine, their subordinates are, and so are their individual members.

"If, therefore, we concede that Prince Hall Grand Lodge is regular and entitled to recognition, it still remains true that all others are irregular and clandestine.

"Being thus clandestine, if their recognition were ever so much to be desired, they can only be recognized after some process of healing. It is clear, also, that, without subverting the long-established American law of masonry, colored Grand Lodges can in no event be recognized within the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges, as has been proposed in Ohio. If there is to be any recognition, it must be by healing and absorption into the pre-existing Grand Lodges. If the time ever comes when such an absorption is desirable, they can be left subordinate to the legally-constituted Grand Lodges, but still of colored masons, just as we now have German, French, or Italian lodges. If at that time white men want to join colored lodges, there will be no law to prevent, masonic, human or divine. And there is nothing to-day to prevent a free-born colored man from becoming a member of any of our lodges, provided the ballot of the brethren permits him to pass through the inner door."

We do not understand that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania went quite so far as Bro. COLLIER states, although the matter is left uncertain: we cannot think that that Grand Lodge repudiates the action of its founders, and insists that for the first twenty-five years of its existence it was an irregular Body. Attempts have been made in later years to qualify the doctrine enunciated when our American Grand Lodges were formed: but they all lead to conclusions as inadmissible as those following the proposition cited by Bro. COLLIER. The Grand Lodge unanimously adopted his views as to the clandestine character of "Colored Grand Lodges" established in a State in which a regular Grand Lodge existed when the "Colored Grand Lodge" was organized.

He also devotes several pages of his report to the subject of "Widows' and Orphans' Homes," and similar Institutions: we quote his conclusion:

"From the data furnished by the Foreign Correspondence of this lodge, the conclusion seems inevitable that educational institutions under masonic auspices, like those under church control, are and always will be undesirable so long as the State continues to provide for the free common school and university education of the children within its borders as it now does. Let the lodges aid their orphans in paying their expenses while attending our State institutions, and the work will be better done than in any other way.

"So far as the aged and infirm and widows are concerned, the experience of other States seems to show that they are better cared for, and at less cost, in the community where they live, and among the neighbors with whom they have been acquainted. Their chances for helping themselves are better, and

their opportunities for bettering their condition are far greater than when segregated from the community as a band of unfortunates. A fund for their relief is greatly to be desired, and the larger the better, and let the fund be paid out through regular channels and on proper endorsement.

"The segregation of unfortunates has a demoralizing effect. To aid in supporting them in a quiet way, and without ostentation, leaves the spirit and independence of the recipient of aid unimpaired. It is that charity that 'vaunteth not itself and is not easily puffed up.'"

We believe that, without exception in this country, all attempts to establish masonic charitable institutions have, in consequence of the heaviness of the burden laid upon the craft, produced discord and contention; and, with one or two exceptions (and those yet experiments), have finally resulted in failures, to the extent that they have been abandoned by the Grand Lodge and left to take care of themselves.

In spite of this experience, the object to be attained is so noble, that there is a constant tendency to repeat the experiment: but, as we have elsewhere observed, the masonic organization is not of a character to manage successfully such institutions: the fundamental idea of masonic charity is *individual* action, and our form of government is based on that, and is not adapted to carrying on *organized* charities. We may aid individually and as organizations; but should not take control.

CONNECTICUT, 1878.

Grand Secretary WHEELER gives us the first Proceedings of the New Year, and with remarkable promptness. His Grand Lodge closed its session on the sixteenth of January, and on this fourth of February we have the Proceedings (a pamphlet of over 200 pages) to digest with our dinner.

One hundred and ten lodges (all save one) represented: one charter revoked: \$404 had been contributed by lodges for the sufferers in St. John: \$506 contributed to the "Masonic Charity Foundation Fund": all the lodges made returns before the session (for the first time within the official life of the present Grand Secretary): the Grand Lodges of Dakota, New Mexico and Prince Edward Island recognized: and the work exemplified by the Grand Officers.

The address of the Grand Master (EDWARD B. ROWE) is a plain business document, in which his official acts are succinctly and clearly set out. He, being unable to visit all the lodges, appointed a proxy for each County, who visited the lodges and reported to him. The result was that he recommended and the Grand Lodge adopted, as far as it could at this session, the District Deputy system. It was found that the lodges most need instruction.

The Reports of the "Grand Proxies" are published, and they read very much like the reports of our District Deputies.

One interesting question was presented and decided. Two residents of Connecticut, but members of a lodge in New York, became charter members of a lodge in Connecticut without obtaining their dimits, and the decision

was, that by becoming members of the new lodge their membership in the New York lodge was severed. The committee say:

"These brethren resided and were within the territorial jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and subject to the exercise of all its powers. One of these powers is to constitute brethren into lodges, and the act of constituting brethren into a lodge of itself severs their membership in other lodges, without their act or concurrence.

"This power of Grand Lodges, and more, of subordinate lodges, is well settled and recognized.

"A mason can be tried for masonic offenses committed wherever he may be served with a proper masonic process, and without regard to the place of his membership or of the Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and upon conviction and expulsion, his membership in his lodge and in the fraternity is severed. The facts necessary to confer jurisdiction on the trying lodge is commission of the offense and service of the process within its territorial jurisdiction. *A fortiori* brethren residing within and voluntarily submitting themselves to the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge, are subject to the exercise of its authority and power, and to all of the legal consequences of the exercise of such power, among which is the severance of former membership by the granting of a charter."

It seems to us that the decision is erroneous, and that the committee lost sight of one material point—the rights of the New York lodge. In that State membership can be severed only by the mutual assent of the member and the lodge, or by a power which controls both the member and the lodge: in this case the lodge did not consent, and the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, while having jurisdiction over the individuals, had no power over the New York lodge.

The Charity Fund, raised entirely by voluntary contribution, amounts to about \$3,000. Masters are ordered to solicit contributions at each annual election.

The work having fallen off so that the dues have become less than the expenses of the Grand Lodge, a *per capita* tax of twenty cents a member was assessed.

A lodge refused to inflict any punishment upon a brother, who pleaded guilty of unmasonic conduct: the committee recommend that the proceedings be confirmed, but the Grand Lodge severely censured the lodge, and remitted the case to it to complete the trial "and administer such punishment as masonic justice requires." We think it would have been much better for the Grand Lodge to have done that itself.

The Report on Correspondence (82 pp.) was presented by the Grand Secretary, Bro. JOSEPH K. WHEELER.

There was none the year before, and so he had the Proceedings of two years to review, and therefore was compelled to be brief.

Of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory he says:

"At the time the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory was organized, there were six lodges within the jurisdiction, three holding charters from the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, one from Kansas, and the other two we are not informed, but there is no doubt of their regularity, as it has never been questioned, even by its opponents. They were all notified of this intent, and three assembled by their representatives and accomplished the organization, and, immediately after, the fourth lodge gave in their adhesion to the Grand Body, and two

declined. The jurisdiction was unoccupied territory, and of course the right of these lodges in pursuing this course cannot be questioned on that account, neither that a sufficient number was not present at and assisted in the organization. Being thus organized, we cannot see why it does not hold jurisdiction over the limits of the Territory, and over all the lodges located therein. We apprehend that the delay by some Grand Lodges in recognizing it is on account of social relations, this being the first Grand Lodge organized among the Aborigines of North America. But if they are good enough to hold charters from regular Grand Lodges, they are good enough to be recognized as a Grand Lodge when duly organized."

He takes strong ground against the recent action of the Grand Orient of France in striking out the qualification of belief in God, and says we must bid them a lasting farewell.

He discusses the Cuban question ably, concluding that it is not expedient to recognize either at present, believing it is much better that the two Bodies should unite in re-establishing control over the symbolic degrees in one Supreme Head.

DAKOTA, 1876.

The six lodges represented: no business for Committee on Grievances: the Committee on Grand Lodge Library report the receipt of a large number of Proceedings, including a lot from Maine: Committee on Jurisprudence presented a Code for Trials; which was adopted, but is not published in the Proceedings: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (T. H. BROWN) reports that there are three lodges in Dakota working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota; one, chartered before the organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota; one U. D. at that time, and chartered since; and one created by dispensation since the organization of the Grand Lodge. The first two were invited to participate in the organization of the Grand Lodge, and in its proceedings at the adjourned communication; but they were not represented, and no answer was given to the invitation. The Grand Master had notified the Grand Master of Minnesota, but had received no reply to his communication.

The Grand Lodge adopted a preamble and resolutions protesting against the further exercise of authority by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in the Territory of Dakota.

It seems to us that the communications of the Grand Master must have failed to reach the Grand Master of Minnesota: for we shall not believe, until we see the most positive evidence of it, that the Grand Lodge of Minnesota would establish a lodge in another jurisdiction in which a regular Grand Lodge exists, or charter a lodge to which a dispensation had been issued, or exercise any authority over a lodge previously created by it in such jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge of Minnesota understands masonic law too well to make such a mistake. We are the more certain that this is the correct solution, for in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota for 1877 we find no allusion whatever to the Grand Lodge of Dakota.

DAKOTA, 1877.

The six lodges represented: the Representative system adopted: one charter was granted without the consent of the nearest lodge, inasmuch as there was no lodge within *three hundred and fifty miles* of the location of the proposed new lodge: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (H. H. BLAIR) presents "a brief consideration of some of the more important characteristics of the Order," and gives a summary of his official action, with some suggestions in regard to the business of the session. He had refused to grant a dispensation for a certain purpose, because, while admitting the power of Grand Masters to grant them, he held that none should be granted "to do an act which the law was intended especially to prevent."

Nothing having been heard from the lodges acting under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, or from that Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary was ordered to forward another certified copy of the resolutions adopted the previous year to the M.W. Grand Master of Minnesota, and call his attention to the same.

There is one serious omission in these Proceedings. The address of the Grand Officers is not given—not even that of the Grand Secretary: this may be the reason why the Grand Lodge of Minnesota had not been heard from.

DELAWARE, 1877.

The Committee on Credentials give the names of all Brethren in the State entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge, without specifying those present.

The address of the Grand Master (THOMAS N. WILLIAMS) is quite brief. He states that there is a lack of uniformity in the work, and he urges the Grand Lodge, very strongly, to adopt measures "by which a strict adherence to the Ancient Landmarks of our Order and a uniformity of work throughout the jurisdiction shall be enforced by authority." To effect this, a Grand Lecturer was appointed.

He mentions one case of particular interest. A candidate, rejected by a Delaware lodge, went to Pennsylvania and was accepted, and received the degrees there. On complaint being made to the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, he investigated the case, and finding the allegations true, he issued his order *declaring all the proceedings in conferring the degrees NULL AND VOID, and directing the lodge to strike his name from the roll*: this left the candidate under the jurisdiction of the rejecting lodge. The Grand Master of Pennsylvania states, "that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will not allow anyone rejected in another jurisdiction to be made a mason in this jurisdiction until that rejection has been removed." He says further, that cases of this kind from other jurisdictions are brought directly before the Grand Master for his adjudication, and his decision is final: the lodge returns the party as "stricken from the rolls, by order of the Grand Master."

We believe this method of procedure is peculiar to Pennsylvania: the power, lodged in the Grand Master, is a great one, but we are not prepared to say that it is not wise to lodge it in him: cases of this kind need summary action. But many will deny the right of any power, Grand Master, or Grand Lodge, to declare an initiation in a regular lodge null and void: they must admit that that is the only method of placing the candidate in the precise condition in which he was before he committed the fraud; we confess to an unsettled opinion upon the point. There is force in the position, that a lodge cannot *effectually* do what the constitution and landmarks expressly prohibit; and that any attempt to do that is absolutely void. On the other hand, it is difficult to resist the proposition, that the conferring of the degrees by a regular lodge makes the party a mason, and, if he was ineligible, the lodge must be held responsible. There appears to be no middle ground between these propositions, although an extreme case might be given in which it would seem that the first proposition must be true: and another extreme case might be given in which the other would seem to be the rule. But the *principle* is the same, and, therefore, the rule the same, in all cases. In Pennsylvania, the first proposition is the law, while in most other jurisdictions the second is followed.

It was ordered that a Grand Charity Fund be established, and \$150 appropriated to it; and a standing regulation was adopted that \$50 be added to it annually.

The Grand Secretary calls attention to the importance of receiving and retaining in office faithful and efficient Secretaries, saying that frequent changes of Secretaries are prejudicial to the best interests of the lodge.

The Grand Lodge of New Mexico was recognized: no Report on Correspondence.

The Deputy Grand Master decided that the membership of charter members of a new lodge is transferred to the new lodge when it is constituted under its charter: the Grand Lodge sustained the decision in the particular case, but refused to adopt it as a general rule, but adopted a regulation that dimitts must be procured in such cases, and that the parties become members of the new lodge only when they deposit their dimitts with it.

FLORIDA, 1877.

Fifty-one lodges represented: a uniform Code of By-Laws for lodges adopted, authority being given to the lodges to fill blanks: two charters granted and two dispensations continued: the work exemplified: no Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master (ENOS WASGATE) delivered an address of much interest, especially the portions relating generally to Freemasonry.

He had exercised one power, which, so far as we know, is peculiar to that jurisdiction. A Master of a lodge having occasion to be absent for some time,

probably the balance of his official year, at his request the Grand Master relieved him from office and gave the lodge a dispensation to elect a new Master. The majority of the committee, to which the address was referred, took exception to this proceeding, but Bro. DAWKINS sustained it, and, on his motion, the Grand Lodge confirmed it.

It was decided that a candidate, eligible in other respects, who has been rejected in one lodge, may be admitted in another after the expiration of a year from his rejection.

The thanks of the Grand Lodge were extended to the Grand Lodges and Brethren, who had contributed to the Library of Santa Rose Lodge, through Rev. JOHN CARLOVITZ, to whose exertions that lodge is indebted for a large Library.

The committee, appointed the year before to select some standard work on Jurisprudence for adoption as a standard, reported against adopting any, but recommending that a committee be appointed to prepare a "Guide Book" for lodges, to report next year, and the recommendation was adopted.

On February 25th a special communication was held to attend the funerals of Past Grand Master SAMUEL BENEZET, and DAVID JONES, Grand Tyler. In consequence of the non-arrival of a Brother, the funeral of the former was postponed until the next day, when the Grand Lodge attended.

We are gratified to find in these Proceedings evidence of returning prosperity: but, Bro. DAWKINS, how can you expect us to get along without your Reports on Correspondence?

GEORGIA, 1877.

Two hundred and thirty-eight lodges represented: three charters granted, three refused, nine declared forfeited, and one surrendered: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized: the question of recognizing one of the two Grand Lodges in Cuba postponed until the next Annual Communication: the work exemplified: a revised Constitution approved and laid over for adoption next year: no Report on Correspondence.

The address of the Grand Master (DAVID E. BUTLER) is almost wholly confined to business matters. He had made many decisions, but reports none, as none of them were new.

He says:

"Delinquent lodges are made such by defaulting and delinquent members. The Worshipful Master is sometimes the cause, but more often the great reason is the absence of wholesome discipline. And the want of discipline often arises from an ignorance of, and an incompetency to discharge the duties of the offices which the members hold. From these causes disorder, disobedience to rightful authority, and great confusion, must come. Behind all these reasons there lies another fact, more potent still—it is the ease with which new members obtain admittance into too many of our lodges. The profane are allowed to come in with improper motives, and without sufficient inquiry; and the privileges of masonry are used for other purposes than the

noble one of who can best work and best agree in the practice of our sublime precepts.

"To remedy these evils, the Grand Lodge, at this communication, would do well to apply its discipline to all lodges which are in arrears for dues, also to those lodges which, with incompetent officers, use unwarrantable means to confer the degrees upon those officers who do not enforce the laws of Freemasonry against the vices of drunkenness, profanity and dishonesty. Such a procedure will cost some money—but the purity of our profession and the high standing of our Ancient Order is in great peril from these things."

He recommended the restoration of the Committee on Correspondence, and it was so ordered.

The following report was adopted by a rising vote:

"Whereas, during the late war, by authority of this Grand Lodge, Most Worshipful D. E. Butler, then Grand Master in Georgia, did issue a warrant of authority to Col. R. W. Folsom and others, officers and members of the 14th Regiment of Georgia Volunteers, for holding a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be known as Stonewall Jackson Military Lodge, No. 13; and whereas the said charter, by the fortunes of war, was captured on Sunday, April 2, 1865, the day after the great battle near Petersburg, and whereas the captor, in the true spirit of masonry, to wit: F. Gaul, a drummer in Company "G," 4th Regiment New Jersey Volunteers, presented the same to First Lieutenant Jacob L. Hutt, Company "C" of the same regiment, and presented by him, who states that he is 'a member of the craft,' to Arcana Lodge, No. 60, Free and Accepted Masons, State of New Jersey, for safe keeping until after the war, and then to be returned to the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia; and whereas, on the 19th day of last May, Brother Robert Green, Worshipful Master of Arcana Lodge, No. 60, located at Boontown, in the State of New Jersey, did, in fraternal affection for the principles of Freemasonry and brotherly affection for the craft in this State, send said charter to Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, Brother Blackshear, according to the conditions endorsed on said charter by Brother Jacob L. Hutt, and is now safe in the possession of this Grand Lodge; now, therefore, in response to the expression of masonic consideration expressed in the entries on said charter, the letter of Brother Robert Green, Worshipful Master of Arcana Lodge, No. 60, in New Jersey, and for the careful preservation of the same until the blessings of peace have been restored to our beloved country—

Resolved, Ist, That we thank these masonic brethren most heartily.

"2d. The whole transaction touches our hearts, and has revived in us with renewed vigor all our masonic affection for the brethren of the craft, wherever found, and particularly those—First Lieutenant Jacob L. Hutt, Robert Green, Worshipful Master of Arcana Lodge, No. 60; E. E. Willis, Worshipful Master, D. C. Ely, Senior Warden, M. S. Shaw, Junior Warden, and L. Estler, Secretary, officers of said Arcana Lodge, No. 60, in the year 1865.

"3d. That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, Brother Blackshear, in proper form, convey this report to the Worshipful Master, officers and other members of said lodge, under the seal of this Grand Lodge."

In a note, the Grand Secretary says:

"By high authority, the establishment of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Georgia, with R. W. Roger Lacey as Provincial Grand Master, is fixed in 1733. It was certainly not later than 1735."

We trust Bro. BLACKSHEAR will give us the particulars, for we have never before understood that masonry was introduced into Georgia at quite so early a date.

From a "card by the Grand Secretary," we are deeply grieved to learn that

just after the close of the Grand Lodge death took from him his wife, who, for twenty-five years, in joy and woe, in sunshine and storm, had been his constant companion and most devoted friend.

ILLINOIS, 1877.

This Grand Lodge sends us a pamphlet of nearly *four hundred* pages in fine type. Its size is quite discouraging to a reviewer: but when to this is added the fact, that it is filled with matters of interest, the discouragement almost becomes demoralization: indeed, we have seriously thought of opening it and noticing the first matter that caught our eye, until we had filled the usual space.

Six hundred and twenty-two lodges represented: five charters surrendered: three arrested; two consolidations of two lodges into one; seven charters granted, and one dispensation continued.

The address of the Grand Master (JOSEPH ROBBINS) is a very able and elaborate document, occupying thirty-four pages of the Proceedings; yet he disposes of matters in few words, and the length of it is due to the immense amount of business in that great jurisdiction: we cannot give an abstract of it, but shall notice only some of the most important subjects.

He decided that a brother, suspended by the Grand Lodge and restored by it "to all the rights and privileges of masonry," is thereby restored to membership in his lodge.

He doubts whether the regulation, forbidding the creation of a new lodge within ten miles of an existing lodge, is a beneficial one; and, moreover, is of opinion that it is an encroachment upon the prerogatives of the Grand Master; he suggests that, if it is continued, it should be applied to lodges, prohibiting them from recommending a new lodge within ten miles of another lodge.

He is strongly of the opinion that sound public (masonic) policy forbids the joint occupancy of halls with other associations.

He had refused to give permission to a lodge to join in a Fourth of July celebration. To one, who remonstrated against his decision, he writes:

"I am fully in accord with you when you say that though you love masonry, you love your country more. You would not be a true mason if you did not, for masonry inculcates the duties of loyalty and patriotism as the chief responsibilities of citizenship. Its power to do this effectually—equally with its power to attain other great ends it has in view—depends upon the preservation unimpaired of those characteristics which experience has shown to be potent in making it what it is. Its method of accomplishing results is to labor in seclusion, appearing in public only when its own work demands it, and discouraging all avoidable display as a departure from itself. It enjoins upon its members as individuals the practice of all public as well as private virtues, striving to make them better men—more patriotic and loyal citizens. If it accomplishes this, the fact that it does it by its own methods entitles it no less to be regarded as honoring the institutions of civil liberty bequeathed to us by our fathers.

"For my own part, I am free to say that if the rule forbidding lodges to parade upon any save masonic occasions were to be relaxed at all, the cele-

bration of our National Anniversary would commend itself as entitled, above all other occasions, to become an exception to it; but there is so general a concurrence of opinion that opportunities for public masonic parade should, in the interests of masonry itself, be restricted within the narrowest possible limits, that, charged as I am with the responsibility of administering its affairs, and answerable to my conscience and to the law for my conduct of them, I cannot feel that I should be justified in making even this exception."

While agreeing with him in his general doctrine, we believe that the ancient usages of the craft authorize our appearing in public on our Nation's holiday, or to pay respect to the Chief Magistrate.

It seems that, under the Constitution of his Grand Lodge, neither the Grand Master nor the Grand Lodge have power to restore a surrendered charter: a new lodge may be created, but a defunct one cannot be resuscitated. Our law is different; and we are glad that it is, as otherwise many of our old lodges, which became dormant in "Morgan times," would not now exist.

He holds that an objection at any time before initiation is equivalent to a rejection; but if the objection is disregarded and the candidate is initiated, he is a mason, on an equality with his fellows; and all that can be done is to punish those who violated the law.

Application was made to him to postpone a trial, on the ground that the party was under indictment in court for the same alleged offense, and to proceed to trial in the lodge before his trial in court would compel him to open his defense in the presence of his prosecutors in court who were also members of the lodge. The Grand Master, as we think properly under the circumstances, caused the trial to be postponed.

In relation to a by-law denying to members in arrears for dues the right to vote, he says:

"In several Grand Jurisdictions where the question has been raised, the decision has been uniformly adverse to the validity of such objection as being in contravention of the axiom that no brother can be deprived of his rights without due process of law. With this view I am fully in accord. Masonic rights cannot be lawfully abridged by legislation, enacted either by the Grand Lodge or by its constituent lodges, but only by a judgment. The by-laws of the Grand Lodge point out the way by which alone a brother may be deprived of his rights, or by which their exercise may be abridged. The by-law of Illinois Central Lodge, above quoted, prescribes a method of doing this, which the Grand Lodge by-laws do not recognize, and is therefore inoperative. The fact that brethren voted who came within the scope of these inhibitions, in no wise affects the validity of the election in which they participated."

In relation to claims for re-imbursement of money paid out in charity, he says:

"To my mind, if claims for re-imbursement for aid extended to destitute brethren may be pressed as a matter of right between individual masons and lodges, or between lodges, whether in the same or different Grand jurisdictions, then we had better abandon at once the pretext of charity, and as promptly admit the complete success of the revolution which for some time has threatened to convert our whilom fraternity into a mutual assurance association and mortuary benefit society, with a regular system of debit and credit between its constituent parts.

"There is no masonic canon which limits my charitable obligations to the

members of my own lodge. Yet this is the logical, inevitable conclusion, if I may rightfully claim to be re-imbursed for aid extended to all such as are not members of it. Admit this principle, and a mason's claim to fraternal assistance in distress degenerates into the nature of a letter of credit whose value depends on the financial standing of his lodge in the Masonic Wall Street! Admit this principle, and ability is no longer the measure of masonic duty in the presence of unrelieved distress, but that duty is to be measured by the soundness or unsoundness of a corporation, perhaps a thousand miles distant, organized on the basis of limited liability of its stockholders.

"Masonry knows no such principle, nor can it without a total subversion of its fundamental law; an utter loss of all that is distinctive and vital."

This question is now quite well settled in accordance with these views.

We believe that he is correct in the following:

"In two instances I have been applied to for instructions in cases where brethren desired to relinquish, as completely as possible, their connection with masonry, on account either of religious scruples of their own, or of finding it incompatible with the requirements of their church. I have advised that such cases should be treated very tenderly. Of course no power can absolve masons from obligations that are in their nature irrevocable; but they can be dimitted from membership on complying with the law of the Grand Lodge relating thereto; and this should be done. No advantage can accrue to the fraternity by holding an unwilling brother, nor by dealing harshly with one whose religious scruples prompt him to sever relations which may have been entered into hastily, or under a misapprehension of his own mind as to their nature.

"Where such a desire for severance is manifestly *bona fide* on the part of a brother, his co-operation should be fraternally sought in the necessary steps, in order that he be released without scandal or ill-feeling."

In relation to "Masonic Prayers," he holds that they must be of that character in which all men, who believe in God, agree. We do not assent to this: we believe true masonic toleration is to allow every Brother to approach the Supreme Being in the manner in which he conscientiously believes he is required to do.

While admitting (under their law) the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, so far as *rejected* candidates are concerned, he rules that an *elected* candidate may apply to another lodge subsequently acquiring jurisdiction over him, without the consent of the first lodge. Our rule was otherwise, until expressly changed by the Grand Lodge, on the ground that an elected candidate is "unfinished work"; and we think that such was the old rule.

In his remarks upon "Watching with the Sick," he follows the correct principle, and we commend them to the craft:

"The question has been asked whether the Master of a lodge has power to compel members who are able to assist and watch with sick brethren.

"The Master certainly has no summary process in such cases. Of course there can be no question of the general duty resting upon every mason to assist a worthy distressed brother to the extent of that brother's necessity and his own ability. The mere fact of sickness, however, does not constitute 'distress' such as would warrant an imperative demand on a brother for aid, either in personal service or in a pecuniary way, unless sickness is coupled with indigence. It is not the design of masonry that sick brethren should receive anything in the way of benefits on that score alone; but it is designed that the distressed brother who is in want, either from sickness or other cause, shall have his pressing necessities relieved; and until this is done, the duty of his abler brother is not performed unless he has given to the extent

of his ability. If personal service is one of those pressing necessities, the brother who withholds while he is able to give it has not done his duty. As a rule, each brother must be the judge of his own ability; but cases may arise where the ability would be so apparent and the necessity so manifest, that refusal to bear a hand might justly be viewed and treated as a culpable disregard of obligations."

By direction of the Grand Lodge the year before, a proposition to found a "Widows' and Orphans' Home" was submitted to the lodges: in announcing that a majority of the lodges voting had voted against it, he says:

"It will be no surprise to you to learn that I view this final result of our discussion of this question with satisfaction. The observation and reflection of each succeeding year serve to fix more firmly my conviction that the embarkation of Grand Lodges in large moneyed enterprises is not only a departure from their legitimate functions, but is offering a premium for future discord and perplexity; and I rejoice that our lodges evince no disposition to hazard the settled harmony of the jurisdiction upon the vain hope that we can succeed where so many others have failed."

The committee expressed a hearty concurrence in his views and suggestions in reference to most of the foregoing, and their report was adopted; but the Grand Lodge dissented from his views in relation to jurisdiction over elected candidates.

Among his decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge, are the following:

"1. The fact that charges have been preferred against a brother does not affect his eligibility for office: the lodge is not at the mercy of any single brother who might choose at the eleventh hour to prefer charges against a brother who is its unmistakable choice for some office therein.

"3. The Master has a right to entertain a proposition to dimitt a brother who has been tried on charges of unmasonic conduct and acquitted, but in whose case an appeal is pending: the appeal does not vacate the judgment, but the judgment stands until the Grand Lodge has decided that the appeal is well taken; when, if the case is remanded, the lodge will retain jurisdiction.

"4. Compulsory process by a lodge to enforce the payment of dues lies only against a member thereof: if a brother has been dimitted from a lodge by the act of the Grand Lodge, he cannot afterwards be disciplined for the non-payment of arrearages existing at the time of dimission.

"6. If a lodge accepts a note of hand from a brother in liquidation of arrearages for dues, it thereby places his obligation for such arrearages on a purely business basis, and cannot make the non-payment of such note the basis of charges with a view to penal discipline.

"7. When a brother is on trial before his lodge for an alleged masonic offense, the record of his conviction of the same offense in a civil court is not sufficient to warrant the lodge in finding a verdict of guilt. The case is now to be tried before an entirely different jury, and must be conducted according to the rules laid down by the Grand Lodge, which require the jury to hear the evidence before voting on the question of guilt or innocence.

"9. Although one clear ballot entitles the petitioner to the three degrees, yet if an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft transfers his allegiance to another lodge, his petition for the remaining degree or degrees must again pass the ordeal of the ballot, because the element of lodge membership is involved in it; and he who has received but one or two degrees can no more be admitted to membership without a ballot than one who has received all three.

"14. The relation which a mason sustains to his lodge after having been indefinitely suspended by it, is that of a member under disabilities; and the lodge still retains its right of original penal jurisdiction over him for any masonic offense during his suspension, whether committed within its territory or elsewhere.

"15. The landmark respecting physical qualifications—of which our own law on the subject is substantially a repetition—manifestly refers only to the time of making; because, at the time when it crystallized into its present form, and for a long period subsequent thereto, 'making' was all—degrees being unknown. Hence the settled practice of our jurisdiction that a brother maimed after initiation may be advanced. Hence, too, an Entered Apprentice maimed prior to his making may be advanced, for although clearly unfit for the degrees, yet the fact that he *was made* forecloses all question of his eligibility. We must take him as we find him, being bound to accept the work of a regular lodge as lawful, however irregular its action may have been, and however much it deserved punishment therefor. We cannot go behind the fact that his present *status* is that of a lawful Entered Apprentice, possessing the same rights as all others standing on the same degree.

"17. If a lodge waives jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice, or a Fellow Craft, who has paid in advance the fees for all the degrees, then for such portion of the amount paid as it has not returned an equivalent in degrees, it has no claim either in law or equity.

"18. Waiver of jurisdiction over material in territory possessed in common by two or more lodges, requires the concurrence of all such lodges. All have an equal right to receive the petition of any candidate residing within their common territory, and the right of each is equally exclusive as against a lodge of another territory. What is equally the possession of *all* no one can give away.

"19. When a lodge has relinquished jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft, and he is rejected by the lodge to which he has transferred his allegiance, he may renew his petition to the latter at any subsequent stated meeting, the petition being otherwise subject to the rules governing original petitions for the degrees.

"20. When a candidate, after being rejected by one lodge, removes into the jurisdiction of another, neither lodge can receive his petition without first obtaining the consent of the other.

"21. The personal jurisdiction which a lodge acquires over a candidate by rejecting his petition for the degrees is not affected by the lapse of time nor by his removal elsewhere.

"22. Bro. A having sat in a lodge of Master Masons with B, thereby obtains lawful information that the latter is a Master Mason, and may vouch for him as such: he cannot derive such information from having sat with him in some other body claiming to be masonic, and which is supposed to make the possession of the Master Mason's degree a pre-requisite to applying for admission thereto. If Bro. A vouches to Bro. B (each knowing the other to be a Master Mason), that C is a Master Mason, *C being present*, then B is in possession of such lawful information as will enable him to vouch for C anywhere; and this voucher may be passed on indefinitely, C being present to prevent any mistake in identity. A mere casual remark of A to B, even in the presence of C, that the latter is a Master Mason, should not be accepted by B as a voucher. He should have his attention so definitely called to the subject, as to leave no doubt that A intends to make a formal avouchment.

"29. The record that a Master is 'installed' comprehends in that word a declaration that he was properly qualified by the installing officer, (if not so qualified before,) and the only record anywhere of his being in possession of that part of the installation ceremony known as the Past Master's degree. If, as a matter of fact, the installing officer should omit that portion of the ceremonies, while it would render him liable to punishment for a violation of law, it would not operate to deprive the Master whom he thus bunglingly installed into office of any of the rights and prerogatives pertaining thereto; nor would this fact that the Master elect had failed to receive from the installing officer all the instruction to which his election entitled him, any more invalidate his future *status* as an actual Past Master, than the leaving out by a blundering Master, of half the work of the first degree, would invalidate the *status* of an Entered Apprentice so made.

"30. An instrument of writing designed for a summons, no matter how

worded, is not a summons unless personally served: sent through the mail, it becomes simply a notice.

"31. Sec. 3, Art. 8, Part 2, G. L. By-Laws, does not apply to a Warden presiding in the Master's absence. While thus acting, he has full power to perform any act which the Master might do were he present. He must meet every emergency as it arises, and if such emergency arises while he is thus presiding as to make a special meeting necessary, he may fix the time of such meeting—as the Master might do were he present—regardless of whether the latter is actually within the territorial jurisdiction of the lodge, and able to authorize a call.

"32. The care of a sick and destitute sojourning brother is a legitimate burden of masonry, to be borne to the extent of their ability by the masons among whom his lot may be cast, without the expectation of pecuniary reward; and so also is the burial of the dead; a duty, the performance of which, in either case, affords no ground for a claim to re-imbursement by the lodge to which a sick or dying brother may belong."

We presume No. 3 is based on an express provision of the laws of the Grand Lodge, as, in the absence of such a provision, an appeal vacates the judgment.

We dissent from No. 7, holding, as has been decided by many Grand Lodges, that the judgment of conviction by a civil court of an offense is *prima facie* evidence of guilt, and, unless controlled by other evidence, requires the conviction of the party by the lodge. The evidence, by which a conviction in court is obtained, is very frequently unattainable by the lodge: and judgments of courts are, by all codes, evidence for or against the parties to them: and we see no reason whatever for discarding this kind of evidence in lodge trials, any more than any other kind of evidence which human experience has found to be reliable.

No. 18 is not in accordance with the law of most of our Grand Lodges. When lodges have concurrent jurisdiction over a candidate, he is not "equally the possession of all," but of the lodge to which he chooses to apply. He may apply to either lodge for the degrees, to be conferred by that or some other lodge.

We commend No. 23 to the attention of the craft, as a true and sound exposition of the law.

We are not prepared to concur in No. 30: it seems to us that the character of the document must be determined by its contents, and not by the manner in which it is served: moreover, if a member actually receives a summons addressed to him, it matters not *how* he receives it, and he is bound to obey it: of course a lodge cannot act upon a service of a summons by mail, without actual proof that the party received it, and we apprehend that the decision should be limited to the effect of a service by mail.

BRO. T. T. GURNEY again submits the Report on Correspondence (183 pp.), including a special Report on the Grand Lodge of Cuba. He concludes that neither of the two Bodies claiming to be Grand Lodges are legitimate, and the Grand Lodge accepted his conclusion. He holds that the lodges, by giving in their adhesion to the Supreme Council, forfeited their charters and became extinct. While it may be possible that their course made them liable

to forfeit their charters, yet, inasmuch as no judgment of forfeiture was ever declared against them, they can scarcely be said to become extinct. Nor are we ready to cut off, as illegitimate, all the masons of the nations other than the English-speaking nations, or to declare that their form of organization is so irregular as to make them clandestine. Nor do we assent to the proposition that, when a Grand Lodge becomes extinct, the lodges regularly chartered under its jurisdiction become extinct also.

His general report (160 pp.) is a faithful abstract of the Proceedings, with very able comments. We have been greatly interested in reading it, though we differ in our conclusions.

He discusses the question of non-affiliation, and is disappointed that in all that has been said he finds no remedy. Well, it depends upon what we mean by "remedy": if we mean something that will induce all members to pay their dues promptly, the reason, why we *find* no remedy, is because there *is* none: if we mean a remedy for suspension for non-payment of dues, it is plain that if we charge no dues, or remit the dues of all who do not pay, there will be no suspensions.

He favors large initiation and affiliation fees and the abolition of dues: we have had some experience on this point, and are opposed to it, unless a lodge has a fund the income of which shall pay its running expenses. We have found that lodges, which depend on these fees for support, are very apt to accept unsuitable material, and thus do much injury to masonry.

It requires money to support a lodge: to raise this money by voluntary contribution throws the whole burden on a few, and keeps the lodge in a chronic shortness of funds: if a man *can* pay for lodge privileges, and will not, we believe masonry is better off to have him out of the lodge than in it: but, although out of the lodge, he is a mason, and entitled (as we hold) to such recognition as each brother conscientiously feels that he ought to accord, but not entitled, *as of right*, to any of the privileges springing from a lodge organization. This is no remedy for non-affiliation: but we believe it is the wisest plan to adopt in reference to the matter.

He agrees with us that a mason is amenable to the laws of the jurisdiction in which he is permanently or temporarily residing, although a member of a lodge, and an officer even, in another jurisdiction.

He dissents from Grand Master Moore's decision that a Master may refuse to admit a member of the lodge *for good cause* on objection being made, but evidently under a misapprehension of the scope of the decision; for he says that if a member comes to the door of the lodge drunk, the Master is justified in refusing him admission: the decision does not contemplate a decision without investigation, but expressly states that there must be one, and that the member can be excluded only *for good cause*: of course the Master must be the judge of what is "*good cause*," under his accountability to the Grand Lodge for the abuse of his power.

Of the chartering of Prince Hall Lodge by the Grand Lodge of England, he says :

"It is this silence of history that troubles us. What if the Grand Lodge of England *did* grant a charter? It seems to us a very remarkable feature of the case that the Registry is extant, and not a scrap of evidence in existence to show upon what grounds the charter was granted. Is it not a reasonable inference that this charter was issued upon the simple *request* of these colored men? Who recommended their petition? No mention is made of *any* of the *facts* connected with the transaction—no attempt at anything of the kind. If the charter had been a lawful document, it is more than probable that a recognition of the fact would exist in some record of those days, either in England or America. We may grossly err, but our candid conviction is that the Grand Lodge of England granted an authorization in the absence of *any recommendation* or other *evidence* that the applicants *were masons*; because if she ever had such testimony, it seems improbable that every vestige of it has disappeared. The facts are *that she could not have had the testimony*, because, as we understand it, Prince Hall and his associates were not recognized by the American masonic authorities of that day. If it were otherwise, there was no possible necessity for *sending* to England for a charter.

"We still hold to the opinion that the action of the Grand Lodge of England was illegal, void; and that the charter is not entitled to one particle of consideration.

"Illinois or Minnesota have equal authority to grant charters for lodges in any unoccupied territory of the Globe. We would therefore ask Bro. Pearson, if Minnesota should grant a charter to a number of men in some far distant country to organize a lodge without the slightest evidence of their masonic standing; and it should subsequently appear that every applicant was physically disqualified, or that they were bondmen or not free born, and were not recognized as masons by the local fraternity. Would the charter be a legal document? Is it a fact that a Grand Lodge is justified in violating law? Is it a fact that a charter issued in palpable violation of law is a legal document? It may be that there is evidence of the legality of the charter; if so, we shall be glad to be corrected; but if there is none, we are inclined to insist that our brethren are not warranted in their opinions, that 'African Lodge' was *lawfully* constituted."

This doctrine would destroy the validity of all the old charters; for we don't believe that the old records of the chartering of any lodge show what evidence the Grand Lodge had that the petitioners were masons, or by whom they were recommended. A sovereign body may be presumed to know something: the fact of the grant of a charter by such a Body is, of itself, evidence that the Body was satisfied that the persons, to whom it was granted, were masons. The lodges which formed the Grand Lodge of Illinois were chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri: we have looked into the record (published) of the latter, and there is nothing whatever to show that the Grand Lodge of Missouri had any evidence that the petitioners were masons: must we, therefore, say that these lodges were all irregular, and the Grand Lodge of Illinois irregular also? We think that the fact of the grant of a charter by a Grand Lodge to certain persons is conclusive that they are masons, and that we cannot go behind that record.

While there are very many things in this report that we should like to notice, we have room for but one more. Bro. GURNEY holds, if we understand him, that the lodge should have full and exclusive jurisdiction over the discipline of its members, untrammelled by rules, and with power to decide

according to the equity of each case; and that "legal presumptions are miserable measures of masonry."

We most strenuously object to this doctrine, though on its face it appears plausible. In the first place, it assumes that the lodge is all that is interested in the conduct of its members, and that if a lodge chooses to endure a member that is a disgrace to masonry, no one else has any right to complain; whereas the whole Fraternity is interested, and, if his lodge will not do justice in the premises, the whole Fraternity, acting through its organ, the Grand Lodge, should have the opportunity of doing so. In the second place, masons are but men, and experience shows that the individual needs protection in the lodge, as much as in society, where Bro. G. admits that he needs it.

In the next place the talk about equity is utterly fallacious, because men are imperfect, and very rarely have the same idea of what equity is. The trouble is, that the lodge will not decide according to equity, but according to what the majority for the time being *chooses to say* is equity. Legal presumptions are rules, which human experience for many ages has established as the safest guides of our conduct. They may operate harshly sometimes, but everything human is imperfect, and it has been found that in the long run, much less injustice is done by adherence to these rules, than by allowing men to act upon the impulse of the moment, and according to their imperfect notions of what is equity in the particular case.

BRO. GURNEY gives, as an illustration, the rule that forbids the trial of a man twice for the same offense: and says if, after he is acquitted, evidence is found that he is guilty, he ought to be tried again, otherwise "we are powerless to rid the edifice of an ashlar that accomplishes its humiliation and threatens its destruction." But whether evidence, that he is guilty, has been discovered, can be determined only by a second trial: the result is that the accuser may file new charges, when and as often as he pleases, and though the accused may be perfectly innocent, he may be subjected to trial after trial, to the destruction of the harmony of the lodge and ultimately of the lodge itself. It is better that a guilty man occasionally escape, than that innocent men should be subjected to continual assaults. Bro. GURNEY's ideas would be well enough for his ideal lodge, but we must take masons as they are and not as we would have them to be. The masonic millennium has not yet arrived.

INDIANA, 1877.

Representation, 465 of the 519 lodges: nineteen charters granted and three dispensations continued: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recognized.

The Grand Master (FRANK S. DEVOL) submitted a full account of his official acts, which had been numerous, and his correspondence had been unusually large. Having become satisfied that many of the lodges were habitually violating the regulations of the Grand Lodge, he prepared a series

of *twenty-eight* questions and commissioned a special deputy for each lodge, and required him to examine the records and answer the questions. Many irregularities were thus brought to light, and undoubtedly the tendency of the investigation was to correct abuses by educating the officers of lodges. The Grand Master tabulated the results and laid his work before the Grand Lodge. He found that *seventy-five per cent. of transient applicants for relief subsequently proved to be impostors.*

He argued in eloquent terms the erection and maintenance of a "Widows' and Orphans' Home": the Grand Lodge voted that it was unwise and inexpedient to levy a tax for the purpose, but appointed a committee to prepare a plan and solicit contributions.

But the indebtedness of the Grand Lodge contracted in building the Masonic Temple was the matter of the greatest interest. Upon real estate owned by the Grand Lodge it had erected a Temple at a cost of over \$120,000, for over \$104,000 of which it is indebted; some \$25,000 of this became due the current year; and the treasury was empty; the committee proposed to levy a *per capita* tax of one dollar, but the proposition was voted down by a vote of 260 to 147, and, so far as we can discover, no means were provided any further than can be obtained by selling land and borrowing. But a few years ago this Grand Lodge had a large balance in the treasury, and, we think, reduced the dues in consequence; and now it seems as if its Temple must be sold by the sheriff.

The Report on Correspondence (92 pp.) was again presented by Bro. ELISHA L. MCLALLEN. It is a fine abstract of the Proceedings, with very few comments, and so affords no occasion for the discussion of his views by others.

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1877.

Eight lodges represented: two charters granted: four District Deputies appointed one for each Nation: the third degree exemplified by the Grand Master.

The Grand Master (GRANVILLE MCPHERSON) says masonry is advancing in the Territory: pays a tribute to the memory of Bro. GOULEY: announces the destruction, by fire, of Oklahoma Lodge, its rebuilding and destruction, with all the lodge property save the charter and records; in view of this double catastrophe, the lodge was allowed to apply to other jurisdictions for aid; he discusses the question of non-affiliation, and believes that a less rigid course would greatly diminish the number of non-affiliates.

The Grand Secretary acknowledges the receipt of our Proceedings and the "*Masonic Token.*"

The Grand Lodge decided that all who "refuse to contribute to the Institution, unless prevented by disability, by so doing forfeit all the rights, privileges and benefits of the fraternity."

The resolutions, adopted the year before, arresting the charters of Flint and Alpha Lodges, were repealed. See our Proceedings of 1877, pp. 347, 353.

Inasmuch as the Grand Lodge of Arkansas has now recognized this Grand Lodge, we trust these two lodges will make no further opposition to passing under the authority of the Grand Lodge in their jurisdiction: masonic law, the harmony of the craft, and their own prosperity, all alike require it.

The Committee on Correspondence submitted a report (26 pp.) prepared by all the members of the committee—they dividing the Proceedings for review. Maine fell to Bro. J. S. MURROW, and he devotes three pages to us.

Bro. J. B. JONES, in his review of Kansas, very ably argues that his Grand Lodge has full and exclusive jurisdiction in the Territory: but as we believe that the question at issue with the Grand Lodge of Kansas will soon be settled, we omit a statement of his argument.

IOWA, 1877.

The Proceedings are adorned with the portraits of Past Grand Master JAMES L. HOGIN and Grand Master Z. C. LUSE.

The Grand Officers and members of the Grand Lodge were escorted to the hall by several Commanderies of Knights Templar, where, after a speech of welcome and a suitable response, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form: two hundred and seventy-two lodges represented: eleven charters granted, and one dispensation continued and one withdrawn.

The address of the Grand Master (HENRY W. ROTHBERT), largely taken up with local matters, contains very much of general interest.

He says:

"I have been repeatedly importuned to set aside, interfere with, or re-open a ballot had on the petition of a profane, or the application of a non-affiliate. I have in every instance considered it without the sphere of my duties, and unwarranted by any powers in me vested, thus to ignore the expression of the craft properly and regularly had, to invade the sacredness of the ballot, or indirectly interfere with that inalienable right enjoyed by every Master Mason, and guaranteed to him by the solemn compact of masonry itself. It is certainly dangerous ground to tread upon, and very questionable, to say the least, whether the autocratic, arbitrary and imperial declaration of a Grand Master can deprive the Master Mason of his heritage, and release the lodge from its safeguard and protection. Let every ballot be carefully and legally had, every petition thoroughly and rigidly scrutinized, every report intelligibly and regularly made, every participant properly cautioned and instructed, every die conscientiously and honestly cast, and no occasion will ever appear to resort to higher authority in order to correct a mistake or remedy a fault."

We wish the following suggestion of his could be universally adopted:

"The lamb-skin, when presented, should become the property of the initiate, on which can be written the date of his initiation, passing and raising. It thus becomes a souvenir, to be treasured by him who has been permitted to enter the inner door, and will remain an heir-loom in his family, calling forth recollections of his connection with the brethren of the mystic tie. The Worshipful Master, when performing the impressive ceremonies of initiation,

need not reserve in his mind the thought that such presentation is but temporarily transferring the property of the lodge, but that this 'badge of a mason' is a gift to the novice from the experts around him, ever to remind him to keep that garment, as his own, unspotted and untarnished before the world."

For many years the Grand Lodge has been trying to amend its Constitution: but as it required adoption by two-thirds of the lodges, and many of the lodges neglected to act upon it, the effort proved in vain: but this year the Grand Master issued a peremptory edict to the delinquent lodges (eighty-three), requiring a meeting to be called within ten days to take action thereon, and he was thus able to have the action of every lodge; and an amendment giving the Grand Lodge the power of amending its own Constitution was adopted by just the requisite number: we believe Iowa will be slow to return to a plan unknown anciently, but an attempted imitation of our Federal Constitution.

A citizen and resident of Iowa, on a visit to Scotland, was made a mason. On complaint being made to the Grand Secretary of Scotland, the Master of the offending lodge replied in, what seems to us, an offensive manner: Bro. PARVIN thereupon replied in a very able letter to the Grand Master, to which he received the following reply from the new Grand Secretary, D. MURRAY LYON:

"MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I had the honor of handing your communication to the Grand Master, who forthwith remitted it to Grand Committee. I am instructed by that committee to acknowledge receipt of the communication from the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and respectfully to state that while the Grand Lodge of Scotland are desirous of maintaining and extending fraternal relations with sister Grand Lodges, and would be glad to exchange Grand Representatives with the Grand Lodge of Iowa, the Grand Committee are not prepared to recommend the adoption of the rule to which the Grand Secretary of Iowa refers.

"The constitution of our Grand Lodge does not permit of any interference with daughter lodges in their initiation of American residents in this country (temporarily or permanently), any more than with the practices of American and other foreign Grand Lodges as to the initiation of British subjects. Hoping soon to have the pleasure of receiving a formal proposal for the exchange of representatives between the Grand Lodge of Iowa and the Grand Lodge of Scotland."

The Grand Lodge adopted the following:

"We heartily approve the action of the Grand Master in protesting against the rule of the Grand Lodge of Scotland allowing its subordinates to make masons of sojourners, and endorse the utterance of our Grand Secretary, in his letter of January 30th last, that while this Grand Lodge does not desire to punish the recipients of degrees of masonry in Scotland, or elsewhere, it feels compelled to uphold its own jurisdictional rights. We admit that the Grand Lodge of Scotland is older than our own, and has its own laws, yet we too have laws adopted for our protection—laws which have grown out of our experience, and which are the result of our masonic necessities, and which are similar in character to those recognized and enforced by all American Grand Lodges; and while we earnestly desire the extension of fraternal intercourse with every masonic power, we cannot purchase it at the expense of our protection and of interests essential to our welfare.

"We would therefore recommend that the Grand Lodge of Scotland be fraternally requested to so far change her rules as to forbid the making of masons of persons from Iowa until they become residents of Scotland, and that in the meantime we maintain the right to judge of the worthiness of any

persons, residents of Iowa, who, while sojourning under the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges, are made masons.

"To this end we offer the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to signify to the Grand Lodge of Scotland that this Grand Lodge feels compelled, as a measure of protection which experience has shown to be necessary, to re-assert its laws in relation to jurisdiction, and that it fraternally requests that Grand Body to take such action as will prevent the making of masons of persons from Iowa who are not *bona fide* residents of Scotland.

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge again forbids its lodges to receive as visitors, or recognize as masons, residents of Iowa made masons outside of its own jurisdiction, until such persons shall have been duly healed.

"Your committee have also considered the letter of Bro. D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, relative to the appointment of a Grand Representative near that body, and recommend that the Grand Master be requested to accredit such Representative, and to invite the appointment of a similar officer of that Grand Lodge near this body, hoping that by the efforts of the brethren so appointed fraternal friendship may be extended and all chances of misunderstanding removed."

We are very glad that the American doctrine was sustained by the Grand Lodge, as we believe that if this course is generally adopted it will practically remedy the evil.

BRO. PARVIN submits, as usual, most valuable reports as Grand Secretary and Grand Librarian. We cannot copy them, but note them for reference.

The Report on Correspondence (42 pp.) was presented by WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE. One brother advised him to limit his Report to *fifty* pages, and another to *twenty* pages. We should like to see a report which the *latter* would write! Bro. L.'s report is boiled down—and too much so, for it shows in every line almost that he had the fear of being too long continually before his eyes. If he had doubled the length, with no more extracts, it would have been more than doubly valuable. In a few instances, he has ventured to extend his comments beyond a line or two. Although we may seem to be unpatriotic, we cannot help fully endorsing the following:

"During the past year we see that many of the Grand Lodges notice the reception of a proposition from the Grand Master of Wisconsin that the masonic fraternity of the United States erect, on the Mount Vernon grounds, a mausoleum to the memory of Washington. He reports 'the reception of a number of replies, but that no definite action has been taken by any Grand Lodge,' which is reason for rejoicing. Grand Lodges were not organized to 'build the tombs of the prophets,' and until they have alleviated all the distress, supplied all the want, and dispelled all the ignorance in their immediate jurisdictions, they have no right thus to squander money furnished them for these purposes. Building monuments and mausoleums is no part of masonry, and we personally feel neither honored or gratified that this Grand Lodge, while it has neither charity fund or asylum, home or school, last year voted, even conditionally, a large sum of money to help finish that abortion, the Washington National Monument—the design of which has been elegantly described as founded on the classic idea of a hoe-handle standing erect with a pumpkin for a base. Washington's name and the nation he founded are his best monuments. And the spirit of this age is too humanitarian to waste the money and effort which should go to the legitimate work of masonry, in imitating the Pharaohs of Egypt and the emperors of India in piling up large monuments, which only bear witness to their rapacity and tyranny, as these latter will do to our vanity and bad taste."

The Grand Lodge of Iowa has ample means to publish a full Report; and has Brethren amply able to prepare good ones: and we greatly regret to see a disposition manifested to abridge them into mere dry synopses of the Proceedings. Our observation is that the *discussions* in reports are more generally read than extracts or even *résumés* of Proceedings: the Brethren prefer reading what will give them information upon masonic law and polity rather than extracts or dry condensed statements of what other Grand Lodges are doing.

KANSAS, 1877.

Ninety-four lodges represented: five charters granted, and one revoked: seventeen lodges failed to make returns: The Grand Lodges of Cuba and new Mexico recognized.

The Grand Master (JACOB D. RUSH) had refused many dispensations for new lodges, as he believed that there had been too great an increase of lodges and membership for real prosperity, as many, who were not worthy, had been admitted [in consequence, perhaps, of a desire to build up a weak lodge].

In relation to non-affiliates, he gave the following decision:

"Every Master Mason should belong to some lodge, and be a contributing member to its charities. One who voluntarily takes his dimit, and severs his connection with the Fraternity, not for the purpose of becoming affiliated with another lodge, thereby relinquishes his claim upon the Fraternity for all those benefits which he acquired by becoming a member of it. Therefore, in the absence of any local regulation upon the subject, I hold this to be the correct and just *status* of that class of masonic vagrants, viz: any non-affiliated Master Mason in this jurisdiction who does not, within six months from the date of his dimit, become a member of some lodge, shall not be permitted to visit any lodge (after that time) more than once, nor be permitted to walk in any masonic procession, or participate in any masonic ceremony; neither shall they be entitled to receive masonic burial, nor to receive relief from the charity funds of the lodge."

To this, in his address, he adds:

"This alternately, much abused, coaxed and petted portion of our Fraternity has occupied and engaged the attention of various sister Grand Lodges for years past. Each in their turn have had one or more committees chasing after these good (?) brothers, until all have pretty nearly exhausted their strength and patience, and have had to stop at last and fold their arms in despair almost, as they beheld this 'numerous and constantly increasing brother' slowly but surely leaving them in the rear. And still the question is, what shall we do to not only 'catch him,' but also hold him when caught? This question has been asked me a number of times during the past year."

* * * * *

"We have run after the non-affiliated mason long enough, to the detriment of the faithful and true masons who have held fast to their faith and masonic homes at the same time. Let us try a different kind of tactics upon them, by changing our course; and, instead of chasing after them, let us turn and face them; and establish our laws, saying, thus far you can go and no farther, only at your peril. Let^s us give *them* an opportunity to run after *us* for awhile, and see which is the most successful plan. Believing the latter would be, I made my decision accordingly."

The Grand Lodge modified the decision so far only as to leave the right of visitation to the discretion of the lodge visited. The decision goes farther

than our rule, and we think (as there was no regulation of the Grand Lodge in reference to it) is erroneous, in so far as it does not leave lodges at liberty to extend, *at their discretion*, to a non-affiliate the other rights named. Give him no claim to them by right, but leave lodges and brethren the right to extend them to him, as a matter of courtesy.

We are surprised to find a report, in substance, that a Grand Lodge Library is of no practical benefit, and therefore that the funds of the Grand Lodge should not be expended for that purpose, save a small appropriation (much less than the Grand Secretary reported was required) for binding the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges, and that, not with a view of their being read, but only with a view of their preservation.

We regret to find that the Grand Lodge has assumed a certain superintendence over a Mutual Relief Association, or rather two of them. They are not within "the original plan of masonry," nor objects for which Grand Lodges were created to manage: and, more than that, when one of them fails, the Grand Lodge ought not to be so connected with it as to share the disgrace and bring a stigma on masonry.

The Report on Correspondence (155 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN H. BROWN. It is an exceedingly able report, and one to which a review can do no justice unless extended far beyond the usual limits. In going through and selecting only the most important matters, we have marked extracts enough to fill more than a dozen pages. We commend it to all Brethren who wish to inform themselves upon the questions which are now agitating the Fraternity.

He says:

"The Institution cannot afford to confer its honors on men who seek them only for the purposes of a mere personal character, and cast aside all responsibility the moment their ends are gained. It can well afford to reject all such material; and the sooner this rule is made absolute in every jurisdiction, the sooner Freemasonry will get rid of a hamper that now curbs its strength and restricts its strides."

He holds that a resident of one State cannot hold office in a lodge in another State, nor even (if we do not mistake his meaning) be legally a member of a lodge in another State. His reason is:

"No man can serve two masters or be obedient to two co-equal conflicting powers; and what otherwise would obtain, we pray to know, if a non-resident of Arkansas should hold office in a lodge in that jurisdiction, being under the control of its Grand Lodge, and yet amenable to the particular lodge of his domicile and the Grand Lodge under which the latter held its charter?"

We do not assent to this: his reasoning, carried to its logical result, would require every mason to belong to the lodge nearest his residence, and *never go out of the territorial jurisdiction of that lodge!* But the practice is very extensive for members to go out of their lodge jurisdiction, to be a member of a lodge other than the one in whose jurisdiction they reside, to be a member of a lodge in another State, and to hold office in a lodge in another State. It is true that a mason is amenable to his own lodge, but he is also to the lodge in

whose jurisdiction he resides or commits an offense. It is not a serving of two masters: it is the same, in principle, as the case of lodges having concurrent jurisdiction in other respects: the lodge which first moves acquires exclusive jurisdiction.

We agree in the following:

"There is no Masonic Temple in this country that is not overwhelmed with debt. A few may, in the run of many years, be saved to the Fraternity, but most of them will ultimately end in bankruptcy. Masonic Colleges and Homes for Widows and Orphans are so far from prosperous, that those charged with the care are required to use the utmost vigilance to keep them alive from year to year. At every session of the Grand Lodges having them under control, their support and safety constitutes a large item in Grand Masters' addresses, and delegates are besought on their return to raise and forward means to continue them in existence. Such being the fact, no Masonic Body will be unwise enough at present to advise or assist in the erection of another Temple; and no Grand Lodge should attempt to build and endow either Homes or Colleges unless they have in hand funds amply sufficient for both purposes. Even then they would act a wiser part by investing such funds and use the accruing interest to assist destitute widows and orphans of worthy brothers."

He discusses at considerable length the subjects of non-affiliation and the system of dues. We cannot quote all his remarks, but give the following from his review of Maine, as showing his views:

"Grand Master Moore says: 'There is a growing restiveness among the lodges on the subject of non-payment of dues and the sequent evil of non-affiliation.' Well, there ought to be none in a State which, like Maine, has a charity fund of \$18,800 invested in profitable securities, for the dues of individual members should be so light as to cause no others to murmur than miserly curmudgeons; and when such brethren (?) dimit and go into non-affiliation, the Fraternity should feel thankful, and, in that State, purchase for them away up in the Great Northern Woods a small domain, where, in close communion and uncontradicted, they could to the full descendant on the decadence of masonry and the gross enormity of dues exceeding a nickel per annum. How such martyrs to niggardliness ever become masons beats our guessing powers; but now and then one is found where dues are at a minimum, and at every outlay except for feasts and suppers—at which they can accomplish what would at best abash a Hercules—are heard their ungracious, churlish snarls or parsimonious whine. They will spend a week in magnifying the virtue of saving a penny, though they lose a pound, rather than not blame the unthrift of a brother or censure the petty expenditure of a lodge. Such love to prattle of charity, which in their vocabulary means to take, but not to give. The legitimate descendants of him who on a certain occasion blamed the waste of a whole pot of precious ointment, they should imitate him in his death, and thus rid lodges of their presence. Misers might wait their departure, if put to no expense for their burial, but the sons of charity would lift up their faces overspread with joy.

"But there is another class of masons whom the lodges can not well spare—whose loss would be keenly felt: those who are willing to bear their share—many times more—of all the legitimate expenses necessary to the decent keeping of their rooms or halls, and to contribute to a fund in store for lodge charity in extraordinary cases; but further than this refuse to go, or so doing, reserve to themselves the right to name the amount they will bestow as well as the person or object to whom or for which it shall be given. To this class we think a large number of our non-affiliated brethren belong, and further surmise that the number will yearly and rapidly increase in certain jurisdictions while the now prevailing mania lasts, which seeks out of nothing to create something, that is to build huge structures, such as Masonic Temples,

Colleges, Widows' and Orphans' Asylums, Infirmarys and Homes for aged brethren, *et id omne genus*, without funds. But, to carry out their projects, issue bonds, sell them at large discount, and to pay the interest as it accrues, and retire the bonds at maturity, tax the craft, or endeavor so to do, through their respective lodges. No wonder if brethren retire from lodges and refuse to bear the weight of burdens so imposed in the name of Charity, but which they know are not authorized by the spirit of masonry, and in violation of the dictates of sound policy. The obligations of no brother bind him to contribute to such institutions. Lodges have not arbitrary power, and Grand Lodges cannot confer it. They, one and all, are dependent on voluntary consent for existence. Every attempt to coerce brethren into the adoption or support of measures which have not the sanction of law and obligation—which are in direct contravention of usage—is but the bold beginning of rank usurpation, which should be met and resisted by every Craft Mason who prizes the integrity of the Institution, and wishes to see it perpetuated without additions which change its character and thwart its real purposes."

We do not agree with him in his remarks upon the *power* of Grand Lodges in this respect, but do concur with him in regard to the *impolicy* of such enterprises.

He decides against the legality of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, on the ground that lodges in two or more independent nations cannot legally unite in forming a Grand Lodge, giving, as an illustration, the lodges in Idaho and Wyoming. We do not agree in this, but hold precisely the contrary. There is a precedent for it. Formerly, we had a Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee having jurisdiction over both, though they were separate Territories or States. While the lodges in a particular Nation may form a Grand Lodge, there is nothing in the principle or practice to prevent those in several distinct Territories or Nations uniting (if they see fit) under one Grand Lodge. The principle of masonic government, as to formation of Grand Lodges, has been adopted by the Templars, and yet they have a Grand Commandery exercising jurisdiction over two States—Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

We leave, with much reluctance, very many matters in this report, unnoticed.

MANITOBA, 1877.

Five lodges represented: one charter granted: the Grand Lodge of Cuba recognized: a committee appointed to organize a Library: no Report on Correspondence.

The address of the Grand Master (W. N. KENNEDY) relates chiefly to local matters. He had created a new lodge near the border of Minnesota, and the Grand Master of the latter jurisdiction had granted permission to candidates near the border to apply to this new lodge.

The Grand Secretary makes a full report, giving a list of Proceedings received, among which are those of Maine.

M. W. Bro. W. N. KENNEDY was received and appropriately welcomed as the Representative of our Grand Lodge.

Two systems of work prevail in Manitoba: two committees were appointed

the year before to exemplify the work: both exemplified the first degree, and the committee on the "Ancient York Rite" work exemplified it in the other two degrees. A motion that all lodges hereafter constituted be required to use the Ancient York Rite work caused much excitement and discussion. Various amendments were offered and lost, and finally the resolution was adopted, except that it was modified by giving the newly chartered lodge the right to decide by vote of the lodge at its next annual meeting which work it would adopt.

The Grand Lodge, in response to a circular from Missouri, decided that its lodges would expect to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in taking care of the sick of other lodges, and would expect to reciprocate in similar cases to the extent of their ability, except in cases in which their claims were not promptly recognized.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1877.

A Special Communication was held December 8, 1877, to celebrate the one hundreth anniversary of the organization of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge as a sovereign and independent Grand Lodge. Grand Master EVERETT stated the object of the meeting in a brief general historical address, and then introduced the orator of the day, Bro. CHAS. LEVI WOODBURY, who delivered one of the most interesting historical addresses to which it has ever been our lot to listen, which, with documents cited by him, is published in the Proceedings. At the close of the address some two hundred and fifty Brethren sat down to the "Centennial Feast"—magnificent in its sumptuousness—and after that speeches were the order of the day, which are also given in the Proceedings, *eighty pages* of which are devoted to the "Table Ceremonies." Of course we shall not attempt any abstract. It was a fitting celebration of one of the most momentous events in the history of masonry.

At the Quarterly Communication in June, the death of R. W. CHARLES J. DANFORTH, Junior Grand Warden, a most excellent man and zealous mason, was announced, and a loving tribute paid to his memory.

At the September Communication, memorial tributes to the memory of JOHN A. HARRIS, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and of SAMUEL K. HUTCHINSON, Past Grand Warden, were presented and entered of record.

Under the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, when objections are made to an elected candidate, they must be referred to a committee, examined, and their efficiency determined by a majority vote of the lodge. On an appeal in a case arising under this provision, the Grand Lodge decided that the action of the lodge is final, and cannot be reviewed by the Grand Lodge.

It being stated that the head-stone at the grave of HENRY PRICE was broken, \$500 was put in the hands of the Directors for the erection of a suitable monument.

A Special Communication was held September 17, 1877, to dedicate the "Army and Navy Monument" on Boston Common. Among the invited guests present was Grand Master BURNHAM. The Grand Lodge was escorted by the Grand Commandery and fourteen subordinates, numbering about 1,300 Sir Knights: the whole procession numbered, by official count, 25,429. The services, adapted to the occasion, with the beautiful and eloquent address of Grand Master LOWELL, are given in the Proceedings.

At the Annual Communication, one hundred and fifty-nine lodges were represented: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized: a committee appointed to prepare a Digest: and the usual routine business transacted.

The Proceedings are adorned with capital portraits of the retiring Grand Master, PERCIVAL LOWELL EVERETT, of WENDELL T. DAVIS and of CHARLES J. DANFORTH.

The Grand Master gives a brief account of his official action since the last communication, with a statement of some of the events that had occurred during his Grand Mastership. The system of Trial Commissioners, which he says is a decided success, had been adopted: a revised ritual promulgated in such manner that there is uniformity throughout the State: a new Trestle Board prepared: and several Centennial celebrations had taken place. He pays an affectionate tribute to the beloved WINSLOW LEWIS, who had died during his official term. Looking at the condition of masonry in his jurisdiction, the Grand Master may well review his official life with profound satisfaction.

R. W. MARSHALL P. WILDER presented to the Grand Lodge a copy of the Eulogy on Washington, pronounced before the Grand Lodge February 11, 1800, by TIMOTHY BIGELOW. It was deemed of so much interest that it was ordered to be reprinted in the Proceedings. We are fortunate enough to have a copy of the original, but it is a very rare pamphlet.

A tribute was adopted to the memory of WILLIAM J. SAWIN, Past Grand Warden, who was stricken down with apoplexy and died instantly in the Asylum of Springfield Commandery, as he was putting on his official regalia preparatory to being installed, in the presence of a large number of the brethren, as Commander of that Commandery. His character as a man and a mason, and the peculiarly affecting circumstances attending his death, will cause him to be long remembered.

An unaffiliated mason, sojourning at Fall River, was tried by the Commissioners, and, on their recommendation, expelled by the Grand Lodge. We commend this case to the attention of Bro. BROWN, of Kansas.

The ceremonies at the installation of the Grand Master are given: among them was one not down on the programme of the retiring Grand Master; Bro. NICKERSON, in behalf of Winslow Lewis Lodge, presented him an elegant Past Grand Master's jewel: Bro. EVERETT, though taken wholly by surprise, is reported as replying "with much feeling and well-chosen words."

The "Annual Feast" followed the Installation: it had been determined not to report the speeches on that occasion, but, at the earnest request of many brethren, the remarks of the Grand Master (CHARLES A. WELCH) and of SOLON W. STEVENS are published, "as setting forth the great foundation truth of our belief in God, and the immortality of the soul, and a strong protest against the recent action of the Grand Orient of France."

The Grand Master said:

"Those who have assembled at this Feast believe, and have as masons solemnly declared their belief, in a Supreme Being,—not a Pantheistic Entity, where the creature and the Creator are confusedly and unintelligibly mingled, and the latter confounded and lost in the former; but a personal, omnipotent God, the Creator of all things, whose paternal benevolence watches over all his creatures, in whom all can put their trust, and to whom all can appeal, as to a father, if trouble and affliction befall them. There is no skeleton at this Feast, or at any other Masonic Feast, to throw a shadow over its pleasures; the cup of innocent enjoyment may be drained to the bottom and no dregs found within; for this is not a meeting of those who, when they part, part as if to meet no more,—of miserable beings whose only moments of happiness are temporary ones, to be closed by annihilation. Such meetings as these are only harbingers of those future meetings, to be looked forward to exultingly, when friends and brothers will meet in the Grand Lodge above, after faith has been lost in sight, and hope has ended in fruition,—

"While circling time rolls round in an eternal sphere."

And we take the following from the speech of Bro. STEVENS:

"I believe that the doctrines taught by the symbolism of Freemasonry are not only in accordance with the profoundest scholarship of the times, but that, upon reflection, it will be found that they are serving in some degree as a check to the courses of materialism and false liberalism which are insinuating themselves into the crevices of the bulwark of our Christian faith. I know I am now approaching what by some is in these days considered debatable ground. I do not mean that Freemasonry is religion, and that the lodge-room is a church. But if the lessons taught in our ritual mean anything, I believe they teach unmistakably, trust in God, the duty of an aspiration to a higher life, and the immortality of the soul. If the atheistic evolutionist avows that in the name of Science these doctrines have been exploded, that man, once a monkey, *evolved* by a 'creative principle,' is at last simply dust, and the after life simply a fancy, my answer is, that the highest authority in scientific thought to-day, the ripest scholarship in this country and in Germany, has proved, not from the theologian's stand-point, but from the scientific point of view, that the fundamental truths of the Bible, relative to the existence of God and the immortality of the soul, are undeniably true. Freemasonry, resting on the Bible as its corner-stone, teaches by its own peculiar, beautiful symbolism these fundamental truths, therein contained, and claims *morality* as its vital essence and central idea. For myself, I, as a mason, must believe in these doctrines, rather than in what Carlyle calls the 'philosophy of dirt;' and if it be a delusion, it is one which I hope may always enwrap me in its encircling folds. By it I am led to believe that death is not a 'leap in the dark.' By it I am brought to surrender to that faith, of which William Cullen Bryant gave a beautiful expression not long ago, when sitting in the vestibule of his summer home at the close of a mild autumn day. Glancing upward he chanced to see a swallow migrating through the heavens toward the south. Giving vent to the emotions of his heart, he exclaimed:—

"He who from zone to zone
Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight,
In the long way which I must tread alone,
Will guide my steps aright!"

MICHIGAN, 1877.

Representation, 314 out of 327 lodges: eight charters granted: a proposition to repeal the District Deputy system defeated.

The address of the Grand Master (MATTHEW H. MAYNARD), while chiefly devoted to official and local matters, contains many valuable suggestions. He bears testimony to the value of the system of visitation by District Deputies, and the importance of Schools of Instruction.

Among his decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge, are the following:

"The right to object to a visit appertains to a brother only while he is actually within the lodge. He cannot make and file an objection with the Secretary, and thus prevent a visiting brother's admission to the lodge, in his absence, when all the brethren present are willing to receive the visit.

"The duty to aid and assist a worthy distressed brother is measured by my ability and his necessity. Within these bounds it is without limit.

"Honorary membership is usually conferred in recognition of high personal and masonic character. It is not to be conferred on anyone in opposition to the objection of a member of the lodge. Hence a lodge cannot, without previous notice, vote honorary membership, and a consequent right to sit in its meetings to one, to whose presence therein a brother has previously objected.

"It is not necessary that the name of an objecting brother be spread upon the record. It would be improper to do so. Let the record show that 'a brother of this lodge having objected to the initiation of Mr. A. B. since his election, the said election is set aside, and the petition is declared rejected.

"As the guilt or innocence of the accused is to be determined *from the evidence*, not otherwise, it is apparent that a brother who comes into the lodge after the evidence has been read, and who has not heard the same, is not able to vote intelligently upon that question, and the W. M. will be sustained in excluding such vote. No brother should vote who has not heard *all* the evidence. If any other rule were possible, the trial would be a farce, and the judgment a mockery of justice."

The Grand Lodge overruled a decision that an objection after election and before initiation is equivalent to a rejection by ballot, and adopted a regulation, making it continue so long as the objector remains a member of the lodge. While we hold this to be erroneous in principle, it seems to us vicious in practice, for the Grand Lodge decided that it is improper to record the name of the objector, and thus the lodge has no means of knowing afterwards, with any certainty, who the objector was, and, therefore, whether or not he has ceased to be a member of the lodge.

The by-laws were amended so as to make the Grand Secretary alone the Committee on Credentials and the Committee on Correspondence.

The Grand Lodge decided that it would be a violation of the Ancient Landmarks to grant permission to advance an Entered Apprentice, who had lost the sight of an eye: we are very sorry that the committee did not quote the landmark that would have been violated, as we have searched for it and never found it.

Last year there was no Report on Correspondence, in consequence of the temporary loss, by the Grand Secretary (FOSTER PRATT), of the use of his eyes. His report (49 pp.) for that year is published with these Proceedings.

In his review of Maine, he inquires by what authority the Grand Master suspended a Past Master of a lodge from all his masonic rights, for misconduct while Master; and he infers from our Proceedings that this act of the Grand Master was neither approved or disapproved. The answer to his question is, that the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine expressly gives the Grand Master the authority and power to suspend any mason from his masonic rights until the next session of the Grand Lodge. It was done in this case, after a full hearing, and the action of the Grand Master received the full approval of the Grand Lodge, for it expelled the party in confirmation of the suspension.

He calls attention to an error we made in our Report in 1875 in relation to the position of the Grand Lodge of Michigan upon the question "whether masonry requires a belief in the God of *Revelation* or only of *Natural Religion*," saying that the question decided was, that masonry does not "require a candidate to *avow* a belief in the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures." We give him the benefit of the correction, but, unless he bases it upon the word *avow* which he italicizes, we do not see any substantial error in what we said. The word "Revelation" was used as equivalent to the "Holy Scriptures"; the God of *Revelation* is the God revealed in the *Scriptures*: Michigan says the candidate is not required to avow a belief in the Divine authenticity of the *Scriptures*: it would seem to follow, that he is not required to avow a belief in the God revealed in the *Scriptures*, but that a belief in the God of *Natural Religion* is enough. However, we were only stating the position of other parties upon the question, and not arguing it ourselves.

The Report (57 pp.) for the current year was presented by Bro. E. I. GARFIELD. Being limited as to length by a vote of the Grand Lodge, he confines his report chiefly to an abstract of the Proceedings.

He is independent in expressing his views, as witness the following:

"Your committee here, once for all, beg leave to say that they cannot see the propriety of this 'dedicating' or 'in memoriam' business now so common. A man is placed in this prominent position, while other names of deceased brethren, equally as deserving, perhaps more so, are merely published in the list of deaths. A brother is entitled to no merit for filling an office in a Grand or Subordinate Lodge. He may be quite as useful, and is often much more so, if he never saw a Grand Lodge; then why not reward *merit*, and not *office*? While the former is the true basis of distinction, the mere holding of an office is of no merit whatever. Your committee claim that *all* the deceased members of a Grand Jurisdiction should be treated alike, if they were alike in good standing in their respective lodges; and if one should have a page dedicated to his memory, so should every other one."

And the following, in direct conflict with the decision of his Grand Lodge:

"The following decision your committee cannot approve:

"A brother who has been initiated or passed, but since that time has lost a limb or become maimed by any accident, should not be advanced."

"Why not? Is his misfortune a crime? If not, why withhold *one* degree when he has already received *two*? We know of one Grand Lecturer who was a cripple, but who was a zealous mason and very efficient officer. One of the oldest and best Grand Secretaries in America was a cripple when initiated, and is still in the same condition. A late Grand Master of a neigh-

boring State has but one hand, yet he was one of the best of officers. We know of one man who lost an arm in the late civil war, but who has received the Chapter, Commandery and Scottish Rite degrees since he laid his arm upon the altar of his country; and he is just as good and just as efficient a mason as though he had two arms. No, no. While we maintain the ancient usage that a man must be 'not maimed, but of whole and entire limbs as a man ought to be,' before he can be made a mason; yet, becoming maimed *after* he is initiated, should not debar him from advancement.

"We are sorry to say it, but we confess to having but very little respect for the *ex parte* decisions of Grand Masters, as some of them know but little about masonry when elected, and not a great deal more when they retire from office."

We cannot agree with him in the first, but do in the last.

As these Proceedings will be nearly sixteen months old when our Grand Lodge meets, we hope to receive the Proceedings of 1878 before our Report closes.

MISSOURI, 1877.

These Proceedings are specially valuable, as containing an excellent portrait of the universally lamented GEORGE FRANK GOULEY.

There have been *one hundred and sixty* lodges in Missouri, or chartered elsewhere by its Grand Lodge, which are not now borne on its rolls. Twenty-one of them became the constituents of the Grand Lodges of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Oregon and New Mexico. The rest have gone out of existence; very many of them in consequence of the war. The vacant numbers have been refilled generally, so that, while the highest number is five hundred and two, there are four hundred and eighty-four lodges. There is not in the West generally that permanence to lodges which we find in the East, and we are inclined to think that the large dying out of lodges in the West arises from the granting of charters with too great facility. The revocation or surrender of a charter in Maine is quite an event in the history of the Grand Lodge, while in western jurisdictions it is a matter of common occurrence.

Representation, 210 out of 480 lodges: 444 made returns: eight charters and three dispensations granted and one dispensation continued: two charters surrendered and two arrested: the Grand Lodges of Egypt and New Mexico recognized: representatives exchanged with the Grand Lodge of Scotland: the work exemplified in the three degrees: action upon the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of Cuba postponed till next year.

The Grand Master (XENOPHON RYLAND) pays a tribute to the memories of JOHN DOVE, GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, and WILLIAM E. DUNSCOMB, Past Grand Master.

The following are among his decisions approved by the Grand Lodge:

"When charges intervene after the reception and reference of a petition for affiliation, it is illegal for the lodge to receive a report upon such petition, or allow a ballot to be taken thereon, until the charges have been finally disposed of by the lodge.

"No one can act as an installing officer who has not been regularly installed into the office of Master of a lodge. The right of installing his officers belongs

to the Master; and in his absence the Senior Warden, though for the time being Master, cannot act as installing officer unless he is an actual Past Master.

"Where a member has in an official capacity become indebted to the lodge, it is lawful for the lodge to withhold his limit, though his dues are paid, until such indebtedness is settled satisfactorily to the lodge, through charges or otherwise.

"The Master is custodian of the property of the lodge. He is responsible for it, and should not allow it to be wasted. Acting in this capacity, he not only has the right but it is his solemn duty to refuse to entertain any and all motions for the improper use of the funds of the lodge."

A lodge having issued a circular to other lodges recommending one of its own members as the successor of Bro. GOULEY, the Grand Master says:

"We cannot permit for one moment the existence of a system of canvassing for office in our masonic bodies. Recognize it, and you open up the flood-gates for an evil that will sap the foundations of our Institution, destroy its purity and harmony, and make it a stench in the nostrils of every good man. It is a matter of regret that the subject of electioneering for office has to be brought to your attention. It is hoped that this Grand Lodge will take such emphatic action in the premises that no lodge in this State will ever have the effrontery again to nominate a Brother for any office, much less to canvass other lodges in his behalf. I feel confident that you will resent, as an insult to your loyalty to principle and your masonic intelligence, every attempt on this floor and elsewhere made for or against the election of any mason to any office. Prompted by purer motives, the deserving make no claims to advancement other than by the record of their labors, while the designing spirits, to attract to them the support of the unwary, hesitate not to thrust themselves forward, even if it has to be done by vile insinuations against those who may stand in the way of their selfish ends. Let the honors you have to bestow upon your members be above the reach of such contaminating influences—without money and without price. Let them be withheld from those who seek them by any other emulation than that of who best can work and best agree. It is due to the brother in whose behalf this action was taken, to say that it was done without previous consultation with him, or any knowledge on his part that such action was contemplated."

One very interesting case was before the Grand Lodge. Charges were filed against three Brethren for a conspiracy to defraud the revenue laws of the United States—for which offense they had been tried and convicted in the United States Court. They were acquitted by the lodge. One of them was tried separately from the other two, and they were permitted to vote in his case. The Grand Lodge properly decided, that, although one is presumed innocent until his guilt is established, yet as the three were all charged with the same identical offense, they ought not to vote in each other's cases, even though tried separately. The great question, however, was whether any *masonic* offense was charged. If they had refused to pay the revenue, it is quite certain that it would not be a masonic offense; but a *conspiracy* is a criminal offense, the gist of which is the conspiring together unlawfully, and not the object for which the conspiracy is made: indeed, a *conspiracy* to commit a certain crime is often a more heinous offense than the actual commission of that very crime. While, therefore, we have been of the opinion that violations of the revenue laws are not necessarily masonic offenses, we have no doubt a masonic offense was charged in the case in question. The

Grand Lodge laid down the rule that all violations of the criminal laws of the land are masonic offenses; but the very question may be whether it is a violation of the *criminal law*."

A corporation erected a Masonic Temple: the Grand Lodge took a large amount of the stock: the corporation failed, leaving debts unpaid: under the "double liability law" of the State, judgment was obtained against the Grand Lodge, as a stockholder, for nearly \$9,000, which it made arrangements to pay. Another warning.

A special session of the Grand Lodge was held to perform memorial services in honor of Bro. GOULEY. A beautiful and just memorial was presented by a committee previously appointed for that purpose. So far as the sketch of his personal history is concerned, we covered the ground in our report last year, and we need not repeat it.

The Report on Correspondence (112 pp.), was prepared partly by Bro. GOULEY, before his death, and the rest by Bro. J. W. LUKE. The Maine Proceedings had not been received.

Referring to Bro. GOULEY's connection with these reports, Bro. LUKE justly says of him:

"In that new field of journalism he found ample room for his versatile talent. In that field he revelled with delight. Reviewing was to him no labor, but a recreation. Well versed in masonic jurisprudence and the local customs and usages of different jurisdictions, he, with quick perception, detected any departure from established rules, and unsparingly denounced it. A rapid writer, in language terse and forcible, as well as fluent in expressing his thoughts, he was no ordinary opponent to contend with, and the attention given to his views on any subject, was evident by the constant reference on the part of other reviewers, to what 'Bro. Gouley says.' With all the impetuosity of his nature, still he was strictly conservative in his views on all fundamental questions. In his general sentiments he was liberal, and in his private character generous to a fault. In spite of the vehemence which often marked his writings, he never harbored the least malice, or intentionally wounded the feelings of anyone; and if in any contest he was defeated, he would yield gracefully to the inevitable."

We copy some of Bro. GOULEY's last utterances:

"A charter is never (or should never be) surrendered but for very good reasons, and its surrender is not an accomplished fact until reported to and acted upon at the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and when so confirmed we hold that no power but the Grand Lodge itself is competent to decide upon its again resuming life. We hold it to be the power and the duty of a Grand Master to refuse to accept the surrender of a charter until the lodge has complied with the law in such cases, and fully settled up its affairs so that no disgrace may be left upon the Institution in that neighborhood after its death; but having accepted it, and reported it to the Grand Lodge, and that body having passed upon the case, that then all power over that charter by any Grand Master has ceased forever."

We concur, save that we see no impropriety in a constitutional provision authorizing the Grand Master to *restore* a surrendered charter.

"We know something about bonded debts in Missouri, and until the millennium comes would never dare to create another one."

* * * * *

"In this latter decision, the Grand Master includes the party among the

'halt, the lame and the blind.' In this, we think, he goes too far, for the loss of one eye scarcely interferes (if it does at all) with the exercise of that one of the five senses, viz: 'seeing.' If an error, however, is to be made on this subject, we would rather see it 'on the safe side,' yet we think the decision is a little too strong, although in accordance with a recent ruling of our own Grand Lodge."

* * * * *

"Every Grand Lodge on the American Continent, without a single exception, has most unqualifiedly condemned the proposed resolutions of Ohio, and we hope now, for the sake of God and Humanity, represented by the principles of masonic harmony, that Centennial fanatics will cease from their labors of discord. Old cracked bells and centennial anniversaries may do well enough to arouse storms of patriotic enthusiasm for nations of a hundred years old, but hoary-head Freemasonry standing forth in her robes of mystery, woven in the woof of an infant earth, knows no years but those of Eternal Truth, and before which a century is but a day. Her centennials are like ties on a receding railroad that has no curve, and over which we pass towards the eternal future, leaving behind the undistinguishable ages, along which are strewn the broken columns and buried trophies of nations, kingdoms and empires forever forgotten. Her divine principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are immortal and co-existent with the Godhead, who knows no change from his everlasting laws of that human nature of which He is the 'GREAT I AM.' To tear up the very foundations of universal masonic harmony, and supplant it with an impracticable theory of mere temporary political expediency, would be like blowing up the sphynx, whose granite face has laughed to scorn the wild tempests of unknown centuries, and put in its place a plaster of Paris statue of the Goddess of Liberty, decorated with red, white and blue ribbons."

* * * * *

"We must express our surprise at this decision, as it is a universal law that the Brethren have a right to elect whom they please as officers, who are qualified, and without reference to place of residence, and that the right of a Master to represent his lodge cannot be denied him without deposing him from his office for cause. It is a common thing in our State (and in nearly all the States having bordering States), to have lodges on or near the line, and in our city (St. Louis) we have had officers living across the river, in Illinois, whose residence was much nearer to the hall than if they lived back in the suburbs. Some years ago we noticed a similar decision in one of the States, but it is the only one we have any recollection of, and hope, for the sake of precedence, that it will not be insisted upon."

* * * * *

"Brother Dove was the oldest Grand Secretary in the world by time of service, having served through forty-one successive re-elections. He was born in Richmond September 2, 1792, and died in the same city November 16, 1876. He was not only known to his own State as a distinguished masonic author and jurist, but his reputation extended throughout the jurisdictions of the Republic, and the sorrow at his death will be as co-extensive. No other Grand Lodge could have furnished so shining a mark for the shaft of death, and none, we feel sure, can more keenly appreciate its great loss, in which we also unite our sympathies."

And yet, alas, his own Grand Lodge must now be spoken of in the same words.

We copy, also, Bro. LUKE's eloquent "Conclusion":

"Our work is finished. As the excitement which has sustained us through some weeks of incessant labor gradually abates, now in the 'wee sma' hours' of the night we feel ourselves relapsing into that sadness of thought which almost overcame us when this undertaking was first before us, and as the almost living forms that were present to our imagination gradually fade

away, wearied nature asserts itself, the pen fails in our grasp, and we feel indeed that we are alone.

"No, not alone! It was a truth that Brother Corson uttered when he said the place was haunted. Aye, it is haunted! we felt it at the outset, and we feel it now. As we droop over this last page, forth from the misty past glides a shadowy band of those renowned brethren who so moulded the destiny of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. We recognize them as they pass. Among them is Bro. A. O'Sullivan, the Ajax of the Grand Lodge, and last but not least, Bro. George Frank Gouley, her lamented champion—he looks at our work with a single comprehensive glance, and the air seems to whisper to us, as in days gone by, his murmur of approval; he points with a smile to the names of his former associates of the corps, and then as his form slowly disappears, we hear the gradually softening refrain of his last words, Farewell, Farewell."

MARYLAND, 1877.

At the Semi-annual Communication, the Grand Master sent in his address. From it we infer that the financial condition of the Grand Lodge is improving.

Bro. JOHN S. TYSON, from the Committee of Correspondence, made an able report in reference to the Grand Lodge of Cuba, which, on his motion, was recognized. He throws no light, however, upon the important questions, whether all the legal lodges were notified of the proposed convention to form a Grand Lodge, and whether a majority of such lodges were represented in the convention.

The Grand Secretary gives the particulars of the cost of the Temple. Its cost, including the lot, over \$500,000, nearly one-half of which is represented by stock owned by various bodies and individuals: the present indebtedness is about \$215,000: some \$70,000 has been settled (in part by discount) since M.W. Bro. LATROBE became G. Master: the annual interest is about \$13,500: the receipts of the Grand Lodge, from all sources, were \$25,000, being about \$3,000 above the expenses, including the interest, and \$1,000 paid into the sinking fund. One charter was granted: measures were taken to secure a Masonic Library Association: an account of the organization of a Lodge of Relief is given.

At the Annual Communication seventy-seven lodges were represented: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized: a general regulation, recognizing the "doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction," adopted: the Grand Master, who had served seven years and had extricated the Grand Lodge from its financial difficulties, desired to decline a re-election, but, at the earnest solicitation of the Grand Lodge, he consented to be re-elected; the committee give him the credit of saving the Temple, but say that the heavy debt still requires the aid of experience and skill: one charter restored.

The Report on Correspondence (105 pp.) was again presented by Bro. JOHN S. TYSON. He lays to the printer the distinguished honor of prefixing "*Rev.*" to our name in his last year's report.

Referring to the proposition of a Grand Lodge to build a Masonic Temple,

he says (putting his advice in italics and capitals): "We beg them not to do it, at least until they shall have in cash every dollar required to pay for it."

He ridicules the opening of the Grand Lodge by first opening a Master Mason's lodge: we wonder if this practice did not originate by somebody's failing to see the difference between opening a Master Mason's lodge and opening the Grand Lodge on the third degree?

In his review of Maine (1877), he quotes with approbation several passages from Grand Master MOORE's address and from our report. He takes issue with us, however, upon the proposition that a lodge cannot grant a new trial: but we are not satisfied with his arguments, and yet our difference may arise from a difference in the Constitutions of our respective Grand Lodges in reference to the powers given to lodges in such cases.

He answers one question which has puzzled us somewhat—why many of the Inspectors in Maryland make no reports—saying "Because they have to pay their own traveling expenses." We are puzzled no longer. He approves of the Massachusetts plan of Trial Commissioners: holds that the Grand Lodge has the power, on appeal, to enter such final judgment in the case as it deems that justice requires, and that it often should do so instead of sending the case back; and that when the result of an election is *declared*, it is complete, and cannot be changed.

This report reminds us of the Maryland reports in the olden time, save in length, and we trust that we shall continue to have one, especially as the Grand Master speaks approvingly.

MONTANA, 1877.

We have a pamphlet of Montana's usually splendid style, adorned with a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, JULIAN M. KNIGHT.

The nineteen lodges all represented: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized: report adopted in relation to the Grand Lodges in Cuba, recommending postponement of action thereon: no charters granted, and one surrendered.

The Grand Master (JULIAN M. KNIGHT) says that complaints had been made that members did not take sufficient interest in the work of the lodge to attend the meetings. He thinks this is due in part to the fact that when they do attend they subject themselves to physical inconvenience and personal discomfort. He holds that every lodge should collect dues enough to support itself in a creditable manner, and lodge-rooms comfortably furnished, well warmed, well lighted, and well ventilated; and the meetings should be made so cheerful and attractive, that members will think they are deprived of a pleasure when they are prevented from attending. And especially (if the financial condition of the lodge will allow it) a good library should be provided as one of the best means of enjoyment.

One of the greatest evils, he had found, was the misuse of the ballot, although

he was satisfied that nine out of ten of the rejections were right; and he intimates that the number might be increased, to the advantage of the craft. He well says that "Masonry is defrauded in every case where a ballot is cast with an unworthy motive."

The Grand Secretary, in his miscellaneous report, says that there has been so great a demand for their Proceedings by individuals and lodges, that the task of replying and explaining is no small one. They are unable to comply with the numerous requests, as their edition is too small and the expense too great, but he deems it ungracious to pass by these requests without an answer. We are always glad to see Brethren interested enough in Masonry to desire to collect a library, but we are obliged to say that there is a lack of consideration on the part of many, who seem to expect that Grand Secretaries can supply *gratis* any number of Proceedings, and pay the postage besides.

In our review of California (p. 593), we mentioned the case of a lodge in Montana repaying money expended in charity by a California lodge. From the statement in these Proceedings, we think we did the California lodge injustice, as it appears that the money was expended *at the request* of the Montana lodge. The Grand Lodge assisted in the payment, and admonished its lodges not to authorize the expenditure of money for the relief of members abroad beyond the limits of their ability to pay.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, that no charter should be granted for a lodge in Montana, until after the petitioners had worked under a dispensation and showed themselves qualified to confer the degrees and carry on the business of a lodge.

One peculiar case came before the Grand Lodge, and we are not fully satisfied that the disposition made of it, was in accordance with masonic law. A man petitioned for the degrees, was initiated and became a member of a lodge; then dimitted and joined another lodge; and then applied to the latter for a dimit, confessing that the name, under which he had been known all this time, was an assumed name: from other sources it was learned that when young he had been a defaulter, fled his home and changed his name; that now he had returned to his old home, settled with his creditors, and re-assumed his real name. The Grand Lodge holding that giving an assumed name was a fraud, without further hearing or evidence, ordered the two lodges to strike the name from their records wherever it appeared, because "it was the real name of no person, but purely fictitious." It thus got rid of the *name*, but not of the *man*; and the interesting question arises, what is his *status*? The fact that he was made a mason in a regular lodge, was not stricken out by striking his name from the record. What is to prevent anyone, who had sat with him in the lodge, from vouching for him, especially one who has no knowledge of this action of the Grand Lodge? The Grand Lodge was divided as to the propriety of this action, but a motion to re-consider it failed by a vote of 44 to 34. We think that the proper course was to expel him, if, upon trial, it should appear that he was guilty of fraud and deception. A

man may have an assumed name, and yet he is bound to others, and others are bound to him in all engagements entered into under such assumed name. Hailing under a fictitious name may be a fraud, or it may not. In this very case, it is not certain that there was any fraud, as the circumstances indicate not that he was a "defaulter," in the proper sense of the term, but unable to pay his debts; and that he went away, and, under an assumed name, earned the means to pay his debts, and then went home and paid them. We know of cases in which no crime or fraud was imputed, which might well take this for a model! But our point is, not that he did not deserve punishment, but that the proper way was to try him upon charges, and not merely deprive the fictitious name of its masonic character, and leave the man, a mason *in fact*, if not *in name*.

BRO. CORNELIUS HEDGES submitted the Report on Correspondence (70 pp.), in which there is not a single extract—no, we are in error; he does copy the Ohio Centennial Hymn of two eight line stanzas.

BRO. HEDGES seems to think that it is not much of a report, but we do not know when we have found so much in so little space. Abstracts and comments are boiled down, as if he had used a condenser of the same power of Sam Weller's magnifying glasses.

He commends the plan of a Tyler's Register, in which all, who attend any meeting of the lodge, sign their names, thus saving to the Secretary the labor of entering the names of those present on his record. This Register is preserved as a Record. We like the idea, and commend to our lodges to try the plan, in place of keeping a mere "Visitor's Register."

Noticing the financial troubles of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, he says:

"Sympathy and advice are cheap, but the time is inappropriate to tender them. The case is bad enough, but might be worse. A resolute acceptance of the situation with natural regret and humiliation, and a fixed and expressed purpose to maintain their name, fame, and faith, untarnished, at whatever cost, is the clear duty of the hour, till time and good management bring relief."

In his conclusion, he makes a most powerful appeal to the craft in favor of Masonic Magazines and Papers. His argument is: Masons are bound to improve themselves in masonry; they cannot do so without reading and thinking; no one can read one of these magazines or papers for a year without improving himself in masonry and being the richer, than he would without it; those who do not do this, neglect their opportunities and belie their professions; it is a shame to masonry to think how many of these masonic lights have gone out for want of proper support, while those which survive have only a meagre and precarious one. We endorse all this: give us a lodge which has one member, out of every ten, who reads masonic books, papers, or magazines, an hour a week the year through, and we will show you a *live* lodge, making itself felt as a power among the Fraternity and in the community.

NEBRASKA, 1877.

Before opening the Annual Communication the Grand Lodge dedicated a Masonic Hall at Omaha, on which occasion the Grand Master delivered a brief address, fitting the occasion, and Past Grand Master ROBERT C. JORDAN delivered an interesting historical oration.

Fifty-seven of the fifty-eight lodges represented: four charters granted, one arrested, and two dispensations continued: no Report on Correspondence: the Constitution, Regulations and Decisions published with the Proceedings, *but without an Index.*

The Grand Master (GEORGE H. THUMMEL) says peace and prosperity have prevailed in that jurisdiction, and that the craft have been busy at their labors. He had taken great pains to secure the exchange of Representatives with other Grand Lodges, having in mind the requirement of his Grand Lodge that they should make report in relation to the jurisdiction represented, in *lieu* of a Report on Correspondence; but we find no such reports in the Proceedings.

He calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to a matter liable to lead to a severance of relations with the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Two lodges had relieved members of Indiana lodges and had called upon them for re-imbursement, which being declined, they applied to their own Grand Lodge, which adopted resolutions affirming the *duty* of re-imbursement in such cases, and last year adopted resolutions which caused their Representative near the Grand Lodge of Indiana to resign his commission: the Grand Master did not accept it, and the Grand Lodge requested him to withdraw his resignation, and that further action in the matter be postponed, in the hope that some definite understanding among all the Grand Lodges would be reached, so that such questions could no longer arise.

In this connection we desire to quote, in spite of its length, a report made to the Grand Lodge as the result of inquiries sent out by Bro. GOULEY, of Missouri, upon this subject. It is a matter that has caused considerable trouble, and is likely to cause more. Replies are given from less than one-half the Grand Lodges, but the information is of much value:

"*First.* Is it the custom of lodges in your jurisdiction to go to extra expense in caring for the sick or burial of the dead (of sojourning masons) without the expectation of re-imbursement from their lodges at home?"

"*Alabama.*—Yes, to the first part of the question; to the second part—they sometimes ask for re-imbursement, but very seldom get it.

"*California.*—It is the custom of our lodges to go to any *necessary* expense in caring for the sick or in the burial of the dead (sojourning masons), if known or believed to be in good standing; and it is expected that their lodges should pay such expense, if able to do so.

"*Connecticut.*—It is not.

"*Iowa.*—The custom is not uniform. I have known many lodges in Iowa to do so, and others again, not so imbued with the spirit of charity, as knowing their duty, did it not.

"*Louisiana.*—It is. It is left to the lodges to exercise their own judgment.

"*Maine.*—Yes, when in the exercise of a proper discretion aid is needed.

"*Maryland*.—It is.

"*Massachusetts*.—The lodge to which the brother belongs is usually notified, but no expense against such lodge is incurred, unless authorized by the lodge to which the brother belongs.

"*Minnesota*. First part, no. The lodges in this jurisdiction have buried a number of sojourning masons, but I have never known of a bill having been sent to the home lodge or heard of a dollar having been re-imbursed.

"*Nebraska*.—It is the custom to care for the sick and bury the dead; that being done, re-imbursement is sought.

"*New Brunswick*.—Our Board of Relief, in their expenditures for sick and deceased masons, make no distinction between strangers and members. I have no recollection of any case where application has been made for re-imbursement from the lodges of sojourners.

"*New York*.—Our lodges are entitled to the credit of caring for the sick and burying the dead (sojourners), without expectation of re-imbursement, except where the deceased is known to be affiliated. If they get paid, well and good; if not, so much for the cause.

"*North Carolina*.—Practice not uniform. Some lodges have asked re-imbursement, others have not.

"*Pennsylvania*.—I do not know of any custom in the matter; some lodges do take great care of sick and deceased brethren, others contribute for such purpose.

"*South Carolina*.—It is the custom of our lodges, as far as their means and ability permit, to do all that they can in caring for sick brethren, or in providing for the decent masonic interment of such as may die in their midst; and this irrespective of whether they belong to this State or come from abroad, and the question of re-imbursement does not enter into the case at all.

"*Tennessee (Board of Relief)*.—It is. We have never asked for remuneration, or to be re-imbursed for taking care of the sick or burying the dead of other jurisdictions.

"*Utah*.—Lodges in Utah faithfully care for sick masons, and bury deceased brothers, but expect that all expenses be refunded by the lodges they hail from, or claim to be contributing members of.

"*Virginia*.—Not extra. We take care of them, bury them, and take the risk of being re-imbursed. If payment is tendered by the family or lodge it is not declined.

"*Wisconsin*.—Our lodges go to all necessary expense, and expect re-imbursement from the lodge of which the brother is a member.

"*Wyoming*.—It is our custom to care for the sick or burial of the dead, regardless of the question of re-imbursement, although the latter is expected to be made; our subordinates re-imburse each other without question.

"*Second*.—Is it the custom of your lodges to report (if possible) a case of sickness or death of a stranger, asking instructions as to expense to be incurred?

"*Alabama*.—I believe it is, in cases of protracted illness.

"*California*.—I do not know that it is. In most cases the expense of sickness or burial must be incurred at once, leaving no time for inquiry.

"*Connecticut*.—It is, I think, a general custom here.

"*Iowa*.—I have never known such a request to have been made, or expenses asked regarding.

"*Louisiana*.—Left to the lodge. Is sometimes done in special cases.

"*Maine*.—Sometimes, but rarely; but always, if requested by him.

"*Maryland*.—Not unless he requests it.

"*Massachusetts*.—No, not generally: governed in such cases as the circumstances seem to demand.

"*Minnesota*.—It is not. If a sojourning brother dies, he is buried decently, and the fact reported. No bill is rendered.

"*Nebraska*.—Proper care is given, and instructions then asked as to further action, as time and circumstances may permit.

"*New Brunswick*.—No; I have no knowledge of any such.

"*New York*.—Yes.

"*North Carolina*.—Same as in No. 1, as to uniformity of practice.

"*Pennsylvania*.—Whenever it can be done, it is.

"*South Carolina*.—Yes.

"*Tennessee (Board of Relief)*.—We notify the lodge a brother may belong to, that they may give such instructions as they desire.

"*Utah*.—If it is claimed the sick or deceased is a mason, and no one can vouch for him, we use the telegraph, inquiring as to his standing.

"*Virginia*.—No; there is no custom. We try to do whatever is required of us as masons.

"*Wisconsin*.—It is.

"*Wyoming*.—Yes, it is, if possible to be done, both as to lodges and also the family of the stranger.

"*Third*. If no re-imbursement is asked or expected by your lodges, do they expect to pay such bills, when presented by other jurisdictions, for your absent members?

"*Alabama*.—No.

"*California*.—Re-imbursement is expected by our lodges, but it often happens that the expectation is futile. I have never heard of a case where such a claim upon a lodge in this jurisdiction has not been honored.

"*Connecticut*.—We do not expect to pay for absent members, although many lodges do so when asked.

"*Iowa*.—I have often known our lodges, and the Grand Lodge, too, to pay such bills, and I have known other cases refused.

"*Louisiana*.—They are not required to do so, but, of course, may use their own judgment.

"*Maine*.—No, not as a matter of right. In some cases they *do* pay, but where it is done it is regarded as a courtesy.

"*Maryland*.—They do not.

"*Massachusetts*.—No re-imbursement is expected, unless first authorized by the lodge. Our lodges do not deem they are responsible for any expenses incurred for them, unless authorized.

"*Minnesota*.—No such cases have occurred; but I should strongly urge upon brethren to re-imburse a lodge for expenses incurred under such circumstances, as a matter of *home* pride.

"*Nebraska*.—Re-imbursement is expected and asked by our lodges, and they expect to re-imburse other jurisdictions for care bestowed on Nebraska Masons.

"*New Brunswick*.—I have known several cases where re-imbursement has been asked, and has been given by the lodge in this jurisdiction to which the sick or deceased brother belonged. Such applications have been very rare.

"*New York*.—No general rules prevail; some lodges would promptly pay such bills—others would demur. In general, however, the lodges in this State pay more such bills than they get paid themselves.

"*North Carolina*.—There have been cases where lodges have been paid such bills.

"*Pennsylvania*.—Re-imbursement is expected when authorized, or the lodge of the brother is able to respond; and, so far as I know, our lodges will pay under similar circumstances.

"*South Carolina*.—While they do not demand re-imbursement, they are of opinion that, where it can be done, it should be done, and so considering they cheerfully pay such bills, as debts of honor, when presented from other jurisdictions.

"*Tennessee (Board of Relief)*.—We have had bills presented from other jurisdictions, and have paid many of them, but have thought it wrong.

"*Utah*.—Lodges in Utah pay all bills presented by lodges in sister jurisdictions for any such purposes.

"*Virginia*.—Yes; it is frequently done, and no questions asked.

"*Wisconsin*.—We always expect to pay the bills.

"*Wyoming*.—Yes.

"*Fourth.* Has your Grand Lodge any regulation on this subject? and if so, please give the points briefly.

"*Alabama.*—The Grand Lodge has enacted no regulation.

"*California.*—It has no regulation upon the subject, so far as I have any recollection. How can it regulate matters concerning other Grand Lodges?

"*Connecticut.*—We have no regulation on the subject.

"*Iowa.*—It has no regulation, but its older and more intelligent masons hold that, when asked, all proper and needful (not extravagant) expenses should be refunded.

"*Louisiana.*—None special.

"*Maine.*—No. It has been decided that no claim for re-imbursement arises from acts of masonic charity.

"*Maryland.*—Has none.

"*Massachusetts.*—No. We, in Grand Lodge and subordinate lodge charities, seek to be governed in each case that may arise by the great principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

"*Minnesota.*—No regulation on the subject. The subject has never been presented to the Grand Lodge in any shape.

"*Nebraska.*—No regulations; but in several cases our Grand Lodge has demanded of other Grand Lodges that our Nebraska lodges be re-imbursed.

"*New Brunswick.*—The Constitution of our Grand Lodge contains provisions for a fund of benevolence, to be dispensed solely to members of our own lodges, their widows and orphans. Such fund, however, has not yet been established. In St. John we have a Board of Relief, composed of representatives from all the lodges in the city, and this board dispenses relief from a general fund subscribed by the lodges.

"*New York.*—We have no regulation.

"*North Carolina.*—There is no regulation on the subject in this jurisdiction.

"*Pennsylvania.*—None except the 'Golden Rule.'

"*South Carolina.*—It has not, and I hope never will.

"*Tennessee (Board of Relief).*—No definite regulation; left with the individual lodges to act.

"*Utah.*—No. Utah lodges act on these points without a Grand Lodge regulation, because it is right and just that it should be so.

"*Virginia.*—None.

"*Wisconsin.*—No special regulation. It has always been the practice of this jurisdiction, the principle having been recognized by the Grand Lodge in several instances.

"*Wyoming.*—No, nothing on that point; but, as far as obtaining pecuniary aid by members of the order is concerned, it is provided that in case they fail to return the money obtained when time of loan has expired, and no explanation of the failure is made, it is the duty of the Worshipful Master to prefer charges of unmasonic conduct against the delinquent brother and forward them to the lodge of which he is a member.

"*Fifth.* Does the same usage which governs your lodges in this matter as between them and those in sister jurisdictions govern as between each other in your own jurisdiction?

"*Alabama.*—I think it does.

"*California.*—Answer same as to No. 4.

"*Connecticut.*—Yes.

"*Iowa.*—Yes, the usage is the same.

"*Louisiana.*—Yes.

"*Maine.*—Yes.

"*Maryland.*—They do.

"*Massachusetts.*—Each lodge, as far as possible, gives relief to its distressed members.

"*Minnesota.*—Can't tell; never heard of a case in the jurisdiction.

"*Nebraska.*—Yes, generally.

"*New Brunswick.*—Our lodges never ask re-imbursement of each other.

"*New York.*—Yes.

"North Carolina.—It does.

"Pennsylvania.—Answer same as to No. 4.

"South Carolina.—Yes.

"Tennessee (Board of Relief).—It does.

"Utah.—Yes.

"Virginia.—Yes, except that we should confidently expect re-imbursement between Virginia lodges.

"Wisconsin.—Yes.

"Wyoming.—Yes.

"Sixth.—If your Grand Lodge has no definite law upon the subject, and your subordinate lodges are left to their own volition in the matter, thereby sometimes causing unpleasant feelings between them, do you not think some general understanding should be arrived at? and if so, please suggest a resolution that would cover the case.

"Alabama.—It is hard for one to suggest a plan that would be worth much, without more reflection than I have had time to give to the subject. What do you say to a convention of delegates from all the Grand Lodges? Or, let your Grand Lodge devise the plan, and the rest will probably follow and adopt it.

"California.—I do think that some general understanding upon this subject among the Grand Lodges would be useful, and I know no one better qualified or more likely to be successful, than yourself, for the introduction of such a proposition.

"Connecticut.—I think there ought to be some general understanding in this matter, but will decline to submit any resolution at present. It is a question that requires some thought—there are a good many sides to it.

"Iowa.—Yes, I do think that we should, for the sake of peace and harmony, and, if possible, to give general understanding. My own idea is that the lodge with which the indigent or sick brother is affiliated should be held responsible for all needful outlays in behalf of its members; but I also believe that, were it possible, communication should first be had with it upon the subject.

"Louisiana.—*'Similia Similibus curantur!'* Never was a good hand at drafting plans to please everybody. If a plan could be adopted that would cause all the craft to recognize and perform their several duties of charity, it doubtless would be a very good thing—yea, a very good thing.

"Maryland.—No suggestions.

"Massachusetts.—Our present custom seems to work well, and I have no suggestions to make.

"Nebraska.—Yes, some general understanding on this and other subjects is desirable; but I have not the especial experience necessary to suggest a resolution covering the case.

"New Brunswick.—As no unpleasantness has yet arisen, no steps have been taken to legislate upon the question.

"New York.—We think the matter had better be let alone. We are constantly giving when worthy cases are presented, whether from our own or other jurisdictions, and we are of opinion that what may be done for our brethren in other jurisdictions only balances the account. We do not believe our Grand Lodge would agree to any specific regulation on the subject.

"North Carolina.—There should be a general law regulating the matter between lodges of the same as well as in different Grand Jurisdictions.

"Pennsylvania.—If such an arrangement could be made as would be binding on all Grand Lodges, and through them their subordinates, it would doubtless save unpleasant feelings at times, but it is doubtful if such could be effected. Our Grand Lodge would have to change its organic law to compel the payment of expenses of that character, as we never interfere in the monetary affairs of a lodge, except for its protection, or to prevent the squandering of its funds for purposes not masonic—believing that the true mason will always act upon the 'Golden Rule.'

"South Carolina.—I can suggest no legislation on the subject; on the con-

trary, should regret to see any, because of my unwillingness to see masonic duty measured by dollars and cents. My observation is that there is a growing tendency to convert masonry into a mutual assurance or benefit society. Such associations are very good things, but do not come within the definition of 'a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.' I think masonry occupies a far higher position than any life insurance company, and believe that the pressing duty of masonic writers and thinkers is to check this evil, and point out to the craft what true and genuine masonry really is.

Tennessee.—Most decidedly there should be some general regulation or understanding among the lodges of the United States and the Canadas.

Utah.—A general understanding is not only desirable, but needed. The undersigned would respectfully suggest that each Grand Lodge on the North American continent be requested to adopt a regulation governing the subject, in accordance with the usage practiced in the lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Utah.

Wisconsin.—Ordered by the Grand Lodge.—

First.—That the subordinate lodges of this jurisdiction shall, upon proper voucher being produced, pay the expense incurred by lodges of this or any other jurisdiction in taking care of sick members sojourning away from home, and also the burial expenses of absent deceased members.

Second.—In cases where the expenses are incurred for the relief or burial of a brother, member of a lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, properly certified vouchers, under the seal of the lodge, shall be sent to the lodge of which the brother is or was a member, and the amount therein vouched for shall be paid within thirty days from the date of the reception of such voucher.

Third.—In cases where the expenses are incurred for the relief or burial of a brother, member in some other jurisdiction, all the facts in the case shall be transmitted, under seal of the lodge, to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, whose duty it shall be to forward, without delay, a certified copy, under seal of the Grand Lodge, to the Grand Secretary of the jurisdiction wherein the brother's lodge is located.

Wyoming.—*Resolved, 1st*, That hereafter all subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction shall provide for the care of sick and the burial of dead members of sister lodges in this State, and defray all necessary and reasonable expenses, as the case may require.

Resolved, 2d, That in case a subordinate lodge shall have expended any of its funds in caring for a sick or burying a deceased member of any of her sister lodges in this State, and such expenditure shall be certified to by the Worshipful Master, Secretary, and chairman of the relief committee, under the seal of their lodge, to have been necessarily, reasonably, and actually made, then such lodge shall be re-imbursed for the amount expended aforesaid by the lodge with which such sick or deceased brother held membership at the time of his sickness or decease.

Resolved, 3d, That in case any subordinate lodge shall fail, refuse or neglect to re-imburse any sister lodge in this jurisdiction for expenses certified (as provided in Section 2) to have been incurred for any of the members of such subordinate lodge in cases of sickness or death, the subordinate lodge guilty of such failure, refusal or neglect, shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit her charter and property to this Grand Lodge."

The Grand Lodge authorized a lodge to substitute on its records the real name of a member, who had run away from home in his boyhood and joined the army under an assumed name, and by that name had afterwards been known, and under which he had joined the lodge.

An able report was made by Bro. FURNAS on the "Colored Grand Lodge" question, the result reached being in unison with the conclusions of the other Grand Lodges on the same subject.

There are various other matters of much interest in these Proceedings, but the length of the extract we have made from Bro. Bowen's report precludes our noticing them.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1877.

We believe that the craft will be most interested in the accounts given of the great fire in St. John last June, and so we devote all our space to them.

The Grand Master says:

"BROTHERS:—We assemble at the tenth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick with sorrowful hearts in the presence of the great calamity that has recently visited our city. Last year we rejoiced with thankfulness as we acknowledged the goodness of the Great Architect of the Universe in the prosperity with which we were surrounded. To-day we bow our heads in submission to the Divine Will under the storm that has swept over us.

"On the twentieth day of June last, the scourge of fire laid in ashes three-fourths of our city, and we stood appalled at the greatness of the disaster, which for a time seemed to overwhelm every hope. But the very magnitude of the calamity gave the first incentive to exertion, as from all directions were borne in upon us help for the present and encouragement for the future. Our deep distress awoke the kindest sympathy, and former rivalries were forgotten and sectional differences disappeared, as from every part of the Dominion, from sister provinces, from the United States, and from the mother country, substantial help and cordial sympathy awoke us to effort, and the few months that have elapsed witness exertion happily made to restore our trade and rebuild our desolated homes.

"In this great distress our beloved fraternity had its full share, the city lodges having, with their place of meeting, lost all their regalia and masonic property. Through the forethought of the V. W. the Grand Secretary, the regalia of Grand Lodge was saved from destruction, but the valuable library and other property of Grand Lodge were destroyed. Among the individual sufferers, in a few hours rendered homeless and destitute, were many members of the fraternity. A General Masonic Board of Relief was immediately organized; liberal contributions were received from sister Grand Lodges and other masonic bodies, and from sympathizing brethren, and thus we were enabled to afford some present assistance to those most in need of help. The full particulars of this organization and of the various contributions will be laid before you, and Grand Lodge will make suitable record of the generous assistance and fraternal sympathy which in this time of our deep distress have gladdened our hearts and enabled us to afford substantial relief to our suffering brethren."

The Grand Secretary says:

"On June 20th a most destructive fire occurred in the City of St. John, completely annihilating the largest and most valuable portion of the city. The masonic hall, in Judge Ritchie's building, and the office of the Grand Secretary were among the places destroyed, and the charters, jewels, regalia, banners, and all other paraphernalia of the masonic bodies of all grades were consumed, except a portion of the property of Grand Lodge, which, being kept in the Grand Secretary's office, he was enabled to save from the general ruin.

"He saved the regalia and jewels in a mahogany box, the regalia and jewel of the Grand Master in a tin case, two seals and fourteen books, viz:—records of Grand Lodge, records of the board of general purposes, two registers of the membership of the jurisdiction, two records of transactions of Grand Secretary's office, cash book, day book, ledger, register of certificates and dispensations issued, book containing copies of paid accounts, register of

representatives of Grand Lodge, register of warrants, and attendance book of Grand Lodge.

"The property of Grand Lodge destroyed in his office was, as near as he can remember, as follows:—two book cases; library of Grand Lodge, containing about three hundred volumes, uniformly and handsomely bound; blank certificates, dimits, etc.; blank returns and other forms; letter books; files of returns; reports and all other papers and documents; a large number of constitutions, funeral services, etc.; the electrotype seals used on official printed documents; all the unbound printed Proceedings of Grand Lodge; the unbound printed Proceedings of sister Grand Lodges, etc.; the records, registers and other books, together with the files of papers, etc., of the late Provincial Grand Lodge under England; the records of the late Brunswick Lodge of the town of Moncton; the records of an old lodge which, in by-gone years, was held at Manguerville; and many other articles (some of them old, curious and valuable) which it is impossible to enumerate.

"The loss of Grand Lodge property in the masonic hall was the following:

"Portrait (in oil) of the late R. W. Bro. Alexander Balloch, Past Grand Master; portrait (autotype) of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England; photograph of members of the Grand Lodge of Canada; photograph of members of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland; engraving of the installation of the present Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England; engraving of the reception of the Prince of Wales into the Grand Conclave of Kt. Templars of England; six stewards' staves.

"The property in the Grand Secretary's office was insured in the Stadacona Insurance Company of Quebec, in the sum of two thousand dollars.

"The value of the property saved he estimates at fifteen hundred and five dollars, and of that destroyed at seven hundred and twelve dollars, for which he has made a claim in regular form upon the agent of the company.

"As the losses of the company were very heavy, and as its finances were found to be in a critical condition, it was consequently unable to meet the demands of policy-holders when they became due. The following offer of compromise was made by the company and accepted by the policy-holders:—twenty-five per cent. cash to be paid September 20th instant, and the company's drafts or notes, bearing seven per cent. interest, at three, six and nine months from the 20th of September for the balance, in three equal payments. On the 20th instant he received a check on the Maritime Bank for one hundred and seventy-eight dollars, which he immediately paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and holds three notes of the company, of one hundred and seventy-eight dollars each, bearing seven per cent. interest, payable at the Maritime Bank of St. John, on the 23d December, 23d March and 23d June next respectively.

"The six lodges, viz: Albion No. 1, St. John's No. 2, Hibernia No. 3, Union of Portland No. 10, Leinster No. 19, and New Brunswick No. 22, lost their warrants, jewels, regalia, banners, and all other paraphernalia. Some of them their records and seals. The banners of Carleton Union Lodge No. 8, of Carleton, which happened to be in the hall at the time, were unfortunately lost. The destruction was complete, and the loss to the craft severe and irreparable."

The Grand Secretary, undaunted by the loss of the Grand Lodge Library, at once commenced his efforts for the collection of another: he issued circulars to the different Grand Bodies, and his appeal had met with much success: among the contributions are the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge from 1867 to 1877.

He says further:

"Although not strictly within the compass of his report, he nevertheless feels it a bounden duty to state, for the information of all who may read the Proceedings of Grand Lodge, that the several lodges in the city of St. John have, since the fire, been the recipients of a handsome present of a set of

officers' collar jewels of solid silver and very massive, a solid silver altar jewel, a set of rich watered silk collars, and an elegant ballot box. The jewels have a suitable presentation inscription engraved on each of them. The jewels were the gift of W. Bro. John Street, Jeweller, of Montreal, and the collars and ballot box of R. W. Bro. Henry M. Alexander, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and the Representative of this Grand Lodge at that Grand East.

"He has pleasure in stating that Grand Lodge has had presented to it for the Grand Secretary's office, three wood cuts and twelve electrotypes of the seals of Grand Lodge, and the signature of the Grand Secretary. These useful and valuable articles are the gift of W. Bro. Alfred F. Chapman, W. Bro. Albert L. Richardson, and W. Bro. John H. Lakin, of Boston, Massachusetts. Bro. Chapman, in his note written August 17th, accompanying the gift of himself and his associates, states:—'No doubt you will find ample opportunity to use all the moneys at command for purposes of masonic relief, and this will only relieve us of a part of the obligations we owe to the craft in St. John. It will only feebly express our sympathy for the general loss and our best wishes for your renewed prosperity.'"

"By authority of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, duplicates of the warrants of the lodges destroyed by the fire have been engrossed. Happily, in the years gone by, he opened and kept a book in which he entered copies of all warrants issued by Grand Lodge, and was thus enabled to furnish the lodges with exact copies of those lost. The signatures of the officers who signed the originals are appended to those copies. They are thus *fac-similes*, and are almost as valuable as the originals.

"As all the copies of the Proceedings of Grand Lodge from the date of its organization to the present time have been destroyed, the Grand Secretary respectfully calls upon Grand Lodge to authorize him to contract for the publication of a reprint."

The reprint was ordered by the Grand Lodge.

As Secretary of the Masonic Board of Relief, he made the following report:

"He stated that the flames of the destructive conflagration had scarcely been subdued, and while the whole burnt district was a smoking and smouldering area, telegrams and letters came pouring in from the east, the west, the north and the south, addressed to the Grand Master and himself, from Grand Masters, Grand Secretaries, Masters of lodges and private members of the craft, expressive of fraternal condolence and sympathy with those of our fraternity who were sufferers by the fire, and with tenders of material aid in the hour of their adversity.

"Some telegrams authorized the Grand Master to draw for sums of one thousand dollars and less, some made enquiries as to the losses, etc., of the craft, and some gave promises of early remittances—all, however, conveying sympathetic and fraternal expressions, and giving the most undoubted proof that the heart of the craft, both far and near, was deeply touched and unmistakably moved toward our stricken city and suffering brotherhood.

"He stated further, that immediately after the fire the M. W. the Grand Master convened a meeting of the city members of the board of general purposes, and the presiding officers of all the masonic bodies in Saint John, which resulted in the formation of a Board of Relief.

"After its organization, the Board, finding that our brethren at a distance, who wished to forward remittances, were at a loss to know whom to address, and finding, also, that sums were being sent to parties not authorized to receive and disburse them, issued a circular to the Grand Secretaries of all Grand Lodges in the United States, the Dominion of Canada and the mother country, of which the following is a copy:—"

[Circular omitted.]

"This circular was not issued for the purpose of soliciting assistance, but to inform the fraternity of the existence of a regularly established Board, and to name to them the brother authorized to receive their voluntary aid and free-will contributions.

"That it needed no special appeal to awaken the sympathies, or to open wide the benevolent heart of the craft, or to prove the universality of Freemasonry, and the unbounded extent of masonic charity, the following list of unsolicited contributions received up to the present date, will amply prove:

"Contributions in aid of the Masonic Relief Fund received up to Sept. 27, 1877.

	Am. Cur'y,	Gold.
Grand Lodge of Canada,.....		\$1,000.00
R. W. Bro. A. J. Wheeler, Secretary Relief Board, Memphis, Tennessee,.....	\$ 100.00	94.75
St. John Lodge, Bathurst, N. B.,.....		50.00
St. Andrew's Lodge, Bangor, Maine,.....	100.00	95.00
R. W. Bro. John O'Neill, for lodges, etc., in Chicago, Illinois,.....	1,000.00	930.00
R. W. Bro. Simon W. Crabbe, for craft in P. E. I.,....		300.00
Star in the East Lodge, Oldtown, Maine,.....	70.00	66.50
Grand Lodge of Illinois,.....	250.00	237.75
R. W. Bro. A. M. MacKay, for craft in St. Johns, Newfoundland,.....		336.44
Alexandria Lodge, St. Mary's, N. B.,.....		20.00
Grand Lodge of Quebec, ...		200.00
A Brother, Newcastle, N. B.,.....		4.00
National Lodge, Chicago, Illinois,.....	25.00	23.62
Knights Templars, Portland, Maine,.....		58.50
Germania Lodge, Baltimore, Maryland,.....	20.00	18.93
R. W. Bro. James C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary, for craft in Louisiana,.....	400.00	381.00
Carleton Union Lodge, Carleton, N. B.,.....		50.00
Grand Lodge of Wisconsin,.....	100.00	94.50
St. John's Lodge, Toronto, Ontario,.....		150.00
Phoenix Lodge, Nashville, Tennessee,.....	10.00	9.47
Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Utah,.....	80.00	75.68
St. Andrews Lodge, Fredericton, N. B.,.....		25.25
Loge des Cœurs Unis, Montreal,.....		50.00
Rising Virtue Lodge, Mount Moriah Chapter and St. John's Commandery, Bangor, Maine,.....	300.00	284.25
Benjamin Lodge, Andover, N. B.,.....		10.00
Grand Secretary of Alabama,.....	62.94	59.79
Bro. Harry Duval, for lodges, etc., Chicago, Ill.,.....	179.00	170.05
Iris Lodge, Cleveland, Ohio,.....	25.00	23.75
Miramichi Lodge and Mount Lebanon Chapter, Chat- ham, N. B.,.....		127.90
Ionic Lodge, Toronto, Ontario,.....		50.00
Lakeside Lodge, Chicago, Illinois,.....	28.00	27.00
Lodge of Charity, Birmingham, England,.....		24.44

Total in gold,.....\$5,048.57

"This amount will, in all probability, be largely increased by additional contributions which have been promised from several localities.

"Up to the present time the sum of two thousand six hundred and sixty-nine dollars (\$2,669.00) has been disbursed in the relief of all worthy cases reported to the Board.

"In order the better to carry out the objects of the Board and to simplify and facilitate the distribution of the funds placed at its disposal, a sub-committee of five was appointed with full power to grant relief. This committee met (and continues to meet) on stated days of each week, in a room rented

for the purpose, in the city market building. This room is continuously open during business hours, where applications for relief can be made and every information afforded by the brother appointed to act as Clerk to the Board.

"The Board has deemed it prudent to reserve as large a portion of the fund as possible for the coming winter, as, no doubt, at that rigorous season of the year, much distress and privation will prevail, and the resources of the Board will in consequence be tested to their utmost.

"The work entrusted to the Board will probably be brought to a termination before the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, at which time, no doubt, a full report of its proceedings will be presented.

"The following resolution was moved by R. W. Bro. Robert Marshall, P. D. G. M., and adopted:

Resolved, That the information given by the Grand Secretary in regard to the doings of the Board of Relief, be embodied in the printed Proceedings.

And further Resolved, That the warmest thanks of Grand Lodge be recorded to all who have so nobly contributed to alleviate the distress and suffering of the masonic victims of the recent fire."

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1877.

The usual semi-annual communication was held for the exemplification of the work by the conferring of the degrees upon actual candidates, in one case by a lodge made up in Grand Lodge, and in the other two by the lodge which had elected the candidate.

At the Annual Communication fifty-four of the seventy-five lodges were represented: two charters granted: returns received from all the lodges, and dues from all save three.

The Grand Master (JOHN J. BELL) calls attention to what motives should actuate the members of the Grand Lodge in the discharge of their duties—"what is for the greatest and best interest of the craft and the whole brotherhood of man." He congratulates the Grand Lodge on the prevalence of harmony, and that while less work has been done, the benign influences of masonic instruction have not been by any means lost.

He decided that a member of a lodge has the right to withdraw his membership at pleasure, being "free of the books," but that a certificate of character and recommendation to other lodges may be granted or refused by the lodge at its pleasure. Since he had held office in the Grand Lodge he had officially visited fifty-four of the seventy-five lodges in the State. He found that in very many of the by-laws there were provisions (in one case nine) in conflict with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. He wisely says, that the by-laws should be restricted to the minor matters within the scope of the powers of the lodge, and that no attempt should be made to engraft into them provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, but if it was desirable to have any provisions of the Constitution reprinted, they should appear as an appendix to the by-laws. He advises the preparation of a code, not to be made obligatory, but to serve as a model. Our experience in Maine shows the soundness of this advice.

He had refused to grant permission to lodges to appear in public, save to

do some masonic work: we hope Bro. BELL will re-examine this question, with a view of ascertaining whether ancient usage does not justify the participation of masons, in their character as such, in paying respect to the chief magistrate.

He endorses the recommendation of one of the Deputies, that at meetings when there is no work or business, the work be exemplified, or a lecture passed, or the Masonic Constitutions or the Regulations of the Grand Lodge be read. The Deputy says that this is done in some lodges, and they have full meetings and but few members in arrears of dues.

The Committee on Appeals make an elaborate report, in one case criticising severely the action of a lodge, in most respects justly, but tending, as we think, in some respects, to an extravagance of technicality, which it is not desirable to require of lodges. For instance, the record states that a certain Brother was appointed to take minutes of the testimony, and the committee say the record should show *by whom* he was appointed: this seems to us too captious, as the presumption would certainly be that he was appointed by the proper authority; and it seems to us as unnecessary as it would be to set out in the record that the Master, who presided, had been regularly elected and installed; the same remark is applicable to the objection that it did not appear of record in what manner the witness was sworn, and that the record did not state that when the question was put, it was put "commencing with the youngest member": we would waive none of the substantial requirements of the Constitution, and would have the record show that they had been complied with, but we would not bind up a masonic trial in such a mass of technicalities that it would require an expert criminal lawyer to make up the record.

The Report on Correspondence (100 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOSEPH E. BENNETT. It is a splendid *résumé* of the Proceedings, with few comments, which illustrate Sam Weller's rule in "the art of letter-writing"—we wish there were more. He devotes about six pages to Maine (1876), copying all Grand Master MOORE's decisions.

It is with deep sorrow that we announce that since the Grand Lodge closed its session, its Grand Secretary, JOHN A. HARRIS, has been removed by death. Bro. HARRIS was a most enthusiastic mason, strongly wedded to the ways of the fathers, and indefatigable in his efforts to preserve the ancient landmarks. His father and uncle had been active masons before him, participating largely in the administration of the affairs of the craft for many years: and their mantles seem to have fallen on the son and nephew. Our New Hampshire Brethren are especially indebted to Bro. HARRIS for his historical researches, among his other labors. "Peace to his ashes and rest to his soul."

NEW MEXICO, 1877.

We have to chronicle the organization of a new Grand Lodge—the *fifty-fourth* in the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

On the seventh of August last, a Grand Lodge was organized in the Territory of New Mexico. Its Proceedings have been received: and we are also indebted to the courtesy of the Grand Secretary, Bro. DAVID J. MILLER, for information not contained in the Proceedings.

There were in New Mexico, on the fifth of August last, seven regular lodges, all chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Pursuant to notice to all the lodges, the representatives of *three* lodges met on that day, and proceeded in the usual manner to form a Grand Lodge for that Territory. Another of the lodges gave in its adhesion.

A Constitution was adopted, and is published with the Proceedings. The work was exemplified, discussed at length, and adopted.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri, at its next session, recognized the new Grand Lodge "as the supreme masonic authority within its territorial limits." But we perceive that it keeps on its roll the three lodges in New Mexico, which did not participate in forming the Grand Lodge. We trust that this will not continue: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico is the "supreme masonic authority within its territorial limits," and no other Grand Lodge can exercise any authority therein without infringing upon the supreme authority of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico. When the Grand Lodge of England recognized the Grand Lodge of Canada, she retained, by express stipulations of the treaty, jurisdiction over a few lodges in Canada: this was then deemed an exception to the law made by the express agreement of the parties concerned: and it is only within a few years that the dangerous doctrine that a lodge may retain its old allegiance, although a Grand Lodge is formed with exclusive jurisdiction in the territory in which such lodge is located, has been contended for. This doctrine, if established, would be a death blow to the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction, and we trust that it will receive no encouragement.

NEW SOUTH WALES, 1877.

It will be seen by the following that we have a new candidate for recognition:

"LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS,
SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES,
27th December, 1877.

"To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Brethren assembled in Grand Lodge of Maine.

"MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN:

"I have the honor to transmit for the information of your Grand Lodge a printed copy of Proceedings of a Masonic Convention duly organized and held in the City of Sydney, for the purpose of inaugurating a Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

"Permit me to draw your especial attention to the thoroughly constitutional

character of the proceedings by which this result has been achieved, for thereupon be based our hope of a prompt and fraternal recognition of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, now exercising in all propriety and moderation the functions of Supreme Governing Body within territorial limits.

"I would remark that the action taken by brethren in this distant portion of the British Dominions had its origin in no feeling of disrespect or diminution of affection towards the Grand Lodges of their parent Constitution, but solely on a conviction, the result of protracted and earnest deliberation, that circumstances which it is now unnecessary more fully to detail, warrant that action. I would, however, state that the desire for self government has long existed, as well as the regret that our means of benevolence should be so materially impaired by enforced contributions to funds in themselves most deserving of local support, but from which we can derive no benefit.

"It will be deemed that, *numerically*, constitutional requirements have been fully met, nay, greatly exceeded, while in matter of action no land-mark has been infringed; we have sought to follow precedents that have never been impugned, precedents that gained for other *now existing* Grand Lodges full recognition and hearty co-operation; such recognition and co-operation we now ask from your Grand Lodge for the Grand Lodge of New South Wales in the fullest assurance that it will at once be accorded.

"I have the honor to remain, Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren, yours very fraternally,

"JAMES S. FARNELL, *Grand Master.*

"NICHOLAS WEEKES, *Grand Secretary, N. S. Wales.*"

A convention of the representatives of twelve lodges in New South Wales—eight holding under the Grand Lodge of Scotland and four under the Grand Lodge of Ireland—was held on the third day of December, 1877, and a Grand Lodge organized in a regular manner. A copy of the Proceedings accompany the foregoing letter. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, with a few amendments, was adopted.

The Grand Master (JAMES S. FARNELL), late Irish Provincial Grand Master, delivered an address, in which he very ably argues the right of the lodges to form a Grand Lodge, and the regularity of their proceedings. He claims that New South Wales is as much entitled to a Grand Lodge as Canada was when her Grand Lodge was formed, and that the action of the masons of Canada is a precedent for them.

From his address we learn that the first lodge in Australia was organized about 1821 by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and that since lodges have been chartered there by the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, and a Provincial Grand Lodge established there by each one of those Grand Lodges.

The English lodges did not join in the movement, and it is apparent that some of them have denounced it as illegal.

We are sorry that the Proceedings do not show that all the lodges were notified, though we infer that such was the fact from a statement made by the temporary chairman of the Convention.

Nor do the Proceedings show that a majority of the lodges in the Colony participated in the movement. We have written to the Grand Secretary to obtain information upon these points: as without it (especially considering the fact that the movement is denounced as illegal by some masons) we cannot

recommend its recognition at present. We do not admit that three lodges may form a Grand Lodge in a country in which none exists, if the three are not a majority of the lodges in such country. We hold that exclusive jurisdiction can be obtained in any country only by a Grand Lodge constituted by a majority of the lodges in that country: so that, in passing upon the claims of a Grand Lodge for recognition, this point cannot be overlooked. We, therefore, recommend that action upon the request contained in the foregoing letter be postponed until our next Annual Communication.

Since the foregoing was written we have received the following communication, which shows the necessity for further information, at least, before recognizing the Grand Lodge:

"GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

"FREEMASONS' HALL,

EDINBURGH, 7th March, 1878.

"To the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

"MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND DEAR BROTHER:

"I am instructed by the Grand Master Mason of Scotland (Bro. Sir Michael R. Shaw-Stewart, Bart.), and the Grand Committee, to inform you that certain Brethren belonging to lodges in New South Wales, holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, have, in conjunction with others of the Irish Constitution, formed themselves into 'The Grand Lodge of New South Wales,' and now seek recognition as a lawfully constituted Body.

"In asking you to withhold from this irregular and unconstitutional Body recognition in any form, I beg to state that of the twenty-seven Scotch lodges in New South Wales, eight only were represented at the meeting at which the schismatics threw off their allegiance to their respective Grand Lodges.

"Bro. Dr. Sedgwick, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, and Bro. William Higstrim, Worshipful Provincial Grand Secretary, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of New South Wales, are doing all in their power to counteract the disloyal movement above referred to,—and in this they have the cordial and fraternal co-operation of the District Grand Master and lodges under the English Constitution.

"From information received from the Province, it appears that a great majority of the Scottish Brethren are not only determined to remain staunch in their allegiance, but repudiate the idea of severing a connection which they are so desirous to maintain with their Mother Grand Lodge.

"I have therefore respectfully to request that you will have the goodness to caution the lodges under your jurisdiction against admitting either as a Member or Visitor any Brother seeking to gain admission as a member of the so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

"I am, Most Worshipful Sir and Dear Brother,

"Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"D. MURRAY LYON, *Grand Secretary.*"

NEW YORK, 1877.

Representation, 667 out of 718 lodges: four charters granted: Grand Master SMITH and Past Grand Master BRUEN of New Jersey, and Grand Secretary REED, of Washington Territory, received and welcomed with the usual honors.

The Grand Master (JAMES W. HUSTED) refers briefly to the history of the preceding one hundred years, skillfully weaving in an eloquent, though very

brief, appeal in behalf of the Masonic Hall and Asylum: pays a tribute to the memories of NATHANIEL F. WARING, Past Grand Master of New York, JOHN DOVE and GEORGE FRANK GOULEY: gives a condensed statement of his official acts: says he had been called on almost daily for decision of questions of masonic law, most of which were too simple to be reported to the Grand Lodge: discusses the foreign relations: and gives a statement of two other matters which we shall notice more at length.

One of them was the case of two members of a New York lodge becoming charter members of a Connecticut lodge without obtaining their dimitts: we have already given the view taken of the matter by Connecticut (see pp. 602, 603): we give an extract from the argument of Grand Master HUSTED, which seems to us unanswerable:

"Every person who becomes a member of a lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge does so under the operation of our Constitution and Statutes; he continues his relation to the lodge under the same sanction, and he can only sever it in the way therein pointed out. Our law provides that membership can only be severed when it shall appear that no charges are pending against the member, and that all indebtedness to the lodge has been paid by him, and it is not possible that any other authority than our own should relieve any member of one of our lodges of the operation of this law. These Brethren not having paid their dues to Webotuck Lodge, nor been dimitted from it by its action or consent, as indeed they could not be until they had complied with our law, it is clear that they are still members under this jurisdiction, and in case of their refusal to comply with the law and obtain an honorable discharge, they should be dealt with accordingly."

In his review of the Foreign Relations, he well says:

"Thus each Grand Lodge is in itself a masonic nation, and admits no interference with its rights of domestic authority. When we say that we claim sole and absolute jurisdiction in our respective territories, we mean that no lodge can be instituted, governed or withdrawn without our consent; we mean that when any other masonic power, either directly or by implication, undertakes to establish or to countenance the establishment of lodges within the lines of any of our regularly established jurisdictions, they trespass on our rights and imperil that feeling of harmony and brotherly love which we are anxious to maintain. Now, in Germany they have agreed that we have a right to govern masonry in our respective jurisdictions; but unfortunately they assume that their recognition of bodies declared by us to be clandestine is not an interference with our rights in the premises, and so they propose to determine what is a sufficiently masonic organization to entitle the membership thereof to the right of visit in their lodges, not apparently seeing that this is in reality passing upon the whole question; for if our declaration as to the legality of a body of men styling itself masonic, located in our midst, is not final, then we might as well not have any rights at all."

* * * * *

"In France the prospect is less encouraging. Apart from the continued recognition of a spurious Body, claiming the right to establish lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, the fact is now settled that in France it is not necessary that a candidate for the privileges of masonry should entertain or declare a belief in the existence of God, or, in other words, that an avowed Atheist can be made, or at least declared, a mason, without question. This is entirely distinct from the proposition to amend the Constitution of the Grand Orient by striking therefrom the formula recognizing the Deity, and it follows that English-speaking nations, and, indeed, all others true to the precepts and landmarks of the institution, and determined to preserve it unsullied from the polluting touch of infidelity, can under no justi-

liable pretense continue or renew their masonic relations with those who refuse to recognize as a vital tenet the Fatherhood of God as well as the Brotherhood of Man."

The other matter we give in the Grand Master's own words:

"Brethren, I regret to say that an event has transpired within our own jurisdiction which has brought sadness and sorrow to many a masonic heart. On the 10th of March last, as stated in a circular issued immediately thereafter, a meeting of Past Masters, Masters and Wardens of the several masonic lodges in Rochester was held in that city, at which meeting it was resolved:

"That a circular be sent to every lodge in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, setting forth the necessity of *financial reform*, and urging each lodge to delegate its Master or other representative to attend a Convention to be held at Masonic Temple in Rochester, on the 25th day of April, 1877, at 10 o'clock A. M., to decide upon some united plan of action touching the contemplated temporal extension of clause 9, of section 40, of Article VII, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, commonly known as the fifty-cent clause."

"By accident, certainly not by design, on the part of the originators of this movement, a copy of the circular fell into my hands. In reference to the clandestine manner in which the preliminary proceedings were conducted, I quote, as singularly pertinent, the views of P. G. M. Fox, who, with reference to a similar state of affairs, uses these words:

"This opportunity is taken to make our acknowledgment to the brethren who originated the call for an emergent communication in this instance for the compliment paid the Grand Master in seeking to induce, through the influence of the subordinate bodies, a favorable response to their desire, rather than present a matter for his decision which their judgment must have assured them would have met with an emphatic refusal."

"Immediately upon its receipt, I addressed a circular to the Masters, Wardens and brethren of the several lodges in the jurisdiction, wherein, waiving all recognition of this unauthorized, unconstitutional, unmasonic and irregular movement, I addressed myself to the discussion of the main question, which, by this ill-advised circular, had at an unwarranted time and in an unwarranted manner been made an issue.

"To the circular issued by me I received responses of approval from all parts of the jurisdiction. But, to my surprise, notwithstanding the implied warnings that it embodied, I learned that the promoters of this movement were nevertheless persistent and pertinacious. There was but one course left. A proper respect for the dignity of the position which you had accorded me, a due regard to the obligation that I had assumed, a recognition of the solemn and binding force of that obligation, forbade that I, as the conservator of the Constitution, should, under any circumstances, allow its provisions to be disobeyed or disregarded. Empowered and obligated 'to exercise all the executive functions of the Grand Lodge, when not in session,' I neither faltered nor hesitated in the course that I felt and knew it to be my duty to pursue.

"I ordered R. W. W. J. La Rue, District Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic District within whose jurisdiction the city of Rochester is embraced, to represent me, and to forbid in my name the organization of any masonic convention. This order was obeyed; but while the letter of the order was heeded, its spirit was evaded. Although the assemblage withdrew from the hall without organizing as a masonic convention, they repaired to an adjoining room and proceeded to organize a convention of individuals; whereupon an address was prepared, which has since been printed and sent to all of the lodges within the jurisdiction. To this address its authors had the wise discretion not to append their names."

* * * * *

"I 'shall nothing extenuate nor aught set down in malice': but I here solemnly declare that such unwarranted proceedings as have characterized

this movement, from its inception to its close, deserve the stern condemnation of the Masonic Fraternity of the State of New York.

"I do not propose here and now to argue the question of the necessity of the continuance of the tax; that subject I discussed at length and *in extenso* in the Circular of April 2d. But, brethren, I go farther than I was then justified in doing in a printed document scattered broadcast through the mails and post offices of the State. I say to you now, in all earnestness, in all sincerity, in all confidence, that this is not a question for discussion. It is a question for prompt, for decisive, for energetic action. It is *the* question which overshadows all others. It is the question of self-preservation. At such a time the fever is stirred 'in the blood of age,' and the infant's sinew becomes 'strong as steel.' I have no fears of the result. I have too abiding a faith in the influence of the sublime tenets of our grand and glorious brotherhood to hazard for a moment a doubt as to the action of this Grand Body upon a matter of so vital importance to the integrity, to the honor, to the reputation of the Fraternity, not alone in this jurisdiction, but throughout the world. Who challenges the sublime idea embodied in this enterprise? Who disclaims the blessings that will flow from its assured success? Who begrudges to masonry this magnificent Temple, in which she may for ages to come celebrate her glories in the moral, her triumphs in the material and the social world?

"If such there be, go mark him well!"

"No, my brethren, these things cannot, they must not be!

"Assuming as our own the motto of our grand old Commonwealth, let us aspire to higher honors still. Within the passing year we have canceled Forty Thousand Dollars of our indebtedness. In eleven years the whole debt will be paid off, and the corner stone of the Asylum will be laid. Not only that, but a fund ample for every need will have been secured."

The Grand Lodge, by a vote of 1,314 to 735, continued the "fifty-cent tax" indefinitely. While we cannot help regretting the inception of an enterprise which taxes the craft so heavily and tends to create discord, we are bound to say that the members of the Grand Lodge of New York are bound by every principle of honor and honesty to provide means to pay their debt. It matters not that it was improvidently created: it matters not that there may possibly have been bad management: it matters not what other facts exist save the one that the debt has been created, in the name of the craft of New York, by their representatives: they are bound, every man of them, to carry such measures as will pay the debt; if they are willing to dishonor themselves *as individuals*, they have no right to dishonor Masonry: we hope, therefore, that our Brethren in New York will accept the situation, and do all that is required to maintain the honor of the Grand Lodge. We have no doubt that this will be done; but we want it done by *unanimous* and not *majority* votes. Other Grand Lodges will do well to read the Proceedings of New York before indulging in the expensive luxury of building a Temple, an Asylum or a College, on credit.

The debt was reduced \$41,000 during the year, but still amounts to \$778,000.

The Grand Librarian (ROBERT H. THOMAS) made a very interesting report. The library under his charge is one of the largest masonic libraries in the world, and Bro. THOMAS is sparing no labor or pains to keep it up, and increase it by procuring the Proceedings and Magazines which are now wanting to complete the files. He had collected during the year over 2,800

pamphlets and volumes, completing 205 volumes and increasing the number in the library to 1,232, not including over 300 volumes of a non-masonic character. The collection of *original* Proceedings is very complete, but he lacks quite a number yet, among them those of our Grand Lodge for 1835, 1841, 1842 and 1844 (special).

One case, growing out of a business transaction, came before the Grand Lodge, and it illustrates the character of that class of cases which are properly cognizable by the lodge. B. applied to W. to join him in buying out and carrying on a certain business, saying they would have to pay \$25,000 for the business: W., relying on the representations, acceded and paid to B. \$12,500: B. afterwards told W. that he paid \$30,000 for the concern, of which he had paid \$10,000 himself, \$10,000 of W.'s money and \$10,000 in two notes, and had retained, as working capital, the remaining \$5,000 paid in by him and W.; in fact, the business cost only \$17,500, and B. knew that that was all it was to cost when he first mentioned it to W.: it was paid for by \$7,500 of W.'s money, and the notes for \$10,000 (subsequently paid out of the business), and the \$5,000 working capital was the balance of W.'s money, and B. *had never paid in a dollar*. When the matter was discovered B. settled with W. the whole matter. But charges were filed and B. was expelled, but on appeal to the Grand Lodge, his expulsion was confirmed, the Grand Lodge properly holding that the fraud was a masonic offense, which the party injured could not condone.

Another singular case came before the Grand Lodge. The Master of a lodge, a few days after the installation, wrote a letter to the Secretary requesting him to resign, because he was not acceptable to the principal members of the lodge: the Secretary replied in a letter which is described to be "a wonder as a rhetorical composition," and sarcastic and severe "to a degree which astounds all who peruse it": upon this charges were filed: the action of both the Master and Secretary was condemned, but as the letter was a private one to the Master and was not libelous, the writing of it was held not to be a masonic offense.

The Report on Correspondence (110 pp.) was again presented by Bro. JOHN W. SIMONS.

In his review of Maine (1876), he says the address of Grand Master MOORE is "a business paper, plain in language and practical in ideas," and quotes largely from it with approbation: he notes "with great pleasure the industry and application of the several District Deputies, as demonstrated by their several reports."

In reply to our question, "When the practice of asking the consent of the nearest lodge to the formation of a new one originated?" he replies that he finds the requirement in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York in 1785. It was not in that of Massachusetts until after 1805: and we think it was first adopted as a regulation, and was not a universal practice.

He takes the ground that the Grand Orient of France, by striking out the requirement of belief "in the existence of God, the Almighty and ever living," steps beyond the pale, and, whatever it may call itself, ceases to be masonic; and that the sooner masons everywhere disentangle themselves from its alliance, the better it will be for them and for the institution.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1877.

One hundred twenty-seven lodges represented: five charters granted: the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming recognized.

The Grand Master (HORACE H. MUNSON) says that prosperity is increasing, and the future has a brighter outlook. He recommended the revival of the District Deputy system, which formerly prevailed, but was broken up by the war. The committee endorsed the recommendation, but, after discussion, the report was laid on the table.

He gives a fine description of the Orphan Asylum at Oxford: by the report of the Superintendent, we find that, during the year, 53 had been received and 32 discharged, leaving 124 at the end of the year; the receipts had been \$8,944, and the disbursements \$8,865; lodges had contributed about \$1,500, of which over \$200 was given by one lodge, St. John's, No. 1; in addition to this, "liberal contributions in kind" were made; the statistics show that the food, clothing and instruction of each orphan costs about five dollars a month, to which one dollar a month is added for repairs and incidentals—certainly a very moderate price; the Grand Lodge was so impressed with the importance of the matter, that it appropriated \$2,000; required every lodge to pay, for the support of the Asylum, five dollars for every initiate, and at least five cents a month for every member; and authorized the Grand Master to appoint agents to canvass the State to raise funds.

The Grand Master complains that very many questions had been propounded to him which could have readily been answered by reference to the Code which the Grand Secretary had published and had on sale at cost, but with which lodges had failed to supply themselves: and he says that if the Grand Lodge could enact some law requiring the lodges to furnish themselves with copies, it would greatly lessen the labor and expense of the Grand Master's office.

He refers to the recent action of the Grand Orient of France in the following eloquent terms:

"Can enlightened masons subscribe to a dogma so utterly subversive of all they hold dear as this? Can we respond fraternally to brethren who impliedly say they want no God in Masonry, and have no faith in the immortality of the human soul, who bring discredit upon an Order which from time immemorial has recognized the Great I Am as a being supreme above all things, who, with maddened profanity, write over the doors of their masonic temples, There is no God—Death is an eternal sleep? Of what use, then,

would be your temples of worship? How worse than mockery your funeral ceremonies, how delusive all lofty aspirations, how hopeless the expectation of eternal life in that land where we believe perpetual youth and spring abound? With one heart and voice let masonic America respond to this insulting proposition of misguided France, bringing such a pressure to bear as will result in restoring the stricken landmark to her mutilated Constitution, or let that fraternal chain be broken which now symbolizes and links us together a band of brothers. Principles are worth more to us than men—pureness of heart, than bonds of brotherhood.”

Which the Grand Lodge endorsed by adopting the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That we denounce this innovation upon one of the ancient landmarks of masonry, as a blot upon civilization, the entering wedge by which masonry will be brought into disrepute, and ultimately be made a by-word and reproach to Christianity; that the seal of condemnation of this Grand Body should be put upon this movement in its incipency, not to explain the belief of this Grand Lodge, but that those who are to come after us shall be apprised of the unmistakable position taken upon this question, and have the benefit and support of those who have gone before them.”

It was decided that the Scripture readings in the ceremonies in the several degrees may be omitted, and music, either vocal or instrumental, substituted therefor.

The Report on Correspondence is only two pages in length, referring mainly to the “Colored Masonry” question: but it contains nothing new.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Fifty-three of the sixty-seven lodges represented: no charters granted: a large amount of routine business transacted.

The first day was devoted to the dedication of the new Masonic Temple, in Halifax: the full proceedings are given, showing that the occasion was one of great interest. On this occasion a Bible of historic fame was used. It is said that during our Revolutionary War, DR. INGLIS, the Rector of Trinity Church in New York City, was notified that if he prayed for the King and Royal Family on the next Sunday, he would be shot on the spot. He disregarded the threat, and prayed for the King with more than his usual fervency; and he was unmolested. When King George III heard of the occurrence, he sent the brave Rector a splendid Bible, with the royal monogram on the covers. At the close of the war the Rector went to Nova Scotia, of which he became Lord Bishop, and took with him this Bible, which has now become the property of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

Grand Master CLINCH and P. G. Master PETERS, of New Brunswick, were present, and were received with due honors.

The Grand Master (J. WINBURN LAURIE) delivered a brief address, mainly devoted to a statement of his official acts. He congratulates the Grand Lodge on the completion of the Masonic Temple, and urges that the Grand Lodge aid in the maintenance of the masonic library and reading room.

The reports of the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and District Deputies are full, showing all these officers to have been exceed-

ingly zealous and efficient. Two lodges were consolidated by consent of the Grand Lodge, which adopted rules of proceedings in similar cases.

A Committee on Reading Room and Library was appointed, and fifty dollars appropriated for the purchase of newspapers, magazines, &c., for it.

The Report on Correspondence (82 pp.) was presented by Bro. ALLEN H. CRANE, who says, however, that it is the work of his associates on the Committee, Bros. TRENAMAN and MOORE. It is an excellent abstract of the Proceedings, with but little discussion.

OHIO, 1877.

About 450 lodges represented: two dispensations and three charters granted: one dispensation refused and one recalled: one charter surrendered: a resolution to appoint a committee to inquire into the expediency of recognizing the Colored Grand Lodge, or, if that is inexpedient, of absorbing it into the Grand Lodge, laid on the table (a disposition under the Western usage equivalent to rejecting it): one hundred dollars appropriated to Bro. CORNELIUS MOORE: a proposition to reduce the membership of the Grand Lodge, by substituting *District* representation for *Lodge* representation, defeated.

The Grand Master (CHARLES A. WOODWARD) gives an exceedingly concise statement of his official action: he announces the deaths of JOSEPH B. COVERT, Grand Tyler; LUCIUS V. BIERCE, P. G. Master; KENT JARVIS, P. G. J. Warden; A. H. WASHBURN, P. G. Chaplain; and EDGAR A. HOPKINS, P. G. Master.

The following decisions were confirmed by the Grand Lodge:

"A lodge may not adopt a resolution whereby members who have not paid their dues for the current year shall be deprived of their right to vote at the annual election of officers, because members cannot be deprived of their rights of membership by a mere resolution of the lodge.

"It is not proper for a lodge, in the absence of any by-law upon the subject, to require any of its officers to give bonds for the faithful performance of their duties.

"A lodge having been regularly opened in stated communication at the time specified in its by-laws, and then regularly closed, cannot be re-opened for the transaction of business, and any business transacted under such circumstances is illegal and void."

A lodge in Indiana waived jurisdiction over a candidate in favor of an Ohio lodge, which rejected him: subsequently, upon a new petition, the Ohio lodge accepted and initiated him: thereupon, the Indiana lodge complained that the Ohio lodge had infringed its jurisdiction: the Grand Master, however, correctly held that there was no cause for complaint, as the Ohio lodge had acquired exclusive jurisdiction over the candidate.

The law requires charter members of a new lodge to procure and file their dimits, when the charter is issued; but it was held that if a member fail to do so, still the action of the Grand Lodge severs his membership in the old lodge, when the new one is constituted under the charter: a new decision, but, we think, a correct one.

It was also decided that when there are two or more lodges, located at different places in the same city, but having concurrent jurisdiction therein, the jurisdiction of each, *outside of the city*, extends half way to the nearest lodge. This would give the lodges concurrent jurisdiction in a part of the outside territory, and exclusive in part; but the decision is undoubtedly correct.

In order to get at the practice in Ohio, the Grand Secretary sent the Missouri questions in relation to aiding visiting or sojourning brethren, members of other lodges, to all the lodges in Ohio, requesting answers thereto, an abstract of which he gives in the Proceedings. One hundred and seventy-eight lodges responded. The answers show a great variety of practice and views; about half relieve without regard to re-imbursement; and nearly half relieve only when they expect re-imbursement, or perhaps we should say, that about half expect re-imbursement in such cases. Many, which do not expect to be called on to re-imburse, and do not recognize any claim therefor, nevertheless are in the habit of doing so, as a matter of masonic courtesy.

The Report on Correspondence (130 pp.) was again presented by Bro. Grand Secretary JOHN D. CALDWELL. It is not a regular review of the Proceedings, but a collection of historical *data*, thrown together quite at random, some of which are authentic and valuable, and some of which are disputed; together with discussions of various questions connected with these historical matters. He devotes a dozen pages to the "Colored Grand Lodge" question. He admits the dual Grand Lodge system cannot prevail. He says "Duality must die. It is decreed." We are glad that he has come to that conclusion, and that, as he says, all rejoice at this result. But he argues at some length, that is the duty of the Grand Lodge to provide for absorbing the colored masons into the regular lodges.

Among his historical *data*, he gives items from the history of several of the New England Grand Lodges, including our own.

He gives Bro. HYNEMAN's article on the history of the 1717 movement, which he calls a *revolution* and not a revival.

In a recent article Bro. HUGHAN contests quite a number of Bro. HYNEMAN's statements in matters of fact.

Bro. HYNEMAN says that, prior to 1717, the craft in the south of England still held their relation to the York Grand Lodge; Bro. HUGHAN says that this could not be so, as there was no York Grand Lodge until 1725: the former says there was no schism in 1738 and no *third* Grand Lodge was formed; the latter says there was, for he has seen its records: but we will give the particular part of Bro. HYNEMAN's statement, to which Bro. HUGHAN takes exception.

He says:

"The real cause was, that there were lodges and masons in London holding their allegiance to the York Grand Lodge that would not countenance nor acknowledge the new London Grand Lodge. There was no actual schism in 1738, as Anderson, Preston and recent writers assume. The object of the revolutionary

body was to stigmatize those who would not come under its authority, and such as had left it for its innovating tendencies, and preferred their connection with the original masonic body, the York Grand Lodge. *It was the successors of these who, in 1813, formed the union with the London Grand Lodge.* There was no third Grand Lodge formed in England out of those lodges which, for good and sufficient reasons, remained true to their allegiance to the York Grand Lodge, nor of those who left the London Grand Lodge. *The story of a third Grand Lodge is wholly mythical."*

To this Bro. HUGHAN replies:

"The foregoing paragraph is absolutely and altogether untrue, and so much so that it is difficult to understand how anyone could credit such an unfounded series of assertions in the present day, because: 1. There were no lodges in London hailing from the York Grand Lodge until 1778, and never after 1790. 2. The schism of 1738-50 not only took place, but a *third* Grand Lodge was formed, the records of which we have seen and examined in the Grand Secretary's office, London. 3. This body of seceders became the *Grand Lodge, according to the old Constitution*, or '*Ancients*,' and united with the regular Grand Lodge in 1813, at which period the York Grand Lodge had ceased to exist. 4. The '*Ancients*' were sometimes called '*York Masons*,' but unfairly so, and it was the '*Ancients*,' or '*Seceders*,' which constituted so many lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges in the United States and elsewhere abroad. 5. These '*Seceders*,' or '*Athol Masons*,' as they were called, issued many warrants for America, many of which have been transcribed and published, *all of which*, and all not published, are *dated from London*, and never from York, and no claim is ever made in such documents to being the York Grand Lodge, though of course mention is made therein of '*Prince Edwin*,' and his charges, etc., at York, which any Grand Lodge might state with just as little or as much authority. 6. The Grand Lodge of all England (as it was called), at York, *never issued any charters whatever out of England*. Of this fact we have abundant testimony, and the records still at York, 1712 to 1790, furnish *proof positive*. 7. The claim of certain American Grand Lodges to be descended from the '*Ancient York Masons*' is therefore an erroneous one, and should be at once and forever ignored."

Bro. HYNEMAN is usually a careful and correct writer, but Bro. HUGHAN is equally so, and as he has the advantage of a personal examination of the records, we are inclined to believe that Bro. HYNEMAN is in error; and we shall look with much interest for his rejoinder.

OREGON, 1877.

Fifty-seven lodges represented: one charter granted: the Grand Lodge of Cuba recognized: quite a number of reports adopted and ordered to be placed on file; they are not published in the Proceedings—an omission to be regretted, as it seems to us.

The Grand Master (J. HENRY KUNZIE) had visited about two-thirds of the lodges; the Deputy had visited fifteen; and the Grand Wardens those in their vicinity. The Grand Master says these visitations by the Grand Officers are mutually beneficial to them and the lodges; it prepares those from whose number the Grand Master is usually taken for the performance of the duties of that office, while the lodges are benefited by the instruction of those competent to instruct, and whose official position adds weight to their opinions.

From his own visitations and the reports of the other Grand Officers, the

Grand Master finds that about two-thirds of the lodges are active, and "the balance sadly lacking vitality and force."

He decided that after the result of a ballot has been declared, a brother has no right to say to the Master that he thinks he had cast a black ball by mistake: and in a case in which, after such notice, the Master ordered a re-ballot at the next meeting, first giving notice of his intention to do so to all who were present at the first meeting, the Grand Lodge declared the action illegal, but healed the candidate.

He decided also:

1. That three Master Masons can open the lodge and confer the third degree; but as seven Master Masons are required for the formation of a lodge, no less than seven can do business: the Grand Lodge approved the first clause, but struck out the second; and we think correctly, for his conclusion does not follow from his premises, as the Grand Lodge may well deem it impolitic to grant a charter to less than seven, and yet not require all the seven to be present to open a lodge and do its business.

2. That a candidate, with only one eye, is not eligible: but the Grand Lodge reversed the decision.

3. That the doctrine of "perpetual jurisdiction" prevails in that State.

4. That charges may be filed, against a member of a lodge in another State, in the lodge in whose jurisdiction the offense was committed; and the lodge may try him upon those charges, even after he has left the jurisdiction—but, as a matter of courtesy, it is best to notify the lodge of which he is a member, and request it to try him.

He "has his say" about non-affiliates, but beyond setting forth clearly the evils resulting therefrom, he gives us nothing new upon this trite subject: his views are that "an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure," and that members should be made so much interested in the lodge as never to become non-affiliates.

The Grand Lodge adopted a General Regulation, that a Brother, struck from the rolls for non-payment of dues, shall not be re-instated until he shall pay all dues accruing up to the time of his re-instatement: the Grand Lodge ordered the reprint of its Proceedings for 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1861, to complete files; also that an objection to the initiation, passing or raising of a candidate, shall have the same effect as a black ball, and no more.

The Report on Correspondence (95 pp.) was again presented by Bro. S. F. CHADWICK. His notice of each Grand Lodge is necessarily brief, and chiefly confined to an extract—but he devotes four pages to Maine (1876).

He says the address of Bro. MOORE "contains many valuable thoughts. We like to read them. We enjoy reflections which these masonic principles prompt in our midst."

He holds that in the absence of express authority, the Grand Master has no right to grant a new trial; that a Brother has a right to a trial by his own

lodge, and the Grand Lodge has no right to "change the venue," and order him to be tried in another lodge. We agree, except that we hold that the lodge in whose jurisdiction the offender resides, or in which the offense was committed, may try him, as decided by Grand Master KUNZIE.

He proposes that a list of expelled and suspended members shall be published by each Grand Lodge. Many Grand Lodges do this, and many have done it for many years; indeed, some Grand Lodges have published a list of all the suspensions and expulsions reported to them by other Grand Lodges. While not seeing the necessity of going to this extent, we certainly believe each Grand Lodge should publish the list of those expelled or suspended by its own subordinates. It would not be necessary to publish suspensions, and striking from the rolls for non-payment of dues in those jurisdictions, in which such action merely suspends from *lodge* rights, and not from *general masonic* rights.

■ PENNSYLVANIA, 1877.

Two hundred and five lodges represented: it was decided that the admission of honorary members by a lodge was erroneous: resolution adopted to send the reprint of the early Proceedings to all the Grand Lodges of their correspondence: and the usual routine reports made and business transacted.

The Grand Master (ROBERT CLARK) says that "the wisdom of training the Grand Master for the duties of his office, by service in the South, the West, and as Deputy Grand Master, before assuming the Oriental Chair, thereby making him familiar with the constantly recurring questions which he has to meet as presiding officer, is manifest by the experience every year brings." We have not, heretofore, been inclined to these views: we do not know what duties these Grand Officers have to perform which can especially qualify them for the office of Grand Master: our observation has been, that, with a limited number of exceptions, they have only the aid derived from observing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge—a privilege of which any other member of the Grand Lodge may avail himself. We prefer the practice of Massachusetts, where Grand Wardens are never re-elected, or promoted from the South to the West, because it gives the Grand Lodge a permanent membership of the wisest, ablest and most zealous masons in the jurisdiction, from whose ranks the Grand Master may appoint his Deputy, or the craft select their Grand Master. We dislike the growing idea, that the officer next in rank to Junior Grand Warden has any claims for promotion, or that a Brother placed in the South has a vested right to successive promotion to the Grand East. Such a practice really gives the Grand Master for the time being the power to designate the next Junior Grand Warden, who, in time, is to become Grand Master, and designate in his turn one of his successors. Nevertheless, we would not have a Brother elected Deputy Grand Master who is not deemed qualified to be Grand Master: it is well to promote the Deputy, as, by being elected to

that post, he has time, while he holds it, to prepare himself for presiding officer, and has notice that he will probably be called upon to occupy the Grand East, and no Brother should become Grand Master who has not qualified himself by a special course of reading and study with that specific object in view.

Grand Master CLARK, with his Grand Officers, had held schools of instruction in twelve different places, at which an aggregate of 229 lodges were represented. He says the value of these gatherings can hardly be estimated.

He congratulates the Grand Lodge on its financial condition, and especially upon the increasing respect which her sister Grand Lodges have for her, especially in view of former criticisms on her exclusiveness and the paucity of her publications. We join in the congratulations, but chiefly because she has changed her course and now gives the masonic world discussions of questions which *command* respect. In proof of our assertion, we quote the following from this very address:

"I would earnestly invoke every member of the fraternity in this jurisdiction to cultivate all those virtues which the craft enjoins as elements of Freemasonry; to hesitate before lending their aid, or even their silent acquiescence, in new theories of masonic relations; to reject any pretext, however plausible, which pretends to elucidate under new lights the fundamental principles of the craft; to shun, as destructive, all teachings which seek to construe solemn obligations that they may seem less stringent on the conscience; to avoid all controversy which comes under the allurements of argument, which tends to weaken faith in the sublime doctrines of the fraternity, which are, and have been, its immemorial traditions; to discourage the introduction of every innovation into the body of masonry; to exhibit on all proper occasions that moral courage which forbids a participation in error rather than defend the right, and in a confident reliance in God's help, to stand fast by the landmarks, let the seductive inducements to deny our faith be presented how they may."

The inaugural address of his successor, JAMES MADISON PORTER, is in the same spirit. The Grand Lodge having adopted a new Ahiman Rezon (which had been prepared with marked ability), he urges the District Deputies to study it carefully to prepare themselves for their duties, especially in answering such questions as are likely to arise from its use. He advises Masters to hold lodges of instruction, and suggests that much good would follow from the Deputies holding such schools at some central point. He particularly cautions lodges to use the greatest care in the selection of candidates.

He announces that during the year a legacy of \$10,000 had been given to the Grand Lodge by the late Brother STEPHEN TAYLOR, to be held in trust for charitable purposes.

The Report on Correspondence (46 pp.) was again submitted by Bro. RICHARD VAUX, who gives Bro. CLIFFORD P. MCCALLA the credit of assistance in its preparation. They devote some space to their views "of the particular duty assigned to this committee." The substance is, that their Grand Lodge, while having no mission to proselyte or reform, and desiring the continuance of the most fraternal relations with all other regular Grand

Lodges, will resist all assaults upon the landmarks, whenever or wherever made, whether made covertly, insidiously or with a combined effort, be the consequences what they may; and Pennsylvania, "modest, earnest and unpretending," will exercise her high prerogative as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to enter her judgment against those who are false to Freemasonry, and, within her jurisdiction, put prohibition on false doctrine, heresy and schism."

We apprehend that the Pennsylvania Committee do not differ practically from their *confrères* in their views of their duties: when a false doctrine is announced or an unmasonic practice is started, it is safest to condemn it, for it may be the first movement in the approach to undermine and overthrow a landmark; if such is the object or effect, Bro. VAUX would not hold it to be meddlesome to expose and denounce it; and we believe, therefore, (and this belief is strengthened by finding his report very much like others in character) that the difference, which he claims exists between these reports and those of other jurisdictions, is merely *nominal*.

In his review of Maine, he says:

"The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having been prepared and printed prior to the meeting of the Grand Lodge, was attached to the Grand Master's address and presented to the Grand Lodge. The work of the report is by our distinguished Brother Josiah H. Drummond. Brother Drummond will please to remember that we hold ourselves competent to judge of the weight of masonic evidence in deciding questions of masonic jurisprudence, and when he charges us with having decided the question of the Grand Lodge of Cuba on *ex parte* statements, and condemns it, we venture to remark that he made this statement on *ex parte* evidence."

We based our statement on the fact that we found in his report no allusion to the other Grand Lodge; and on the understanding we then had, that his report was made before any documents from the other Grand Lodge had reached this country. We still think our statement was correct, because Bro. VAUX is too able and just a jurist to render a decision upon a disputed question *without referring to the claims and proofs of one of the parties*. We did not intend to intimate that the decision of Bro. VAUX was knowingly *ex parte*, but that it was made without knowledge that there *was* any other party.

He says further:

"In noticing Pennsylvania specially, if we understand Bro. Drummond, he criticises our report on the German Bund, and portions of our report on the recognition of Cuba. We do not intend to reply to these criticisms, for they are unworthy of serious contravention. If the terms 'Ancients' and 'Moderns' are regarded by Bro. Drummond as equivalent to the distinctions between the 'York' and 'A. and A. Rite,' then all further remark on the subject by us is useless. There is one singular position of Bro. Drummond, as to the power of the A. and A. Rite, that causes us to smile as we read it. Bro. Drummond tries to make it appear that, because the A. and A. Rite does not exercise control over the three symbolic degrees, its power to do so is extinct. As well might he argue that the seclusion of the anchorite destroys his virility; but may be it does in Maine. Bro. Drummond's report is like all that comes from his pen, able, interesting and exhaustive. Bro. Drummond, please take notice, *this is not an ex parte opinion*."

If he found anything in our report on which to found the suggestion that we consider the difference between the "Ancients" and "Moderns" as equivalent to that between the York Rite and the A. and A. Rite, he must have given our report an *exceedingly ex parte* reading!

He may smile at the idea that, when a man has actually surrendered and given up anything, he cannot resume it at pleasure; but we think the fact remains, and that, too, in Pennsylvania, as well as in Maine.

But in order that Bro. VAUX may no longer be worried by this creation of his own imagination, we inform him again, that the first three degrees *never were* a part of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. The connection of those degrees with it in some countries is an innovation of their own. When FRANKEN first conferred the A. and A. degrees, in 1767, he never conferred the Symbolic degrees, but conferred his degrees only on Master Masons. The Grand Orient of France, among its many unmasonic acts, connected the two systems together, but the Bodies of the A. and A. Rite do not recognize that Grand Orient as a *masonic* body, any more than he or his Grand Lodge does.

Our arguments in relation to the Grand Lodge of Cuba, may not be "worthy of serious contravention," but we desire Bro. VAUX to answer this question: "Ought a Grand Lodge, formed by a minority of the lodges in the jurisdiction, to be recognized before it receives the adhesion of a majority of such lodges?"

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1877.

The Grand Lodge meets quarterly. At the communication in May, one charter was granted: and the New Brunswick ritual was adopted.

At the Annual Communication, eight lodges were represented: the Grand Master (JOHN YEO) delivered a brief address, in which he says that the lodges are financially in good standing and are all progressing favorably. He had granted dispensations for two new lodges, but neither of them seem to have applied for a charter.

The proceedings were entirely of a routine character: no Report on Correspondence.

QUEBEC, 1877.

Fifty-two lodges represented: three charters granted: report of committee, fixing the numbers of the lodges (a proceeding rendered necessary by the adhesion of the Canadian lodges), adopted.

The minutes of 1876 were corrected by adding a resolution then adopted prohibiting membership (for the future) in more than one lodge, and providing that a Brother elected a member of a lodge shall not become a member until he produces his dimit from the former lodge. This gives one an opportunity of knowing whether he can be a member of another lodge before he terminates the membership he already has—a wise provision.

Correspondence was submitted giving the recognition of the Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the exchange of Representatives.

The address of the Grand Master (JAMES DUNBAR) is a brief statement of matters, generally of merely local interest, which require the attention of the Grand Lodge.

The Reports of the Deputies show a general state of harmony and prosperity, with few exceptions. Two charters had been surrendered: the amalgamation of the "duplicate lodges" had not been accomplished; and three lodges in Montreal continue to adhere to the Grand Lodge of England, and one to the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In reference to this last matter, a report of the Board of General Purposes was adopted, "that proper steps be now taken to establish the authority of this Grand Lodge over all subordinate lodges in the jurisdiction." And, subsequently, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That in consideration of the recognition of this Grand Lodge—through the establishment of fraternal relations in the interchange of Grand Representatives—by the Grand Lodge of Scotland; and in view of the fact that there still exists in this jurisdiction, a subordinate lodge working under charter from that Grand Body, as well as three subordinate lodges working under charters from the Grand Lodge of England; therefore, it is expedient that a definite period be now fixed when those several lodges shall return to their respective Grand Lodges their charters, and receive from this Grand Lodge a duplicate thereof, so that the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of Quebec may be preserved intact, in accordance with the well understood regulations defining the territorial jurisdiction of Grand Lodges on this Continent.

"And, inasmuch as the interests of the craft in this jurisdiction require that no unnecessary delay shall ensue in carrying out this resolution, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master is hereby instructed to cause the same to be communicated forthwith to the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, respectively, with a respectful notification that their several subordinate lodges shall on or before the 1st of January next comply with the terms thereof."

The Grand Lodge of Quebec waited patiently many years for the Brethren of these lodges to come to a proper sense of their masonic duty; they failing to do so, the Grand Lodge has no other remedy than to enforce her authority, and, in so doing, she will have the almost unanimous support of the American Grand Lodges.

The Board of General Purposes reported in favor of establishing a masonic paper "of the size and general pattern of the *Masonic Token*," which, it was thought, would be self-supporting if the Grand Secretary would take charge of it; but he declined, and the whole matter was referred back to the Board, with instructions to report at the next Annual Communication.

A lodge having conferred one degree on a candidate, adopted a resolution "putting him on probation for six months" for unworthiness; he appealed to the Grand Lodge, which decided that as soon as he showed by examination that he had made suitable proficiency, he must be advanced, unless he should be convicted on charges regularly filed.

A Committee on Ritual, previously appointed, made a report on the first degree; after a good deal of discussion their report was adopted, but not made obligatory—that being left until the report is fully completed. There seem to be two different systems of work in this jurisdiction, and an attempt to establish uniformity creates, as usual, a good deal of excitement and discussion.

A magnificent Tea Service was presented to Past Grand Master GRAHAM by the Grand Lodge, for his eminent services—a well-deserved compliment.

A Committee on Correspondence was appointed, with Grand Chaplain NYE as Chairman. We hope we shall hear from them, and, judging by the sermons and addresses our Rev. Brother has delivered before the Grand Lodge, we shall expect a report which shall do honor to his able, though comparatively young Grand Lodge.

RHODE ISLAND, 1877.

Four special communications were held for constituting lodges, and one for exemplifying the work: an emergent communication was held to attend the funeral of Bro. S. A. ROBINSON, P. G. M.: in addition to these, the Festival, Semi-annual and Annual Communications were duly held.

At the "Specials," addresses were delivered by Bros. THOMAS A. DOYLE, GEORGE M. CARPENTER, JR., and Grand Master VAN SLYCK; but none of them are published in the Proceedings.

At the Festival Communication, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Rhode Island deems it necessary to declare and hereby does declare that each State and Territory within the United States, wherein there is now existing a Grand Lodge recognized by and in fellowship with this Grand Lodge, is a separate and distinct masonic jurisdiction, under the sole government of the Grand Lodge so recognized therein.

"Resolved, That the above declaration being the fundamental law of masonry, the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island has never acknowledged and will not acknowledge the right of any Grand Lodge or Grand Orient to claim, hold, or exercise masonic authority over any portion of any State or Territory wherein already exists a regularly recognized Grand Lodge.

"Resolved, That it is not within the power of any Grand Lodge to legally surrender any portion of its authority or jurisdiction to any other Grand Lodge or Grand Orient, or to permit any other Grand Lodge or Grand Orient to exercise concurrent authority within its own territorial jurisdiction.

"Resolved, That if at any time any Grand Lodge, recognized by and in fellowship with this Grand Lodge, shall surrender its sole and exclusive territorial jurisdiction to any other power or authority, or shall recognize any other Grand Lodge or Grand Orient as holding jurisdiction within its territory, then and in that case this Grand Lodge will cease to hold masonic fellowship with such Grand Lodge.

"Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master of Masons of this jurisdiction be, and he is hereby requested whenever it shall come to his knowledge that any Grand Lodge has so surrendered its authority or divided its jurisdiction, to issue his edict suspending all masonic intercourse with said Grand Lodge and forbidding all masonic fellowship between the lodges and members of this

State and the lodges and members of the jurisdiction under the Grand Lodge aforesaid."

* * * * *

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge declares the connection of masonic emblems with the business of individuals to be unmasonic."

* * * * *

"Ordered, That the subordinate lodges be directed to furnish the Grand Secretary a complete roll of membership from the organization of the lodge, including all dates of conferring degrees, admissions to membership, dismissions, suspensions, expulsions, re-instatements, deaths, and as far as possible the lodges from which the Brethren came and with which they affiliated."

If the first paragraph of the third resolution means that a Grand Lodge cannot divide its territory, and, upon proper proceedings, have two Grand Lodges in the same State, each with exclusive jurisdiction in its own territory, we do not assent to it; indeed, we think the time will come when the Grand Lodges in some of our larger States will become so immense that necessity will compel them to divide. We, therefore, regret that (if such is the meaning of the resolution) a doctrine, which would prevent such a division of a Grand Lodge, should be asserted before the occasion for considering it has arrived.

From the last resolution our lodges may obtain a hint as to what should be included in their history.

At the Semi-annual session, a report adverse to the recognition of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario was adopted; also a report recommending no action at present towards adopting the Massachusetts "Trial Commissioners" system.

At the session for exemplifying the work the several degrees were conferred on a son of the Grand Master, who, as well as the candidate's grandfather, assisted in the work. Each degree was conferred by a different lodge, and the lectures were passed by the respective Senior and Junior Deacons.

At the Annual Communication, all the thirty-one lodges were represented. The Grand Secretary reports that he has 150 volumes ready to be bound for the Grand Lodge Library; that four lodges have procured nearly complete files of the Proceedings since 1852, a thing of much importance, he thinks [as we do, and we add it is more important to re-publish the early proceedings, so that the lodges can have a full file, especially as every year increases the danger of losing the records, and with their loss all chance of preserving their contents]; and that twenty-three of the lodges had made the returns ordered in the resolution above copied.

At a former session a new trial was ordered in a case, if the lodge should deem the matter of sufficient importance to order a new trial; the lodge proceeded with the trial without objection, but the accused, being convicted, appealed on the ground that the lodge had no jurisdiction because it did not formally order a new trial; the committee were in much doubt as to the legality of the trial, but finally decided that, as the Master ordered the trial, and

as during the recess he is the lodge, the trial was legal. It appears to us, that the lodge, by actually proceeding to the trial, sufficiently *ordered* one.

Several lodges having dropped from their rolls the names of members from whom they had not heard for some years, the Grand Lodge ordered that the names be restored, holding names could be struck from the rolls only in case of death, dimission or expulsion, and recommended that a system of dues be adopted, so that names could be erased from the roll by deprivation of membership for non-payment of dues. We believe that heretofore, at least for many years, dues have not been required in any of the Rhode Island lodges.

BRO. HENRY W. RUGG, for the Committee on Correspondence, made a brief report, chiefly in reference to the Grand Lodge of Cuba, which, on his recommendation, was recognized. Our distinguished Brother was led into several errors, in matters of fact, otherwise we believe he would have reached the opposite conclusion.

The address of the Grand Master (NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK) is brief, and chiefly devoted to matters of local interest only.

He recommended strongly the reprint of the Proceedings from the organization to 1860, as no complete set was known to be in existence; and the Grand Lodge ordered that a committee be appointed to ascertain and report the cost of such a reprint.

The District Deputies make full reports, showing the prevalence of harmony and a degree of prosperity exceeding that in almost any other jurisdiction.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1877.

One hundred and fifty-eight lodges represented: no charters granted.

The matter of most interest in the able address of the Grand Master (WILMOT G. DESAUSSEURE), is a discussion of the historic question to which we alluded last year. The centennial celebration, then provided for, was not held, chiefly because the Grand Orator (Past Grand Master BLAKE) came to the conclusion that the Grand Lodge had no centennial as yet to celebrate. Admitting that the Provincial Grand Lodge declared its independence in 1777, he held that 1877 was not the centennial year of the present Grand Lodge, because it was not formed till 1817 by a union of two Grand Lodges previously existing. We think this point not well taken. The whole includes all its parts, and, although the present Grand Lodge was formed by the union of two Grand Lodges, it includes them both and may well celebrate any event in the history of either. But his further objection, that while the Provincial Grand Lodge declared itself independent in 1777, *it afterwards rescinded that action*, is valid. It is true that the Grand Lodge might celebrate the centennial of the event which happened in 1777, but still it could not celebrate it as the origin of the present Grand Lodge. We are fully satisfied that an independent Grand Lodge was formed in 1782 or 1783; that another

was formed in 1787; that the two united in 1808; that immediately a number of lodges seceded and formed another Grand Lodge; and that these two finally united in 1817, and hence that the present Grand Lodge dates from 1782 or 1783.

The views of Bro. BLAKE are given in the Proceedings, and they, as well as those of the Grand Master, are exceedingly interesting.

The Grand Lodge reversed a decision of a Deputy, that a member in debt to a lodge for money borrowed is not entitled to a dimit until he pays the debt as well as arrears for dues, holding that if a lodge lends money to a member it must rely on the same remedies for its collection as if he was not a member.

It also reversed the ruling of the Grand Master, made last year, that a resident of another State cannot legally hold office in a South Carolina lodge.

Among the decisions approved are the following:

1. A member is dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues, pays his dues, petitions for membership and is rejected: he is not entitled to have the amount paid refunded to him.

2. During the time he stands "dropped from the rolls," he is not liable for dues: and if he pays dues for such time, he is entitled to have the amount refunded.

3. A Brother, who is a member of more than one lodge, loses his rights in all by suspension in one for unmasonic conduct.

The Digest of the Decisions of the Grand Lodge, to which we referred last year, was approved by the Grand Lodge and is published with the Proceedings.

The Report on Correspondence (96 pp.) was presented by Bro. CHARLES INGLESBY, Grand Secretary, who is maintaining the high reputation acquired by his Grand Lodge from the reports of Bros. MACKAY and BRUNS.

He says that the "doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction" prevails in his State, and he thinks it is a pity that it does not prevail everywhere.

One Grand Master having expressed his astonishment at finding "slang phrases" "in the reports of Grand Secretaries," Bro. L. wonders "whether he found them in the reports of Grand Secretaries or in the Reports on Correspondence." Perhaps in the latter—*made by Grand Secretaries!* Seriously, that Grand Master *must* have meant the Reports on Correspondence.

In his review of Maine (1877), he says Grand Master MOORE's address is "a most admirable history of his acts during the year"; and that Bro. MOORE's views in relation to Masonic Life Insurance Associations are eminently wise and prudent.

He concurs in our views as to the danger to the institution arising from the tendency to allow Grand Lodge and lodge organizations to supplant individual action, having before expressed similar views himself; also in our views as to the duties of affiliates towards non-affiliates.

He still insists that when a member of a lodge thinks he has accidentally cast a black-ball by mistake, he has the right, and it is his duty, to so declare, and that after the result has been declared, and at a subsequent meeting, the ballot may be taken anew to correct the mistake. He says it is not similar

to the case of a trial, a mistake which he admits cannot be corrected after the trial is closed; but he says in that case there is a remedy by appeal; so in the other case there is a remedy by filing, at the proper time, a new application.

Bro. I. assumes what he has no right to assume—that it can be *absolutely* known that a mistake was made, and it is upon this point that we hold that the same principle, applied in cases of trial, should be applied.

It is claimed by one member that a mistake has been made; another member doubts it; *who shall settle the question* whether one *has* been made? Shall the Master take the opinion of the member who *thinks* (for he cannot *know*) that he has made a mistake? If not, shall he hear evidence on the point, by requiring all who balloted to disclose *how* they balloted? We think if our Brother will consider this matter more fully, he will conclude with us, that it is far better to wait to have the question settled on a new application, than to incur the danger of setting aside the effect of a black-ball intentionally cast.

We also think that he will agree that the mere *belief* of a member that he cast a black-ball, will not justify him in saying so: for if it turns out that his belief is erroneous, he has disclosed what he has no right to disclose. We use the term *belief*, because in such a case he cannot have *actual knowledge*, but only a *belief* or *conviction* founded on evidence presented to his mind, after the occurrence has taken place.

It seems his Grand Lodge has a special law as to the effect of objection after ballot, not in consonance with the law in most jurisdictions: we will not discuss it, for we have no doubt he will agree to Grand Master Moore's decision, when he knows that the decision was *restrictive*—that is, that such an objection is not indefinite in its operation, and has no more effect than a rejection by ballot.

TEXAS, 1877.

The representatives of 145 lodges responded at the call of the roll at the opening of the Grand Lodge, but the report of the committee, made at the evening session, shows that 200 were represented: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized: eleven charters granted, four restored and ten revoked, and six dispensations continued; subsequently three of the revoked charters restored.

The Grand Master (MARCUS F. MOTT) gives a detailed account of the official action of himself and of the District Deputies; the great extent of the jurisdiction, the large number of lodges and the Grand Master's zeal in the prompt discharge of his duties made those duties exceedingly onerous, and we can only wonder that the Grand Master found time for their performance in so able a manner. It is impossible to give, in the space at our command, even a summary of his acts.

He presented to the Grand Lodge the record of the first masonic convention ever held in Texas, a copy of which is given in his address :

"At a meeting of Ancient York Masons, held in the town of San Felipe de Austin, on the 11th day of February, 1828, for the purpose of taking into consideration the expediency of petitioning the Grand York Lodge of Mexico for granting a charter, or dispensation for organizing a subordinate lodge at this place, the following Brethren were present: Bros. H. H. League, Stephen F. Austin, Ira Ingram, Eli Mitchell, Joseph White, G. B. Hall and Thos. M. Duke.

"On motion of Bro. Ira Ingram, and seconded, Bro. H. H. League was appointed Chairman, and Thos. M. Duke Secretary.

"On motion of Bro. Stephen F. Austin, and seconded, it was unanimously agreed that we petition to the Grand York Lodge of Mexico for a charter or dispensation to organize a lodge at this place, to be called the Lodge of Union.

"On balloting for officers of the lodge, the following Brothers were duly elected: Bro. S. F. Austin, Master; Bro. Ira Ingram, Senior Warden; and Bro. H. H. League, Junior Warden.

"(Signed), H. H. LEAGUE, *Chairman.*

"Attest: THOMAS M. DUKE, *Secretary.*"

He adds:

"There is something peculiarly touching and interesting in this record. Those noble men, standing upon the confines of civilization, seeking to establish an Empire in the almost untrodden wilds of Texas, and looking forward with prophetic ken to the time when the 'wilderness would blossom as a rose,' and 'tower'd cities and the busy hum of men' usurp the resort of the Indian and the home of the wild beast—seemed to feel that masonry was a necessary incident to the civilization of the Anglo-American. They sought to invoke its beneficent teachings and humanizing influences in aid of their grand undertaking. No higher tribute was ever paid to our Order. No nobler estimate of its wisdom and truth ever imprinted upon the records of time."

In this connection, we copy the following letter from Past Grand Master TUCKER; we much regret his illness, and trust that it was only of a temporary character.

"GALVESTON, December 10, 1877.

"M. W. BROTHER:—I have been very ill, and the effects thereof prevent my attendance at the present Annual Communication of our M. W. Grand Lodge, much to my regret. My ill health and domestic afflictions delayed my reporting to you in regard to my investigation of the state of Mexican Freemasonry. I have received much information in regard thereto in addition to what I possessed at the time you addressed me in that regard.

"There are regular Grand Lodges in several States, and in others subordinate lodges only. Its Freemasonry is as regular as Texas Freemasonry. I am too feeble physically to report in detail at this time. I can only add that in Mexico regular Freemasonry is in the hands of the better classes, and of men whom any Freemason should be pleased to hail as Brethren.

"Please, sir, to inform the M. W. Grand Lodge of the cause of my non-attendance, and tender to its members and accept for yourself my fraternal salutations.

"Respectfully and fraternally yours,

"PHILIP C. TUCKER, *Past Grand Master.*"

Nothing is known of masonry in Mexico, and we trust our Texas Brethren will not relinquish their efforts until a full fraternal interchange of communications is secured.

Bro. J. C. BRADEN, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota, having died in Texas, the fraternity at San Antonio accompanied his remains to the train,

and sent one of the number with the widow and children to Chicago, where they were met by a committee from Minnesota: on arriving at Houston, Houston Lodge placed the body in their hall until the next day, when the lodge, escorted by Ruthven Commandery, carried it to the northern-bound train.

The recent action of the Grand Orient of France was discussed, and the following resolution in relation thereto was adopted without dissent:

"Resolved, That the Grand Orient of France, in abolishing from the foundation of its Constitution the assertion of the existence of God and the immortality of the soul, and so opening its doors to atheism, has made a fundamental change in its character, and we can no longer recognize it as a part of the masonic body."

Subsequently the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Texas considers the position heretofore assumed by her in reference to the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and the divine authenticity of the Sacred Scriptures, with the explanation contained in Resolution 95, adopted June, A. L. 5857, as of the most vital importance to Freemasonry."

In regard to one subject, now quite generally discussed, the Grand Lodge decided:

"It has been decided by this Grand Lodge on several occasions that a lodge cannot demand and enforce the repayment of expenses incurred in burying deceased Brothers belonging to other lodges.

"It is the duty of every Lodge of Masons to see that Brothers dying in their jurisdiction have a decent burial, and for repayment of their expenses they can only rely upon that sense of equity and right which ought to govern every lodge."

A "Lodge of Sorrow," in memory of the Brethren who had died during the year, was held by the Grand Lodge, but the services are not given in the Proceedings.

After mature consideration, the following mode of disseminating "the work" was adopted:

"There shall be elected at this Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge two Grand Lecturers, who shall hold their office during the pleasure of the Grand Lodge. They shall be in attendance at the Masonic Temple, in the city of Houston, at least one week before the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and remain there one week after its close, instructing all Brethren who may present themselves during such period for the purpose of learning the Work and lectures. They shall also recite the Work before the Grand Lodge whenever required. They shall, under the immediate supervision and direction of the Committee on Work, devote the remainder of their time to visiting the lodges under this jurisdiction, and imparting the Work and lectures as adopted by this Grand Lodge. At each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge they shall make a detailed report, embodying their acts for the preceding year. It shall be the duty of each Worshipful Master or presiding Warden to convene their lodges at such time as may be designated by the Grand Lecturers for the purpose of receiving instruction in the Work and lectures. The said Grand Lecturers shall receive for their services the sum of two thousand dollars per annum."

The Committee on Jurisprudence, in an able report, came to the conclusion that "permanent appointments to fill vacancies in lodge offices" cannot be made, and their report was adopted. We have usually understood that a

pro tem. appointment in such cases was for an indefinite time, but ceased by the absence of the appointee, and the appointment of another; there certainly cannot be two *pro tem.* officers at the same time.

Bro. E. H. CUSHING presented another of his able Reports on Correspondence (74 pp.), though briefer than usual.

We have marked for discussion many more portions than we can find space for.

The following points are well taken :

"Great charitable institutions have been undertaken in some jurisdictions and are talked about in others. We refer to the discussion of this subject copied from the Proceedings of Mississippi. Our opinion, unfavorable to such institutions, as heretofore expressed, is strengthened by experience of others. We cannot have a Masonic College, or a Masonic Orphans' Asylum, or a Masonic Widows' Home without expending double the money necessary to secure education or care in institutions of a more general character. To create an adequate foundation for such an institution would require a most burdensome tax, and one that the masons of Texas will never submit to pay, especially if it appears to them that the promoters of such charities may possibly have a personal interest in their success."

* * * * *

"The lodge is not a mutual insurance society. If the Brother had been taken sick at home, the lodge was under no obligations to pay his expenses. No Brother has a definite claim on his lodge for such a disbursement. Where it is made as a charity, it should be under the definite pressure of a present and immediate want. The quality of masonic charity is such as it is not to be measured by a rule, and specified in quantity. Nor is it to be invested as a loan in relieving the misfortunes of the sojourner. What is given should be cheerfully given to relieve distress."

He advises against the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba. But he falls into one error. He supposes that the Grand Orient system is the system of the Scottish Rite and governed by its jurisprudence. This is an error; the system is as much in conflict with the jurisprudence of the Scottish Rite as with that of the York Rite. The Grand Orient system is like this: let the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery form an organization in which each of these Grand Bodies should be a section with exclusive power over its own degrees; let this organization adopt laws for its government in certain particulars; and we have a Grand Orient. In the case of Cuba, the Grand Lodge was no more subordinate to the Supreme Council than the Supreme Council was subordinate to the Grand Lodge; they are both "Sections" of the Grand Orient. The system was a French invention, and has since been adopted by other Latin nations: the Supreme Council of France, however, never joined it, and on that account there has been a feud between it and the Grand Orient.

He defends the sending of a case for a new trial to a lodge other than the one which first tried the case, on the ground that such a course is more likely to give a fair trial, and thus enable the Grand Lodge to form a just conclusion. Granted; but the same argument would apply to sending the case to another lodge for trial in the first place. Ordinarily, on the evidence sent up on the first trial, the Grand Lodge can form as just a conclusion as on that sent up

at the second trial. We have not said that the Grand Lodge should try the case in the first instance, but that when a case comes up on appeal, the Grand Lodge should generally decide the case finally.

He thinks that the charter of a lodge is not so much an evidence of the creation of a lodge, as of its subordination to a certain Grand Lodge. This is precisely where we differ: we hold the charter of a lodge to be the proper evidence of the *creation and legal continued existence* of a lodge; and unless charters in Texas are much different from those in Maine, we marvel that our Brother, on reading one, can come to any other conclusion. He asks what evidence we have that the lodges in Maine, holding their original Massachusetts charters, are subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Maine: we reply, the fact that *they are in Maine*: the Grand Lodge of Maine, the moment it was formed, had exclusive jurisdiction over all lodges in Maine, and every lodge therein became subordinate to it, as much as the residents in Maine, the moment she was created a State, became subject to the laws of Maine. We said that a lodge cannot surrender a charter and receive a new one and remain the same lodge, in view of the law. Bro. C. says, hundreds of lodges have done so: we deny it: you may grant a charter to a set of men, who may go on as a lodge for years without being constituted, and yet they are not a legal masonic lodge.

For reasons included in what we have already written, we utterly dissent from his view that the Kansas Lodge in the Indian Territory has a right to remain subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Kansas as long as it sees fit. This doctrine is utterly subversive of the doctrine of exclusive *territorial* jurisdiction: it was first broached by the lamented Bro. GOULEY in the case of Quebec, and was very generally declared to be incorrect and inconsistent with our American Grand Lodge sovereignty.

UTAH, 1877.

The six lodges all represented: no charters granted: the Grand Lodges of Cuba and New Mexico recognized: the work exemplified.

The address of the Grand Master (JOSEPH M. ORR) is chiefly devoted to local matters: he gives quite a list of decisions he had been called upon to make: says a good word for the Grand Lodge Library: denounces the recent action of the Grand Orient of France as unmasonic: and congratulates his Brethren on the falling away of the Mormon power, so that their people are not compelled to obey the edict "Do as you are told and ask no questions." He says, also, that "no Latter-Day Saint is or can become a member of our Order in this jurisdiction."

The Grand Secretary makes his usual excellent report, and in it pays a beautiful tribute to the memory of Bros. JOHN DOVE and GEORGE FRANK GOULEY. His report as Grand Librarian shows a gratifying increase both in the masonic and miscellaneous departments.

The doctrine of "perpetual jurisdiction" was declared to be the law of the Grand Lodge.

The Report on Correspondence (47 pp.) was again presented by Bro. CHRIS. DIEHL, Grand Secretary. He had prepared one of the usual length, but as the Finance Committee allowed for only forty pages in their appropriation, he was obliged to re-write it. It is an excellent abstract, but on account of its brevity, we are without the comments and discussion which have been heretofore so valuable an element in Bro. D.'s reports.

VERMONT, 1877.

Eighty-six lodges represented: an amendment proposed to change "Grand Senior" and the similar titles to "Senior Grand:" the work exemplified: and the printing of the full list of members discontinued.

The address of the Grand Master (HENRY H. SMITH) contains much of interest to Vermont masons: he decided that the P. M. degree is not so essential that a Master must receive it before he can enter upon the duties of his office; in his discussion, he says he understands that it originated in America since 1790; that may be true as to the present ritual, but long before, there was a ceremony attendant upon "passing the chair."

His remarks upon "Non-affiliation," "Condition of Masonry," and "District Deputies," and his "Closing Words," are well worthy of the careful consideration of the craft, but are too long to be copied.

A proposition to require a fee of one dollar for a dimit was voted down.

Past Grand Master PARK DAVIS was received with the Grand Honors, and welcomed as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine, near the Grand Lodge of Vermont.

The Grand Lodge overruled the decision of the Grand Master in reference to the P. M. degree, holding that a Master cannot be duly installed without receiving that degree. We do not fully agree with either. We hold that when a Master has been declared, by competent authority, duly installed, the inquiry is not open, whether he has been fully instructed: and we hold further that the P. M. degree is a part of the installation, but which may be supplied at a subsequent time. It is the duty of a retiring Master to install his successor; but as *one* cannot confer this degree, it follows that it may be conferred afterwards; this view is sustained by the ritual of the degree, which we cannot discuss here.

Bro. GEORGE F. KOON, from the Committee on reprinting the old Proceedings, made a most valuable and interesting report, and he highly deserves the gratitude of Vermont Masons for his indefatigable labors and irrepressible zeal in collecting materials for the history of Vermont Masonry.

We learn from this report that the Proceedings, prior to 1806, were never printed; that he has the only copy of these for 1807, known to exist; that but

two copies of those for 1806 exist, of which he has one and the Chairman of your Committee the other, received from Bro. Koon; that the records of the G. Lodge, prior to 1847, are missing [but we are very glad to learn that since the report was made, Bro. Koon has succeeded in finding them]; that at his instance, on account of the lack of the early records, the committee had not proceeded with the reprint; that he deems it advisable that the history of masonry in that State, prior to the organization of the Grand Lodge, and sketches of the lives of the early masons, and a history of the anti-masonic excitement, should be included in the volume: the Grand Lodge concurred in his views and made an appropriation to cover the expense of procuring the data.

We learn from this report that the Grand Lodge of Vermont was formed October 14, 1794, by five lodges; one chartered in 1781 and another in 1785, by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge; one in 1791, by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada; and one in 1793 and another in 1794, by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

The Report on Correspondence (106 pp.) was again presented by Bro. HENRY CLARK, Grand Secretary. He first quotes what other Reporters say of Vermont and then reviews the Grand Lodges in the usual order. He fully maintains his reputation for preparing one of the best *résumés* of the Proceedings presented to any Grand Lodge.

We are quite startled at the following from his "Conclusion," and we hope it is not true, but that Bro. CLARK has mistaken tendencies to a change, still successfully resisted, for the change itself:

"Primitive masonry is fast fading. We regret this, but the transactions of the various Grand Lodges make it so patent a fact that we cannot disguise it if we would. Let the conservative old Grand Lodge of Vermont stand faithfully by the teachings of Chipman, Haswell, Tucker, and Englesby, and remain firm in the faith and according to the landmarks, and all will be well with us. Masonry is an institution that cannot be moved from its foundations, and, although the moorings may have been loosened, still, at least, the old doctrines and teachings must be adhered to, and all departures from the true faith will, at last, be reconciled, for the foundations are as everlasting as the granite of our mountains."

VIRGINIA, 1877.

We are very glad to find in these Proceedings an engraved portrait of the venerable and lamented Bro. JOHN DOVE. We are also pleased to see that the Grand Lodge took measures for the erection of a monument to his memory. It appropriated \$250 for the purpose, and authorized the issue of a circular to the lodges, requesting such voluntary contributions as the liberality of the members might bestow: the Grand Lodge rightly assumed that the masons of Virginia would not willingly be deprived of the privilege of contributing to pay this token of their regard to the memory of their venerated and beloved Grand Secretary.

One hundred and twenty-five lodges represented: six charters granted and one revoked, and one dispensation continued: one copy of the unbound reprint ordered to be forwarded to each lodge; and the Grand Master and Wardens requested to consider the expediency of celebrating the centennial of the Grand Lodge, and, if they deemed it expedient, to make suitable arrangements therefor.

The Grand Master (RICHARD PARKER) reports the general prevalence of peace and harmony, and of a fair degree of prosperity, and thinks that they have not lost ground in numerical strength.

In one lodge, composed of both Christians and Jews, a member had publicly and seriously declared that no Jew should be admitted a member of it, and on the other hand threats of retaliation were made. The Grand Master caused the Brother to be notified that, unless he abandoned his intention and heartily conformed his conduct to what masonry requires, he would be disciplined; and he caused a sharp rebuke to be administered to those who had threatened to retaliate.

Among his decisions, confirmed by the Grand Lodge, are the following:

"Also, where a Brother lived at a very considerable distance from his lodge, though within this jurisdiction, and in his absence was tried and sentenced to be reprimanded, but was unable from poverty to pay the expenses of traveling to the lodge, he might be notified of the sentence by a letter addressed to him at his proper post-office, and that at a Regular Communication to be named, the sentence would be executed; and at that time (unless good cause be shown to the contrary), the Worshipful Master should pronounce the reprimand, and order the Secretary to inform the Brother that such reprimand had been administered.

"Also, that where a Brother, against whom there are no charges, has paid or tendered his entire dues, he is entitled to his dimit from his lodge. It cannot be withheld because he declines to pay the expenses of refreshments furnished in his absence, and without his consent, and charged to him in pursuance of a by-law passed after he had left the State. His right overrides, and is superior to, that claimed by the lodge. He being in good standing, the by-law cannot restrict his right to withdraw upon payment of all his dues.

"Also, that although a candidate has been duly elected, the objection of a member of the lodge will arrest the proceedings, and prevent his being initiated. If, however, such objection is made by a mason, not a member of that particular household, the Master should also decline to proceed, if he regards the information made to him as reliable. In this latter case, the matter is open to investigation and explanation; whilst a member's objection is an absolute bar to the candidate's admission, even though he should decline to assign his reasons for such objection."

BRO. PERRY JOHNSON, for almost forty years the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, made a report, and presented documents from that Grand Lodge.

The Committee to revise the Text Book reported, and their report was accepted: the book has been issued, and it is an honor to the compiler; the use of the copy-right was tendered to the Grand Lodge of West Virginia; and a standing regulation was adopted that all proposed amendments shall hereafter be presented in the form in which the entire section would stand when amended; a capital idea, that should be adopted in every legislative body.

A District Deputy decided that where a Secretary embezzled the funds of the lodge, and it accepted a part in full satisfaction of the amount due, the defaulter could not be disciplined; but the Grand Lodge properly reversed the decision.

It was also decided that while discipline in a Chapter has no effect in a lodge, one who has embezzled its funds may be tried by the lodge for such embezzlement. We add that *any* embezzlement of a criminal nature is a masonic offense.

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, in considering the report of the new Grand Secretary (WILLIAM B. ISAACS), speak in high terms of the manner in which the duties of the office had been performed, especially of his retaining copies of all his correspondence and preserving the originals of all reports, and they commend the new form of blanks for returns prepared by him.

The reports of the District Deputies are examined by a committee and specifically reported upon—a plan we commended last year.

A Report on Correspondence (64 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM F. DRINKARD. We are very happy to welcome him to the "corps," as he supplies a want that has existed several years in his Grand Lodge Proceedings. His report is, in general, a brief *résumé* of the Proceedings, but he frequently gives his own views. They are generally sound, and are supported in a manner highly creditable to his ability, while his style is concise and clear, all making his report decidedly interesting. We hope for his long association with "the Mutuals."

In his review of the District of Columbia, he says:

"Bro. Singleton discusses with some feeling the right of a lodge to try masons who reside within its jurisdiction but are members of lodges elsewhere. This question also is settled in Virginia by express law. Here we try any mason residing within the jurisdiction of a lodge, no matter where he belongs, or whether he is affiliated or non-affiliated. And rightly; for it would be next to impossible for a lodge in Maine to try a Brother residing in Virginia for unmasonic conduct. If the testimony or specifications were such as it is improper to commit to paper, the offender would either go unpunished or else some innocent person or some lodge would have to expend hundreds of dollars in the effort to bring the accused to justice. The universality of masonry and masonic teachings is a guarantee that a trial would be as fair in Maine as in Virginia; and the right of every man to be tried by a jury of the vicinage (where the offense was committed) is a full justification of the Virginia law. This law in no way conflicts, as Bro. Singleton seems to suppose, with the doctrine of Bro. Drummond, of Maine, that 'a lodge has jurisdiction over its members wherever they may be.' The lodge in Maine and the lodge in Virginia have concurrent jurisdiction; and a Virginia lodge would gladly allow the offender to be tried by the lodge in which he holds his membership; but it will assume jurisdiction itself if necessary. 'The stranger within their gates' the Jews were commanded to keep the Sabbath day holy. So masons in Virginia see that the Brethren within their masonic gates live up to the requirements of the craft.

"Bro. Singleton asks whether a Grand Master, who is a member of Congress, could be tried by a lodge in the District of Columbia during his sojourn there? We reply, No, nor by any lodge or Grand Lodge until his term of office as Grand Master expired. Bro. Singleton says his Grand Mas-

ter is only 'Grand Master of the masons of the District of Columbia.' Our Grand Master is Grand Master of all 'the masons in Virginia.' But the Virginia law must be administered righteously and wisely. A Brother merely passing through the State, or attending a legislative or other body within it, is not likely to commit a masonic offense. If he does, and his own lodge does not claim and exercise the right to try him, he ought certainly to be tried by the Brethren who know that he committed the offense.

"Bro. Singleton holds that a Grand Lodge is a court of review, not one that has original jurisdiction of masonic offenses, and argues that as the Grand Lodge cannot restore to membership in a subordinate lodge a person expelled, though it may restore him to the rights and benefits of masonry, so it cannot deprive a lodge of a member without its consent. This opinion and this argument seem strange to us. Our law expressly gives the Grand Lodge *exclusive* jurisdiction over all Masters and Past Masters who do not choose to waive their privilege as such and put themselves on an equality with their Brethren in the subordinate lodge. So the Virginia Grand Lodge has original jurisdiction, and also expels whom it will of its own members, though it will not expel a mason not a member of the Grand Lodge, unless his case comes up on appeal."

In Virginia, contrary to the rule in most jurisdictions, a Past Master cannot be tried by his lodge, but only by the Grand Lodge. He gives strong arguments for this law, which, however, we cannot stop to quote. The doctrine is that one should be tried only by his peers, and the reason for this is, that a Master cannot rule his lodge as he ought, if he is liable to be tried by his lodge as soon as he is out of office. This reason does not apply to our rule, that a Master cannot be tried by his lodge for *any* offense, while he is Master, nor for any *official* act, after he ceases to be Master. The Grand Lodge has *exclusive* jurisdiction of all acts and omissions done or suffered in his capacity of Master.

To his proposition, that a Grand Master cannot be tried in another jurisdiction for an offense committed there, we hesitate to assent. Are not a Grand Master's powers and prerogatives limited to his own State? Is he a Grand Master when he is out of his State? If we compare him with a civil officer, he is not. A Governor of one State is just as amenable for an offense committed in another State as any other person. The fact is, the case is scarcely supposable, and, therefore, whichever way it is decided, it is no test of the correctness of the original argument.

He objects to the law of "perpetual jurisdiction," as follows:

"A lodge which initiates a candidate thereby acquires over him a jurisdiction which cannot be ousted until he becomes a Master Mason; but a lodge rejecting an applicant acquires no jurisdiction over him. He is absolutely free, except that he cannot apply to the same lodge in violation of its rules, nor to another lodge in the same Grand Jurisdiction in violation of the Grand Lodge's regulations. If he removes to another Grand Jurisdiction and resides therein long enough to entitle him to present a petition for initiation under the regulations of such Grand Jurisdiction, he is free to do so. It is his right; and it is his duty, if he desires so to do. The initiate is, so to speak, a married man, and bound by 'indissoluble ties' to the lodge that made him an Entered Apprentice, whilst the rejected petitioner is a discarded lover and free to find a help-meet wherever he may reside."

Can another lodge take the accepted candidate of another lodge? Or, to

adopt his idea, is an *accepted* lover free to go anywhere, or is he bound as fully as if he was married?

He also says:

"Brother McLallen fails to 'see any great good' in, and considers of 'questionable propriety,' the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Oregon giving any member of a subordinate lodge in that Grand Jurisdiction the right to ballot on the petition of any person for the degrees of masonry, and to object to the advancement of any Brother whenever and wherever in that jurisdiction he may feel it his duty to do so. We predict that this resolution will be repealed ere long. It seems to be nothing new, but to be rather the mere recognition of a masonic right; yet when a general black-baller (such men are found everywhere) begins to walk his rounds to avenge the rejection of an unworthy friend of his proposing, the Grand Lodge of Oregon will be compelled to take the back track."

If it is the "recognition of a masonic right," what business has a lodge to take it away on account of the vague fear that somebody will abuse it? But, so far as we have seen, *all* arguments against it are based on *policy* merely, and the *fear* that we shall not get initiates enough!

He says further:

"Brother Todd protests that a Grand Master ought not to have the right to make masons at sight. We had supposed that this was one of his prerogatives. If so, it is a landmark. But in what does this prerogative consist? It can't be to make masons of deformed men, or cripples, or minors. What, then? It must be merely the right to judge for himself as to moral and physical qualifications, and to dispense with masonic proficiency and the lapse of a specified time. In a word, he acts himself instead of granting a dispensation; but he must act in a regular lodge. If he abuses his prerogative, he would, like a Roman Dictator, be punishable after his term of office should expire. What says Brother Drummond, of Maine?"

We have no doubt that it was anciently the prerogative of the Grand Master "to make masons at sight," and that, too, without calling any Brethren to his assistance. We so understand the usage. But the tendency now is to deny all this, and to hold that the Grand Master is a mere constitutional officer and has no powers save those granted to him. Some, indeed, hold that he is governed only by the landmarks, and may "dispense with" any constitutional provision or any general regulation. Masonic opinion varies between these two extremes. In Rhode Island, the latter doctrine prevails; in Missouri, the former.

He devotes nearly five pages to Maine.

He notices our law that a District Deputy cannot be Master of a lodge, and doubts the propriety of it. The reason is, that the Deputy's own lodge, as well as others, is under his supervision, and his duties as Deputy and as Master are conflicting.

While commending some of our General Regulations as worthy of universal adoption, he objects to the one which requires a visitor, unless vouched for, to produce written evidence that the lodge in which he was made was a regular lodge. This regulation has compelled lodges to turn away Brethren desiring to visit, and as the occasion for our enacting it (the existence of a

spurious lodge in Boston) has passed away, we are of the opinion that it should be repealed.

He further says:

"We have so high a respect for Bro. Drummond's opinions that we shall at once ask him to tell us why in his State the honorable titles of the Grand Officers are cheated of their due sonorousness by being recorded, and of course enunciated, wrong and foremost. Our late revered Brother, Grand Secretary Dove, always wrote those titles as they appear in our Grand Lodge Proceedings—namely, with the word which described the lodge first. He did not commence with 'Junior' or 'Senior'—for these are subordinate lodge titles—but with 'Grand.' Such is the teaching of our venerable Grand Lecturer, now seventy-seven years old. Such, our records intimate, was the teaching of the great Edmund Randolph, of Chief Justice Marshall, and of the learned Blair, President of William and Mary College a hundred years ago. Such is the usage now of many of the Grand Lodges. To the title used in the subordinate lodge the 'Grand' should in every instance be prefixed. Let Brother Drummond get a Brother with a voice *totus, teres, atque rotundus* to utter these titles as we have said they ought to be uttered, and then utter them as they are written in Maine, and he will soon perceive the difference. The West is occupied, not by a Senior Grand Warden, but by the Grand Senior Warden. The South is filled, not by a Warden who is really younger, either in years or in office, than the one in the West, but by a technical Junior Warden. The two words might be written together, German fashion, when preceded by the word 'Grand.' But why Deputy Grand Master or Deputy Grand Secretary? Because *exceptio probat regulam*. The exception proves that there is a rule, (it does not prove the rule itself to be true). There is no Deputy Master in the subordinate lodges, and so no such title to which the word 'Grand' can properly be prefixed. More, the 'Deputy Grand Master' means Deputy for the Grand Master; Deputy Grand Secretary (if there is one), Deputy for the Grand Secretary. 'Deputy' is always thus employed. But 'Junior Grand Warden' does not mean 'Junior' for the Grand Warden. Oh! no, Bro. Drummond. Let your herald say Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Marshal, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Tyler, Grand Senior Warden and Grand Junior Warden. Don't spoil the list by depriving the Wardens of the resounding prefix 'Grand.'"

We admit the force of his criticism: but our form is based on the usage of our Grand Lodge from its organization, and of our Mother Grand Lodge for more than one hundred years, and on Anderson's Constitutions, in the original edition of which the term is printed Senior Grand-Warden, the latter being a compound word.

He says further:

"Bro. Drummond thinks the correct rule is, that a member, free of the books and not under charges, is entitled to a *discharge from membership* whenever he calls for it, but can have a *recommendation* only by vote of the lodge. Such is the custom in Virginia; and we have seen no reason for desiring to change it."

In reference to the Grand Lodge of Cuba, he says we reached the same conclusion that he did on a similar committee, and that Maine and Virginia are in accord upon this question. We are more confident than ever that our sister Grand Lodges which have granted recognition have made a mistake, being misled by want of information as to the whole facts.

WASHINGTON, 1877.

Nineteen of the twenty lodges represented: two charters granted: the resolution, restricting the Report on Correspondence, repealed: and a resolution adopted to print the Constitution, &c., with the Proceedings, and furnish a copy to every Master Mason in the Territory.

The address of the Grand Master (PLATT A. PRESTON) is a business-like presentation of the matters requiring the attention of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Cuba was recognized upon a report by Bro. T. M. REED: it was based upon erroneous information; we refer him to our review under the head of Cuba, and should be pleased to have him answer the questions.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That all persons claiming to be Master Masons hailing from any lodge not within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge and having no proper personal avouchment, applying for visitation to any of the lodges in this jurisdiction, or who may desire to obtain pecuniary or other assistance from any lodge, shall, before they be allowed to visit such lodge, or before such pecuniary or other assistance be granted to them, be required to produce and exhibit a properly attested diploma, certificate or other satisfactory documentary evidence of their masonic standing at the time of making such visit, or applying for such relief.

And, in order that the Brethren of this jurisdiction may act in conformity with the spirit of this resolution, we do earnestly recommend all Brethren of this jurisdiction to obtain diplomas and to have the same with them when traveling beyond the limits of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction be, and they are hereby, required to furnish each candidate raised to the Third degree of masonry, a Master Mason's diploma, the cost of which shall be included in the initiation fee.

This seems to be similar to our own regulation which has occasioned so much comment.

Bro. T. M. REED presented a partial Report on Correspondence (40 pp.)—*partial*, on account of the resolution, which was repealed, and illness in Bro. REED's family. Maine had been received, but is not among those reviewed; but he promises to complete the report and add it to the next one.

He says:

"We believe that any law or 'ruling' assuming to be masonic and denying a worthy Brother Master Mason the sacred rite of masonic burial is *bad*. While this privilege is solely within the province of a lodge to extend or withhold, it should never be refused the *worthy mason*, be he affiliate or non-affiliate; for many of the latter we know to be worthy. A mason's worth is measured by his acts, and determined by his Brothers. His masonic rights and privileges, though subject to judgment and forfeiture, are co-existent with good behavior."

"We glory in the citizen's privilege of celebrating our country's natal day; but this is a *civic*, and not a *masonic* act. If, by organic law, lodges are prohibited from appearing in public processions, except by authority of the Grand Master, then, for such a privilege, a dispensation is proper enough, the Grand Master's duty is plainly marked out when the privilege sought is for masonic purposes. The official powers and duties of a Grand Master relate to masonic and not to civil authority. Therefore, we submit: Can a Grand

Master of masons, whose every official act must be a *masonic* act, grant a dispensation for any purpose not germane to masonry? In addition to this, even should there be no law to contravene, and no act performed inconsistent with the teachings and principles of masonry, we doubt the propriety and good sense of lodges appearing in public except the occasion is strictly masonic. The dedication of halls, laying of corner stones of public edifices, etc., have by long established custom and usage become masonic acts, and except otherwise specially ordered, are controlled by the Grand Master's authority."

For reasons given in former reports, we do not agree with him, and he will find that ancient usage justifies processions to pay honor to the civil magistrate, and to celebrate national holidays, as much as it does the acts he enumerates.

We agree in the following:

"We dissent from the position here assumed, by the committee, that any mason can *demand* masonic burial. We have yet to learn that masonic law recognizes the 'right to demand' it. It is a *privileged* ceremonial, which a lodge can grant or refuse at its option. Lodges are not apt to refuse this sacred and honored privilege to Brethren, unjustly. It is too often the case that these ceremonies are made *farical* in the extreme, either by those who lead in their exercise, or by the subjects that called them forth. But it matters not so far as a Brother's right to *demand* is concerned, what his 'standing' in the lodge may be, the principle, that it is a lodge privilege and *not an obligation*, remains the same."

WEST VIRGINIA, 1877.

Seventy-one of the seventy-six lodges represented: no charters granted: Greenbrier Lodge, heretofore working under the Grand Lodge of Virginia, gave in its adhesion, and was authorized to consolidate with another West Virginia Lodge.

The Grand Master (GEORGE W. ATKINSON) gives a brief account of his official acts, submits some excellent "general reflections upon the principles and tenets of our Order," and adds a list of his most important decisions.

The reports of most of the District Deputies are full, and show that those officers have faithfully discharged their duties: the manner in which they have performed those duties makes the system a success.

The Grand Secretary reported that the number of Proceedings, from 1873 to 1876, which he proposed to bind as a volume was not sufficient to give each lodge a copy; he was directed to collect as many from the lodges as he could, and then distribute the volumes to the lodges as far as they will go, commencing with the youngest lodge.

He also recommended a report of the Proceedings, from the organization to 1877, inclusive, 1,200 copies; but the Grand Lodge made an appropriation for printing and binding 300 copies "of the *material* part of the proceedings." In this we think there are two errors: the number to be printed is too small in view of the fact that the cost of additional copies would be merely nominal, and instead of leaving out any part of the proceedings, everything hereto-

fore omitted should be included, as the real value of such a work consists in its containing a complete history of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge.

The following decision was made by the Grand Lodge :

"In regard to the question raised in relation to Bro. Saint, who lost an arm during his term of office as W. M., and who was afterwards elected S. W. of his lodge, your committee would say, that his right to accept any office to which he may be elected cannot be abridged; and while your committee questions the expediency of electing a Brother thus maimed to either of the three stationed offices, he may serve in the same, but in the work of conferring degrees some Brother physically competent, where necessary, should be called upon to perform that part of the work where two arms and hands are necessary."

Measures were taken for the publication of a Text Book, as, in consequence of the adoption of a new Constitution, the Virginia Text Book, except so far as it relates to the work, is not now applicable.

Bro. O. S. LONG presented a very brief Report on Correspondence. He advises further investigation before recognizing either of the Grand Lodges in Cuba. But he devotes most of his report to the same extracts we made, under Nebraska, in relation to re-imbursement of aid furnished to strangers by lodges. In conclusion, he copies the following from the "*Voice of Masonry*," which seems to us to "hit the nail on the head":

"Charity is not to be measured by lodge membership nor lodge bounds; hence, in every case where re-imbursement for expenses so to be incurred is desired, the lodge to which the Brother, afflicted or deceased, belongs, should be notified and its consent obtained. It certainly is not equitable for one lodge to create debts for another without its consent. The facilities afforded by the mails and by the telegraph make it possible, almost invariably, to notify a lodge and request its authority before incurring such expenses, and we respectfully assert that it is the only truly fraternal course to pursue, and when it is neglected or impossible, that whatever is done should be under the banner and in the name of universal brotherhood and fraternity."

WISCONSIN, 1877.

Representation, 167 out of 188 lodges: three charters granted, and one dispensation continued: the work exemplified: recognition refused to the "Grand Lodge of Ontario," and action in reference to the Grand Lodge of Cuba postponed: the Constitution, Digest of Decisions and Standing Regulations published with the Proceedings; [when this is done, an edition should also be published separately from the Proceedings, as the cost of additional copies is merely nominal, and they are more convenient and more likely to be consulted when published by themselves.]

The address of the Grand Master (JEDD. P. C. COTTRILL) is quite brief. He says:

"I have also granted two dispensations to allow the lodges therein named to participate in public festivals; in another case to allow a lodge to participate in regalia in the ceremonies of Decoration Day, on May 30th."

* * * * *

"I regret to say that the project to build this mausoleum [to Washington]

has failed of progress thus far. I have received but a few letters from the Grand Masters of the different Grand Lodges giving encouragement to it, and the chief one from the Grand Master of Texas. I think the idea should not be abandoned, but that the matter, as was done last year, be again committed to the Grand Master elect."

But the Grand Lodge indefinitely postponed further consideration of the matter.

In regard to the "Reprint of Proceedings," he says:

"The Committee upon Expenses recommended last year that this subject be deferred till this year. I again recommend the matter earnestly to the Grand Lodge. The Proceedings for the years 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1854, 1858, 1859, 1861, 1862, 1863, and 1869, are entirely exhausted, except two copies belonging to the Grand Lodge. Of course some copies of these Proceedings are in the hands of the Brethren; but there are none available in the office of the Grand Secretary for distribution. I recommend, therefore, that the Grand Secretary be directed to reprint in one volume the organization proceedings of 1843, with the Proceedings of 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849 and 1850, in paper covers, leaving the remainder to be reprinted hereafter; and leaving out all repetition of names of members, reports upon Correspondence, and documents not essentially necessary of preservation. And I further recommend the printing of four hundred copies of this reprint for the use of the Craft."

We regret that it was proposed to leave out matter deemed immaterial, as the value of a reprint, as we have before observed, depends upon its completeness. Our regret, however, is not lasting, as the Grand Lodge laid the whole matter on the table, "on account of the stringency of the times;" and yet over *one hundred pages* of the Proceedings are devoted to printing the returns—an utterly useless expenditure of an amount of money almost sufficient to have carried out the recommendation of the Grand Master!

There was no *annual* session in 1844: and there were two annual sessions in 1848, and none in 1851, on account of a change in the time from December to January, and back again. The first pamphlet issued contains the proceedings at the organization and annual session in December, 1843, and of a "called" session in January, 1844.

The Grand Secretary calls attention to the necessity of care in making the returns, as frequent errors are made in writing names, and we are pleased to see that he insists that the whole of the first name must be written.

A decision of the Grand Master, that "Lodges have the power to charge affiliation fees, but I think they should be prohibited from doing so," was approved: but a decision that a wife may be a witness against her husband on a masonic trial was overruled, and we think rightly, unless it is one of those cases in which she has been allowed to testify by the civil law.

BRO. JOHN W. WOODHULL presented the Report on Correspondence (55 pp.), for which he was paid \$25.00, and then \$15.00 additional because he had made his report brief; from which, and the fact that the names of the members of all the lodges are printed, the inference is that the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin thinks the craft in that State prefer reading their names in print rather than the information contained in the excellent reports Bro. WOODHULL prepares.

In his "Conclusion," Bro. W. says:

"When we first commenced writing this report, our intention was to make it such an one as would be of value to the craft. We had prepared a digest of all the decisions on masonic law, arranged under proper headings, which we intended to publish as an appendix to our report proper. It was the result of much careful labor, and would no doubt have been of value for reference, but the very strong intimation received during the session of the Grand Lodge that a short report, not exceeding thirty-five pages, would be most acceptable to the Brethren, has induced your committee to change the manner of preparation of the report, and keep as near to the prescribed limits as possible.

"Some very valuable matter has been omitted from the report, and in many cases we have been obliged to forego remarks upon some of the most vital points of interest to the craft, for want of space to do justice to the opinions of all.

"We cannot call it a *report*—it is barely a skeleton, and not even well 'wired up' at that; but such as it is, Most Worshipful, we submit it, feeling assured that the Brethren of our own jurisdiction will excuse our shortcomings, and that the fraternity of other States will pardon the really unsatisfactory manner in which we have reviewed their Proceedings."

In spite, however, of the brevity of his report, he manages to get into it some very excellent ideas. We are not sure that his remedy for non-payment of dues is not the best one. He proposes that lodges shall require large initiation fees and small dues. He suggests that when a man joins he is usually able to pay liberally, while it often happens that in after years he is unable to pay dues. If initiation fees were high enough so that a sufficient sum might be funded to pay two dollars a year, the lodges in most places would not be obliged to require dues. This plan certainly deserves consideration, and we earnestly commend it to the attention of the craft.

He discusses the matter of masonic funerals, and lays down the following rules in relation thereto:

"1st. If it was known to be the wish of a deceased member that his lodge should bury him, it is the duty of the lodge to do so.

"2d. If the deceased member had not made his wishes known upon the subject, and his near relatives request his lodge to bury him, it is the duty of the lodge to do so.

"3d. If the deceased member had expressed a wish that any other organization should conduct his funeral, and that his lodge should attend as mourner, or his near relatives express such a wish after his death, in the absence of any expressed wish on his part, the lodge may accompany the procession as a mourner, provided the ceremony is conducted by some masonic organization, but not otherwise."

WYOMING, 1877.

The four lodges represented: one charter granted: the Grand Lodges of New Mexico and Cuba recognized.

The Grand Master (FREDERIC E. ADDOMS) delivered a business-like address devoted to matters of local interest.

He submits a report in relation to the Grand Lodge of Cuba, made by the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming, near the Grand Lodge of New York, upon the strength of which the former was recognized. He starts out with the fundamental error that "the Grand Orient of Colon was established by the Supreme Council, and the Grand Lodge of Colon became a branch

of the Supreme Council (!), owing allegiance to, and recognizing the mandates and decrees of the A. and A. Rite." Every part of this statement is erroneous. The Grand Orient was formed by the Grand Lodge as much as it was formed by the Supreme Council; and the Supreme Council became as much a branch of the Grand Lodge as the latter did a branch of the former; and as for the A. and A. Rite, the so-called Grand Lodge of Cuba practices the A. and A. Rite, so far as that can be predicated of a Blue Lodge: in other words, the Grand Lodge of Cuba uses the ritual, not of the York Rite, but that of the *Scottish* Rite, although the latter cannot properly be said to be the A. and A. Rite, for that has nothing to do with the first three degrees. But we have discussed this matter fully in another place.

BRO. MELVILLE C. BROWN delivered an interesting oration, which is published in the Proceedings.

We are gratified to perceive that this young Grand Lodge has taken measures for the formation of a Grand Lodge Library.

The Report on Correspondence (59 pp.) was presented by the Grand Secretary, BRO. WILLIAM G. TONN. It is an excellent abstract of the Proceedings with brief and generally sound comments.

He suggests that a Convention of Representatives of the Grand Lodges be held once in three years, to secure "uniformity of work." This looks plausible, but when we consider that each representative would go to the convention in the full belief that *his* work was the only *true* and *correct* work, and that such convention would have no power, except to recommend, we can readily see that nothing would come of it.

There are many other things in this report that we should be pleased to notice, but as the Proceedings are received while the last of our report is in the printer's hands, we must forbear for want of time.

ADDITIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

The following Proceedings were not received in season for review in alphabetical order, but as our list is also an index, this departure from the regular order is not material.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1877.

As usual, several communications were held during the year.

The Grand Lodges of Cuba, Dakota, Indian Territory, Manitoba, New Mexico, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming recognized: the work exemplified: a Past Grand Master's Jewel presented, with an appropriate address by P. G. M. STANSBURY, to P. G. M. ISAAC L. JOHNSON: the corner stone of a church laid; and the usual routine business was transacted.

One case came before the Grand Lodge, the result of which will be awaited with much interest. A member of a lodge in the District of Columbia, while

residing in Washington Territory, was expelled for an offense committed while residing there. Due notice thereof was given to this lodge, which laid the matter before the Grand Lodge, but that Body taking no action upon it, the lodge yielded to the action of the W. T. lodge, and dropped the name of the member from its roll. Recently notice was received that the member had been restored to his masonic rights by the lodge which expelled him and its Grand Lodge: whereupon his lodge, after a long discussion, restored him to membership, but afterwards, thinking this action irregular, reconsidered the vote and submitted the matter to the Grand Lodge: the Committee on Jurisprudence reported that the reconsideration was illegal, and that the party was a member of the lodge; but the Grand Lodge, without accepting the report, adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the report be re-committed to the committee, with instructions to consider and report upon the question as to the right of the Grand Lodge or a Subordinate Lodge of Washington Territory to discipline an affiliated mason of this jurisdiction without the consent of the lodge to which the Brother may be connected, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to notify Centennial Lodge, No 14, to send up a complete account of the case and its own action thereon for the use of the Committee on Jurisprudence."

The Grand Master (E. G. DAVIS) reports that the lodges had been visited and an address delivered on the occasion: in some instances, two lodges had united in receiving the Grand Lodge visitors: the effects of this system, he says, were highly beneficial.

At the visitation, the financial condition of the lodge was examined and the result is published in the *Proceedings*: all of the lodges have a surplus, and seem to be in a prosperous condition financially: they had expended in charity during the year \$3,335.

The Grand Lodge, finding itself in debt, by a vote of 49 to 38, ordered \$800 to be assessed upon the lodges in proportion to their membership.

Bro. W. R. SINGLETON presented the Report on Correspondence (51 pp.), which he had been directed by the Grand Lodge to limit "to an average of one page to each Grand Body."

In his review of Iowa, he says:

"Serious difficulties had occurred with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, growing out of the initiation, in one of the lodges in that country, of a citizen of Iowa. We regret that want of space prevents a complete history of this subject. The volume for 1877 is in the Library, and Brethren can read it there. We say to all of our Brethren in the United States, that on this subject of jurisdiction over the *bodies* of profanes who reside in your jurisdiction you must surrender the claim so far as Grand Bodies are concerned outside of the United States, or constant controversies will be the result. If you are unwilling to receive into your lodges those who get the degrees abroad let them remain out; but when you enter into controversy upon the subject with European Bodies, you will get your fingers burned, as did Bro. Gouley and Bro. Parvin. Let those Brethren in Europe severely alone—and we gave this advice many years since, and have dropped out of our reports any *special* notice of European Grand Bodies. If you do not want the profane who prefer to get their masonry in Europe to visit your lodges, put your *severest* examiner forward, and require a full examination according to *your* ritual, and if he cannot 'pass in' let him 'pass out'; but do it in all kindness and courtesy,

and let such travelers understand that while our masonry can pass all over the world, it requires more than European masonry to enter our doors."

We do not concur in a part of this. We would not depend on a "severe" examination to keep the visitor out: it seems to us that that is a proceeding hardly worthy of a lodge. We much prefer the Maine regulation, that a citizen of Maine, who obtains his degrees abroad without the consent of his lodge, *shall not be allowed to visit* or be recognized as a mason in this jurisdiction. We had much trouble before 1860 with the Grand Lodge of England on this precise question—many residents of Maine going to New Brunswick to get the degrees—and we adopted the above regulation, and have had no trouble since.

In his review of Missouri, he says:

"We have made this extract for the benefit of a large class in this jurisdiction, who agree with the ruling of the Grand Master of Maine, to show that their views are not concurred in by some of our ablest jurists. Indeed, we believe that the idea is very recent, and does not have a foothold outside of the United States, and was not, generally in them, many years ago. We know, as stated by Bro. Gouley, that twelve months' residence did always give jurisdiction over every profane, whatever may have been his status."

Our Brother's usual accuracy has deserted him upon this question. That it is not a "recent idea," may be seen from these facts: the provision has been in the Constitution of our Grand Lodge ever since 1820, and was the law in Massachusetts for years (we cannot tell how many) before that; it was the law of Bro. GOULEY's Grand Lodge down to 1866; and is, and has been, the law in a large majority of the Grand Lodges in this country.

Our Proceedings were not received in season to be reviewed in their order, and they receive but a brief notice.

KENTUCKY, 1877.

Four hundred and fifty lodges represented: ten charters and five dispensations granted and two dispensations continued.

The Grand Master (R. M. FAIRLEIGH) delivered a long, able and interesting address. He says that he holds that decisions of his predecessors, though approved by the Grand Lodge, are not binding on him, but are only precedents; but he thinks that if the Grand Lodge appreciated how much importance is attached to them by the craft, it would exercise more deliberation in passing upon them. It is for this reason that our Grand Lodge does not pass upon them until the next session.

He deprecates the tendency to increase the number of lodges, saying that in one County the total membership is one hundred and twenty, and they are divided among *seven* lodges! The consequence is that very many meetings fail to be held for want of a quorum: he suggests that lodges be consolidated, or, if they are unwilling to give up charters, that they meet alternately at each others' halls.

He found another source of much trouble, the frequent defalcation of Secretaries of lodges. The error, he says, lies in allowing the Secretary to retain the funds of the lodge; that he has no right to do so, but should pay them over to the Treasurer at every meeting of the lodge. The Master should see that he does so, and the Treasurer should demand it, and, if the demand was not complied with, he should report the Secretary to the lodge, and the Master would be justified in removing a Secretary who persistently uses the lodge funds. On his recommendation, the Grand Lodge adopted the following regulation

"Resolved, That it is the bounden duty of the Lodge Secretary to pay over all collections made by him in pursuance of his office to the Treasurer at every regular meeting of the lodge, and on failure so to do, he renders himself subject to discipline."

He decided that a by-law of a lodge introducing the "Benefit System" is unmasonic, and the Grand Lodge sustained the decision.

We copy the following from his address; we thank him for its utterance; it will awake many to the fact that the present tendency is to drift from the ancient moorings and follow the example of the Grand Orient of France: our reading of it startled us, as it caused us to realize how our own opinions have been undermined by the plausible theories of those who would model masonic government after civil government:

"Is it not time to raise the warning voice at the growing disposition of Grand Lodges to reduce the powers and lessen the dignity of Grand Masters? I am aware that the person who holds the position of Grand Master and recommends the fuller recognition of the powers and prerogatives of the office than most of Grand Lodges are disposed to grant, seems selfish and personal in the eyes of many; but when we consider the long prevailing practice in Kentucky of annually changing the occupant of this chair, I may unselfishly advocate the interests of my successors. I will venture to do so and to affirm that there were Grand Masters, many a time and oft, when there were no Grand Lodges; that in the ancient masonic constitutions the Grand Mastership is a co-ordinate power with the Grand Lodge, and that, as all experience shows, the honor and dignity of masonry in a jurisdiction depends largely upon the character and attainments of the Grand Master who, for the time being, is THE GRAND LODGE.

"Take the opposite view of this and into what evils will the Order run? In one American jurisdiction the Grand Lodge claims the power, and has so amended its constitution, to discipline and to expel its Grand Master. In France the Grand Lodge has permanently done away with and laid aside the Grand Master, satisfying itself with a Chairman or President, elected as in a meeting of primaries, to see that the ordinary parliamentary usages are observed. This spirit of innovation in the undermining of the powers of the Grand Mastership may be detected in tracing down the constitutional rules of every American Grand Lodge for the last twenty years. It is in our own, as in others, and I should be derelict in my duty were I to fail in warning the Grand Lodge that as the honor, discipline, reputation and usefulness of a subordinate lodge materially depend upon the skill and assiduity with which the Master manages its concerns, still more may this be predicated of a *Grand Master*, and that to give the ancient honor and traditional power to this office is to enable him to do what his high position demands for the Order at large. It will at least serve to show my fixed views under this head, if I say that the Grand Master of Kentucky, as well as all other lawfully constituted Grand Masters, *does and must possess* the power to grant dispensations for

conferring degrees out of time; for making masons at sight; for holding election for officers in subordinate lodges after the time specified in the Grand Lodge Constitution, when, by unavoidable accident, the lodge has neglected to do so, and for many other things which need not be named here. So far as my information extends, the Grand Masters of Kentucky, up to a recent date, exercised those powers, and nothing has happened in late years to justify an infringement upon the ancient prerogatives. I am a firm believer in the operation of republican principles in the administration of civil government, but for the just and efficient management of *Masonic* affairs, I am equally firm in the opinion which is sustained by the experience of all ages, that a wholesome sprinkle of autocracy is absolutely demanded."

He also makes some plain remarks upon the conduct of members of the Grand Lodge, while it is in session, saying it is notorious that men who frequent the saloons and other evil haunts of Louisville, sometimes appear as members of the Grand Lodge.

He urges a reprint of the early Proceedings, but the committee, to which the matter was referred, could not see their way clear to recommend it at present, but, at their request, they were granted until the next Annual Communication to consider the matter. *Three hundred and twenty* pages of these Proceedings are filled with names: the omission of these for two years would save money enough to reprint the Proceedings of the first forty or fifty years of the life of the Grand Lodge.

We regret to learn that that magnificent masonic charity—the Widows' and Orphans' Home—has caused dissensions among the craft, arising, as it seems to us at this distance, very much from a spirit of jealousy because the Home is located in Louisville. While we are opposed to undertaking the support of such an institution by masons, still, considering what has been done in this instance, we should feel that masonry had received a severe blow if this institution is suffered to fail. While its success places Kentucky at the head of our American Grand Lodges for its munificent charity, its failure would be a disgrace to Kentucky masons.

We last year gave the favorable result of the voting on the proposition to assess each lodge a sum equal to a dollar for each member annually for five years, and we hoped that the excitement was at an end: but one or more lodges resisted and came to an issue with the Grand Master, but we understand that the lodges finally yielded and obeyed the edict of the Grand Lodge.

Grand Master FAIRLEIGH closes his address with the following appeal:

"As for myself, if my subsistence depended upon such a slim basis, I would rather give that dollar to the Home and die a dollar's worth sooner. It was reserved for Kentucky Masons to give to the world, in the establishment of this Home, the grandest expression of the fundamental principles of masonry their country ever saw; we have enjoyed the honors that have been heaped upon us without stint in consequence of it; we have seen the grand results of our example in the fact that the question of organized and concentrated charities is engaging the attention of many other Grand Jurisdictions, and, in some, plans have already been adopted for the erection of similar Homes. We have gone too far to recede if we desired to do so. The work must go on and the means must be furnished by us and should be furnished with willing and loving hands. Shall we repeal the assessment law and leave that huge pile of brick and mortar to proclaim our failure to our enemies and as a mon-

ument to our stupidity and parsimony? Shall we repeal it when it is believed the very existence of the Home depends upon the maintenance of the law, and thus show to the world that we received and enjoyed honors when none were our due? Can we, as masons, do this? In my judgment the dignity and the honor of Kentucky masonry are involved in this issue. If the Grand Lodge of Kentucky be true to her fame and true to her orphaned and widowed wards, she will let the law stand. I submit it to you without fear of the result."

The law was not repealed, but was decided to be constitutional; and a regulation was adopted requiring the payment of the assessment by a lodge before its Representatives can be entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge.

The Report on Correspondence (142 pp.) was again presented by Bro. THOMAS TODD. It is a fine synopsis of the Proceedings, with well-selected extracts, and with few comments.

LOUISIANA, 1878.

We have this year a pamphlet much reduced in size, and, upon examination, we find that the returns are omitted; and thus, while the pamphlet is smaller in size than usual, it is no less valuable than heretofore.

Eighty-seven lodges represented at one time, but we cannot give the whole number represented, as the Committee on Credentials give the list of lodges entitled to representation on the first day, and not those actually represented.

Six charters were revoked or surrendered and none granted.

The address of the Grand Master (SAMUEL J. POWELL) is a full statement of his official action, showing him to have been a faithful and able officer.

He refused to give a lodge permission to ask aid in building a hall, from other jurisdictions; and he gives the following sound views upon this matter:

"The privilege, if not the right, to solicit aid to relieve our personal wants, is conceded, and, in fact, seems to be inherent in our mutual obligations, but the exercise of this privilege by lodges as lodges, especially out of their own jurisdiction, should be avoided, except in great emergencies, or public calamities. The impropriety is not so much in asking for assistance, when in real need, as in the abuse of the privilege, and so great has the abuse of this privilege been, that it has caused serious complaint, and many Grand Lodges have strongly animadverted upon it. In 1873, this Grand Lodge placed restrictions upon it, and in every instance required the approval of the Grand Lodge or of the Grand Master, and made them the judges of the necessity or propriety of its exercise.

"I entirely disapprove of this resort to raise money. It may be an easy and convenient way to erect a lodge hall, but the material advantage it may be to one lodge is nothing in comparison to loss of dignity and moral standing it may entail on the fraternity generally."

In relation to the action of the Grand Orient of France, he says:

"The paternity of God, and the fraternity of man, are the inseparable tenets of masonry. Eliminate the one, and the other is a shadow without a substance; the ritual is stripped of its beauty and impressive solemnity; the great moral design is gone, and the Order is powerless for good. I turn away with fearful misgivings, from a contemplation of the results of this unfortunate delusion."

From the very full report of the Grand Secretary, we take the following homely but forcible remarks:

"Time and application is equally needed, especially by those who assume the place of teachers, and it is well to know and admit, that a mason, any more than any other man, cannot teach properly that which he does not know or comprehend, and nothing of real or great value is to be obtained without both trouble and expense. Masonry, at a ten dollar degree, and an expense of five or ten cents a month to support a lodge, will not be apt to claim a very high regard from the profane, or to be able to perform those necessary deeds of charity that prove so satisfactory to all good men, and especially to the good mason who would like to see his lodge and the fraternity prosper."

* * * * *

"Does a farmer believe that he would make a good crop with poor stock and poor tools? No; his experience would teach him that a wooden plough or hoe, or a stone axe, would prove dear at any or no price at all; and how much better will it prove with a lodge that has a wooden W. Master or Secretary. In masonry, as in farming, the best tool is the cheapest in the end. A lodge whose members have too little pride in it to induce them to spend money for what is essential and necessary, will never raise a good crop of masons. Take a more liberal view, Brethren, and ask yourselves, what should my lodge be, and what should it be able to do, and how much will it require to make it fulfill the expectation?"

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported in relation to the question of the power of lodges to grant new trials, and held that in case of conviction, the case might be opened and re-tried upon a petition for restoration, while in case of acquittal, a new trial can be had only on appeal to the Grand Lodge. It seems to us that this is an evasion of the question: if a mason has not been fairly tried, and ought to have a new trial, he should not be obliged to secure a unanimous or two-thirds vote to pronounce him innocent, but the prosecutor should be required to obtain a two-thirds vote to pronounce him guilty.

But the committee say further.

"Finally, considering the subject matter on general principles, we submit that all original powers are in the lodge, unless surrendered in the Constitution, or otherwise prohibited by usages or landmarks; and new trials not being prohibited, are necessarily within the sound discretion of the lodge to allow or refuse it, and may exercise that power until the lodge has lost its jurisdiction, as is the case when an appeal has been applied for and granted, and the Grand Lodge has become vested with jurisdiction."

The Committee have here precisely reversed the correct principle: if they examine the history of masonry, the forms of charters, and the ancient usages of the Craft, they will find that the Grand Lodge is the fountain and source of power, and the lodges have what is *granted* to them, and no more. The theory of the federal government might possibly be a good one in masonry, but the fact is, masonic government was in existence long before that theory was originated, and, moreover, is essentially despotic in its character.

The Grand Lodge being in debt, a proposition was made to levy a *per capita* tax of one dollar annually for six years, but it was defeated. Thereupon several of the Directors proposed to resign, as it was impossible for them to sustain the credit of the Grand Lodge; but finally, after earnest discussion, it was voted to levy the tax for *five* years.

The Grand Secretary (the indefatigable Bro. BATCHELOR) gave notice that he should return five hundred dollars of his salary to the Grand Lodge: and it was also voted not to publish the returns.

The Report on Correspondence (156 pp.) was submitted by Bro. GEORGE H. BRAUGHN, of which about fifty pages are devoted to Foreign Grand Bodies. It fully sustains the reputation its author acquired by his former report, and that of his Grand Lodge so justly gained by the reports of his predecessors.

He had examined both sides of the Cuban question, and as a consequence advises his Grand Lodge to postpone action in the matter, though he was inclined to the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Colon ought to be recognized: upon his recommendation, the committee were authorized to report to the Grand Master in vacation.

* MINNESOTA, 1878.

A Special Communication was held at St. Paul, December 16, 1877, to attend the funeral of the Grand Master, JAMES C. BRADEN, who died in Texas, as we have mentioned in our review of the Proceedings of that Grand Lodge. Thirty-four lodges were represented, and they escorted the remains to Litchfield, the home of the late Grand Master, where the funeral took place.

At the Annual Communication one hundred and one lodges were represented: four charters granted.

The Acting Grand Master (E. W. DURANT) pays an eloquent tribute to the memory of the deceased Grand Master, and gives a clear statement of his official acts and decisions.

The former Grand Secretary, E. D. B. PORTER, was expelled for converting to his own use funds of the Grand Lodge, and refusing to pay over or account in any manner for the same.

BRO. AARON GOODRICH offered resolutions to re-open the "Colored Grand Lodge" question, declaring that the action of the Grand Lodge the year before, in refusing recognition "*for reason of its irregular formation*," did not reflect the judgment of the Grand Lodge or the craft in that jurisdiction. He desired to have more explicit action of the Grand Lodge to the same effect. But the committee reported that the action was sufficiently explicit, and recommended the indefinite postponement of the subject; and their report was adopted.

A full account of the action of the Craft in Texas and in St. Louis, in reference to the death of the Grand Master, is given. Anchor Lodge, of Texas, had been requested to furnish an account of the money expended, but it had failed to do so; but the Grand Lodge directed the Grand Secretary to ascertain the amount and draw on the Grand Treasurer therefor. It also voted to procure an engraving of Bro. BRADEN to be inserted in next year's Proceedings; and that a suitable testimonial be presented to Bro. C. E. FISHER as a

token of appreciation of his accompanying the body of Bro. BRADEN from Texas to Minnesota.

A Digest of Decisions had been prepared, and it was ordered to be published for use of the Grand Lodge, to be sold at cost.

A Lodge of Sorrow was held during the session, in memory of Bro. BRADEN and Bro. ALVIN RICHARDSON, who had died during the year. Several addresses of a high order of excellence were delivered.

The Report on Correspondence (138 pp.) was mainly prepared by Bro. A. T. C. PIERSON, but he "surrendered" seven pages to Bro. GOODRICH, for a reply to our report of last year.

Bro. PIERSON's report is, as usual, courteous, interesting and able. He replies to Bro. SAYRE's proposition, that masonry was intended for the Caucasian race only, by showing that masonry is, and always has been, *universal*.

He thinks that the success of Relief Associations depends on the diligence and efficiency of the Secretary, and that when he becomes "indolent and slack, the institution will die out."

In his review of Maine, he highly approves of our policy in relation to non-payment of dues.

He says that when Bro. BRADEN's widow told the Texas Brethren that it was not necessary for one of them to accompany her home, the reply was, "EXCUSE US, MADAM, BUT THIS IS OUR BUSINESS;" and when, at St. Louis, she called for the bills incurred in the transportation across the city, she received the same reply.

We now come to Bro. GOODRICH's contribution to the report. We spoke of his production last year, as a "remarkable" one; but this is still more "remarkable," especially as coming from one who claims to be a gentleman, as well as a mason. He closes with the following sentence:

"I have re-examined that report, and the review of our learned Brother, and am oppressed by the conviction that the touching moral contained in the story of Ananias, has been lost upon Brother Drummond."

In other words, and the proposition shows the character of his logic, as well as his courtesy, "Bro. DRUMMOND says, I neither offered nor suggested proof, in support of my propositions: *in my opinion*, I did; hence Bro. DRUMMOND lies."

Among his propositions are, that PRINCE HALL was not free-born, was not a freeman, and was not a citizen of the Colony or State of Massachusetts, when he was made a mason.

We said that he neither offered nor suggested any proof of these propositions; and we repeat the assertion, that what he *calls* proof is no proof at all, and we believe that not one in a thousand, besides himself, will dispute our proposition.

His "proof" that PRINCE HALL was not free-born, and was not a freeman is, that no negro in this country *could* be free-born or a freeman, until the

adoption of the recent amendments to the Constitution of the United States, for, he says:

"If this be not so, then is the history of the colored man, as it stands out upon the constitutional, legislative and judicial records of these United States a lie, and the adoption of the XIVth and XVth amendments a *farce*."

Here is another specimen of our Brother's logic. Some colored people were not freemen until the XIVth and XVth amendments made them so; PRINCE HALL was a colored man, and died before those amendments were adopted; hence PRINCE HALL was not a freeman!

Bro. GOODRICH's proposition is as follows:

"Being *neither, free-born, a freeman or citizen* of the Colony or State of Massachusetts, or of the United States, according to the laws of England or America, of London or Boston, colonial, State, municipal or masonic; consequently he was not a mason."

In the same paragraph is the extract above quoted.

He also says that he was a vagrant, because—

"On the 15th of March, 1788, it was enacted that 'no African or negro * * * shall tarry within this Commonwealth more than two months,' &c."

What will be thought of the candor of Bro. G., when it is known that a portion of what he omits in the last extract, and supplies with asterisks, is the phrase "*other than* a subject of the Emperor of Morocco, or a CITIZEN OF SOME ONE OF THE UNITED STATES." It is true, that retaining these words would have utterly destroyed his whole argument, but is that a *good* reason for omitting them?

The explanation may be, that Bro. G. took his law second-hand, and thus did not know what it was: as in other matters he seems to be woefully wanting in a knowledge of the laws of Massachusetts, for one who undertakes to teach what those laws were.

But does he not know that in Massachusetts, before the time when PRINCE HALL was made a mason, that negroes (who were free) were in the habit of voting and exercising the same civil rights, as their white neighbors? Does he not know that in the Constitution of Massachusetts, adopted in 1780, it was declared that "All men are born free and equal," and that "*All the inhabitants of this Commonwealth, having such qualifications as they shall establish by their frame of government, have an equal right to elect officers, and to be elected for public employment*"? And that from that day to this, no qualification of voters, founded on *color*, has ever existed in that State? And that in every election since, including every election of President, colored men have voted? And that they have frequently held office? And that the law of 1788, to which he refers, had no more application to them than to *white* citizens?

Does he not know that from the time of the revolution, or their organization as States, colored men, on equal terms with the *white*, have been citizens of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island?

Does he not know that in New York "men of color," when citizens of the

State for three years, were voters? And that even in Tennessee, under the Constitution in force before 1839, certain blacks had the right of voting, and that this right was preserved to them in the Constitution adopted in 1839?

But we will not pursue the subject further.

The Constitution and Laws of Massachusetts declared the freedom of colored men in its limits by birth; their political equality, *in all respects*, with the whites; and we close as we began, by saying that in the face of these facts, Bro. G. has not offered or suggested *any* proof that PRINCE HALL was not free-born and a free man.

MISSISSIPPI, 1878.

Representation, 229 lodges out of 314: one charter granted, two surrendered, one revoked, and two made extinct by consolidation of lodges: one dispensation granted: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized: the proposition for a Widows' and Orphans' Home indefinitely postponed by a vote of 627 to 156: the proposition to hold biennial sessions defeated by a vote of 274 to 495: the Proceedings ordered to be reprinted, sufficient to make a volume of 400 pages: five hundred dollars appropriated in aid of "Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum."

The Grand Master (JOHN Y. MURRY) attributes the falling off in the membership to various causes: to the hard times; to the fact that unsuitable candidates have been elected, requiring the lodges to go through a "pruning process" to get rid of them; to the many other secret societies in the country, which, though having praiseworthy objects, he doubts if a conscientious Freemason can join; to the influence of the higher degrees, as now organized, on "Ancient Craft Masonry"; and to the fact that the secrets of the lodge get out to the world.

He announces the death of BENJAMIN SPRINGER, Past Deputy Grand Master, and the only living life member of the Grand Lodge, who was a native of Litchfield, in this State, and moved to Mississippi in 1824.

No action was taken in relation to the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, the Grand Lodge not being in possession of sufficient information to act intelligently.

A large number of decisions were made; but as those of general interest were based upon the "Mississippi Code," we do not copy them.

The returns are published in the Proceedings, taking up 122 pages.

The Report on Correspondence (136 pp.) was submitted by Bro. J. M. HOWRY. We are indebted to this report for whiling away the hours of a tedious railroad ride, and we have marked enough of it for quotation or comment to make a very good sized report; and we are at a loss to determine what shall be omitted.

Bro. HOWRY was Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee in 1827, and has been an active mason ever since.

He can see no reason for the admitted rule that an installed officer cannot resign: sees no objection to free interchange of opinion in the lodge when a candidate is proposed, except the presence of a leaky member, who will run and tell the candidate all that transpires: finds, by observation, that in all cases of benevolent enterprises by masons, there is a continual struggle for means to keep them going: holds that a voucher by a Master Mason to another, that one, *who is present*, is also a Master Mason, is sufficient "legal information" to justify the second Brother in vouching for the other.

But we must quote a few of his deliverances in his own words:

"If our masonry were operative, the loss of an eye would not render him ineligible. If it were both operative and speculative, he could work in brick and mortar, and read and learn the speculative part as well with one good eye as two. If it is moral and speculative, as it is, can he not learn it and practice all its precepts? The loss of one eye strengthens the other, but it may be in our sister Jurisdiction that a man needs two eyes, and they to be kept wide open."

* * * * *

"Another question: Is a person who does not believe in a devil a proper candidate for the mysteries of Masonry?"

"He replies: Belief in God is all that is required. 'That the devil is a personage with whom we have nothing at all to do, and it does not matter whether he believes in one devil, seven devils, or no devils at all!'

"This looks like a bid for immigration into West Virginia. If it can be established that people have nothing to do with his Satanic Majesty up there, we have but little doubt that a tide will set in that will overrun the country very soon. A special plea may be put in, that the *Masonic Fraternity* is alone exempt from association or affiliation with his majesty, the devil, and that the country will be open to them only.

"The Grand Lodge adopted the report of the Committee, which cordially concurred in this decision!

"Strong endorsement that they have nothing at all to do with the devil! Happy masons—happy people—good country!"

* * * * *

"There is a practice in vogue in old Virginia, which for a short time obtained in Mississippi, of *closing* the Grand Lodge every day. We think when closed, it is closed for good. And we do not see how it can be opened again until the time fixed by the Constitution for a new communication arrives, or until a special or called meeting takes place."

* * * * *

"We venture to suggest the cause in part of the deficiency in work in North Carolina. They have no District Deputy Grand Masters! Lay off the State into small districts—appoint the best men you have to visit each lodge; after the District Deputies have met the Grand Master and Grand Lecturer and are found to be in possession of the true work and are apt to teach, and in two to five years the work will all come right."

* * * * *

"Make them pay their dues, if able, or cut them off, without honoring them with the formality of charges and trial, and without the benefit of clergy, is our doctrine, elsewhere expressed in this report. Mississippi is annoyed beyond endurance with this same vexatious question. We have so many tender toed and tender hearted brethren, who prefer that a few active, zealous brethren should attend all the meetings, do all the work, and pay all the expenses, that it will soon come to this, that a brother who moves against a delinquent, will be subject to be dealt with, tried and punished for it. Put a parrot—a good talking parrot—near the lodge door, and teach it to say

'Have you paid your lodge dues'? Frequent payments, in small amounts, is the plan."

It had been the custom in Mississippi, to perform funeral honors over the grave of a deceased Brother after his burial: but a few years ago, the Grand Master decided that this was not proper: Grand Master MURRY, in his address this year, announces the granting of several dispensations for performing such services, and, on his recommendation, the Grand Lodge repealed its approval of the former decision. Of this, Bro. HOWRY says:

"We have never been able to see the reason for changing the old custom, which we believe was long in vogue, of his lodge meeting around his grave and paying the last tribute of affection to the memory of a Brother, who, from circumstances over which they could have no control, were deprived of the opportunity at the time of interment. How often does it happen that our brethren die away from home, or when it is inconvenient to assemble their lodge? What harm is done to the institution or to any one on earth by a performance of this pleasing duty after burial? Suppose Charles W. Moore, John Dove, John A. Quitman, Sam Houston or W. J. Rusk had died under circumstances which forbid the performance of this sacred rite over their mortal remains at the time the body was consigned to its narrow house, they pass away without any public manifestation of love or respect for their memories because their brethren have forged fetters to bind themselves and their consciences from the performance of a noble act!

"The practice and custom prevailed for years in Mississippi, to perform the funeral service at the time of burial, if convenient, if not, at any reasonable time in future. Now we believe the ruling is, it *must be done instantly or not at all!*

"Our individual opinion is, that every lodge act in the premises as the circumstances of each case dictate. If it cannot be done to-day, let it be done to-morrow, but let no statute of limitations be pleaded by sticklers for law when we are called upon to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of the dear Brother, and to shed the tear and cast the evergreen into his last resting place!"

He approves a Connecticut decision, that the Master has a right to suspend *from office* an officer against whom charges have been filed, until the completion of the trial; and he insists that, upon the same principle, the Master may suspend a member *from his rights as a member*, under the same circumstances, and argues the matter at some length, and with much force. We have considered this matter pretty fully in connection with a decision of Grand Master MOORE, but we cannot agree with him. The illustration that when charges are filed against an army officer, his sword is taken from him, is not in point; for in such case, the sword is not taken, unless the officer is *put under arrest*, and then it is done as a consequence of the *arrest*.

He gives us a "nut to crack": in Iowa a Brother was restored, upon condition that he would take an obligation prescribed by the laws of the Grand Lodge; the Brother refused to do this, and the next year the Grand Lodge rescinded and set aside the resolution re-instating the Brother; and very properly, as it seems to us; and we cannot for our life understand, why this is "a nut for us to crack": if it is, we crack it very easily.

He discusses the right of a lodge to grant a new trial at some length, and combats views which we have heretofore expressed. But our difference is in

relation to fundamental principles. Bro. H. seems to hold that Grand Lodges do not, by charter, create and grant to subordinate lodges their powers, but that in some way or other, lodges get into existence and then *charter the Grand Lodge*, and *grant to it* such powers as they please. He evidently applies to *masonic government* the principles of our Federal Government, which were not invented till many years after the adoption of the Grand Lodge system, which was and still is, even in his own State, of a monarchical character. The regulations of his own Grand Lodge expressly give the lodge the right to grant a second trial, but, if we understand it correctly, his Grand Lodge decided, at this very communication, that a lodge cannot go beyond that, thus clearly establishing that the whole matter is regulated by the laws of the Grand Lodge.

Through the report of Bro. BROWN, of Kansas, Bro. HOWRY gets at our review of the "*Spight case*." He declines to re-open the discussion of that case, but discusses certain propositions of ours. We have not our review of the case before us, and if we had, we would not discuss the case. But there are some things we can say. If Bro. H. understands that we supposed that there was any *personal* difficulty or ill-feeling between the Brethren who espoused the different sides of that case, we beg to correct him, for we knew they were masons.

We disclaim any intention of casting odium on his Grand Lodge: we did pronounce a law of his Grand Lodge a barbarous one, but we said, at the same time, that our own Grand Lodge had the same law, which, however, when its character was brought to the attention of the Grand Lodge, was repealed by a unanimous vote. And we except to his incidental statement that we "*assailed a whole Grand Lodge and some of its members*:" we discussed the *law* and the *action* of his Grand Lodge, assailing nobody any more than he assails us, when he says that a certain proposition of ours is "*monstrous*."

But we wish to present the point at issue between us clearly. We hold that when a Grand Lodge, of its own motion, restores a member of a lodge who has been convicted, and, upon final judgment, been suspended or expelled, he is not thereby restored to membership in his lodge; but to regain that, he must have a unanimous vote of the lodge. But the law of the Grand Lodge of his State provides, in effect, that when the Grand Lodge reverses the action of a lodge in suspending or expelling a member, he nevertheless loses his membership. The result is, that he can become a member only by the unanimous vote of the lodge. The provision is general: when a lodge makes a "*decision expelling or suspending a Brother*," the above result follows in all cases. *No exception is made of a case in which the proceedings are illegal.* If the lodge comes to that "*decision*" (in the words of the Constitution), no matter how much in violation of the law, or how contrary to the fact, the accused loses his membership. It was this law which we pronounced "*barbarous*," and it is *this* law which Bro. HOWRY defends.

In our former report, we quoted from Bro. Howry the following:

"One of the main pillars on which our Institution rests is the complete control which a lodge has over its membership. It takes them in and can put them out."

Of this, we said:

"The doctrine that a lodge can deprive a member of his membership at pleasure is so outrageous that we are infinitely surprised and pained to find it seriously stated in a Grand Lodge. It comes to this, and there is no escape from it; if Bro. Howry's lodge, having seven members present, votes, without charges or notice to him, by a vote of five to two, to expel him, he loses his membership, and can regain it only by a unanimous vote of his lodge—and yet he denominates the proposition that the Grand Lodge can remedy such an outrage an absurdity."

To this he replies:

"Without the least apprehension of danger, we assert our belief that there is not an intelligent mason in the universe who believes in, or entertains, the doctrine as stated by Bro. Drummond, and which he ascribes to me in the foregoing extract. We regard the principle stated by us, and which has caused such *infinite pain and surprise*, and which he regards as *so outrageous*, as impregnable as the rock of Gibraltar, and as solid and enduring as the everlasting granite of his own dear New England, and will endure as long as the foundations of our masonic superstructure shall last."

But, my dear Brother, let us see if *you* don't "believe in and entertain" that very doctrine yourself.

You defend, and therefore we assume you "believe in," the law of your Grand Lodge to which we have referred. That law says, "*whenever* this Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the *decision* of a subordinate lodge, expelling or suspending a Brother, * * * he shall not thereby be restored to membership * * * without the consent of the subordinate lodge." Now if your lodge comes to a "decision" to expel you, without charges and without notice, and when you next apply for admission the Master refuses to admit you, informing you that you are expelled, what will you do? You can, indeed, go to the Grand Lodge, which will at once "reverse and abrogate the decision of the subordinate lodge expelling" you, of course; but what has become of your membership? The law says: "You are not thereby restored to membership, without the consent of the lodge." Wouldn't you say that such proceedings were "barbarous"? Wouldn't you say that the law allowing such proceedings to be effectual is also "barbarous"?

If Bro. Howry says that in the case supposed he would not lose his membership, will he please tell us where the line is to be drawn between cases in which membership is lost, and those in which it is not?

We hold that a lodge has the right to try a member: but that the member, under the landmarks, has an inherent right of appeal to the Grand Lodge, and if the Grand Lodge reverses the action of the lodge, for any cause, whether it be want of notice, illegality in the proceedings, or an erroneous decision upon the questions of fact, the Brother *ought* to stand *precisely* where he did when the charges were filed, and that any law which, under such circumstances, *deprives him of any of his rights*, is a "barbarous" law.

NEVADA, 1877.

Seventeen of the eighteen lodges represented: one charter granted: M. W. GEORGE ROBINSON received and greeted as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine: the usual business transacted.

The time of the session having been changed from November to June, the masonic year had been only about seven months long.

The address of the Grand Master (GEORGE ROBINSON) was brief. He reports the general prevalence of peace and harmony, and a flourishing condition of the lodges.

An attempt was made to prohibit the granting of dimitts, except when the applicant proposed to join another lodge, and upon producing evidence that he had made application to another lodge: but the proposition was rejected.

A committee was appointed to consider and report upon the advisability of adopting some "regulation defining and governing the *status* of Master Masons residing in this jurisdiction who are members of lodges in other jurisdictions."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, By his eminent and laborious services rendered to the Craft in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Lodge, our Very Excellent Bro. R. H. Taylor has reflected credit upon this Grand Body, and honor upon the Masonic Fraternity of this State, therefore

"Resolved, That, in consideration of his valuable services to the craft, the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge is hereby authorized and directed to issue to our Very Excellent Bro. Robert H. Taylor a certificate of life membership, certifying his good standing in the Fraternity for life, so far as his masonic standing as a Master Mason is affected by his being or not being a contributing member of some constituent lodge may be concerned, and otherwise, but without fee, in accordance with the Fourteenth Section of the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Nevada."

Bro. ROBERT H. TAYLOR again presented the Report on Correspondence (81 pp.), in which he includes a digest of the decisions.

We heartily agree with him in the following:

"A worthy distressed Brother is entitled to the relief of masons wherever he may be, and the moment they demand to be re-imbursed, they declare that the relief they afforded was not masonic charity. A Grand Lodge has not, in our opinion, the *power* to require one of its constituent lodges to restore the relief granted to one of its members, any more than it has to require the Brother relieved to make such restitution. The obligations of masonry respecting masonic charity are too sacred to be tampered with and hampered by legislation."

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"It appears from the Grand Master's address, that the Worshipful Master of one of the lodges having informed him that business matters required him, the Master, 'to be absent from the jurisdiction for a long time, probably the balance of the year,' the Master 'was, by edict, relieved from the office of W. M., and a dispensation was granted, authorizing them [the lodge] to elect a W. M., and fill all vacancies caused by such election.' The Committee of Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom the matter was referred, very properly refused to sanction this 'new departure,' but the Grand Lodge, after the question 'was discussed at considerable length,' snubbed the committee and sustained the Grand Master."

This report has not so many comments as he usually gives us, whereat we are sorry. We regret also that he had not received our Proceedings; but the communication of his Grand Lodge was held so soon after ours that it was not possible for him to receive them.

NEW JERSEY, 1878.

Representation, 136 lodges out of 146: one charter granted, one restored, and one revoked: the Proceedings adorned with a fine likeness of P. G. M. DANIEL B. BRUEN: the Grand Lodge of New Mexico recognized.

The Grand Master (MARSHALL B. SMITH) announces the death of several craftsmen: gives a clear and succinct statement of his official action: and announces several decisions. He evidently is a very faithful and efficient officer. He very properly calls the attention of Masters of lodges to the fact, that as their lodge takes the law from them, it is as much their duty to make themselves familiar with the law as with the ritual.

In conclusion, he says:

"The gospel of charity, proclaimed at Jerusalem, and on Moriah's summit among the everlasting hills—where hewers and burden-bearers toiled, where craftsmen wrought, and where kings built up Jehovah's temple—this we send forth among the nations. We have no conflict with revealed religion; we only join in the great work of doing good: Such are our principles, and such our work, so far as I understand them.

"If we are but faithful to our trust and to our duty the world may continually witness such fruits as these—the hungry fed, the naked clothed, the poor relieved, the dead reverently buried, the widow and orphan provided for, the civil ruler honored, God obeyed and worshiped. And if such be the fruitage, that day will be all the nearer in which

"Shall all men's good
Be each man's rule, and universal peace
Lie like a shaft of light across the land,
And like a lane of beams athwart the sea,
Through all the circle of the golden year."

We copy the following from his decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge:

"2. No officer of a lodge who has been regularly installed can be suspended for non-payment of dues until the expiration of the term for which he was elected or appointed.

"9. Dimits received and filed at the organization of a lodge, become the property of the lodge when it is constituted, and cannot be returned to the original holders.

"10. The dimit accompanying an application for affiliation becomes the property of the lodge when the applicant is elected, and cannot be returned to him at any time thereafter.

"11. The rejection of a Master Mason who applies for affiliation, neither affects the masonic standing of the applicant, nor confers upon the lodge that rejects him the power to bar his application elsewhere. It is not proper in such cases to give notice of the rejection to other lodges.

"12. A petition, or a report thereon, has been formally 'presented to the lodge' when it has been read in open lodge.

"19. The Trustees of a lodge may be incorporated, and thus exclude from courts of law all matters except those of finance; but the incorporation of lodges makes them practically independent of this Grand Lodge, and is un-masonic, and hereby prohibited.

"21. The Tyler, when a member of the lodge, is entitled to cast his ballot on all occasions. He cannot be deprived of this right on account of his official duties."

We are inclined to dissent from number two. A lodge can try and punish any officer, except the Master, for unmasonic conduct: and why not for non-payment of dues?

The Grand Lodge of Cuba was recognized; but the report of the Committee contains many errors, as we understand the matter. We refer to our discussion under the head of Colon and Cuba.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted:

"WHEREAS, There is reason to believe that candidates for masonry have been elected in this jurisdiction in violation of the Sixth General Regulation; therefore,

"Resolved, That all persons initiated in lodges in this jurisdiction in violation of the Sixth General Regulation, if any there be, are, and they are hereby declared to be, irregularly made, and are not entitled to the benefits and rights of masonry until properly healed.

"Resolved, That the Master of any lodge where such irregularity has occurred, be and he is hereby required to report the same to the Grand Master."

We doubt the propriety and the legality of this resolution: it makes clandestine all initiates whose petition was not received at a regular communication, or on which the ballot was taken within less than a month after its presentation, or at a special meeting of the lodge: and all candidates advanced within less than a month, or before they have exhibited suitable proficiency in open lodge. It seems to us that in *all* these cases, the mason is legally made, and that the punishment for the violation of the regulation should fall, not on *him*, but on the *lodge*.

When a mason from New Jersey desires to visit in Maine, or in any other State, how are the craft to know, that he is not "irregular," by reason of a violation of the "Sixth General Regulation"?

The Report on Correspondence (146 pp.) was presented by Bro. JAMES A. NORTON.

He differs from us upon "the right of objection": but as we have heretofore fully discussed the matter, we will not go over it again. He makes one new point, to which we will refer. He inquires if, by the ballot, it is not signified that the *lodge* is willing that the candidate shall be made a mason. If it does, it does not affect this question, which is specially left to the decision, not of the lodge as such, but of *all the Brethren*.

He devotes six pages to a very learned and able discussion of the question of Baptism. We cannot copy it, and will only add that he concurs with us "that that particular form and name should not be used in our masonic ceremonies."

There are very many other points in this report that we should like to notice, but the Proceedings come to hand when we have but little time, and less space.

TENNESSEE, 1877.

Three hundred and thirty-three but of four hundred lodges represented: seven charters and four dispensations granted, and one dispensation continued: the Grand Lodges of the Indian Territory, New Mexico and Cuba recognized.

The address of the Grand Master (E. EDMUNDSON) shows that he has been an able, faithful and conservative officer. He had been especially careful in establishing new lodges, having authorized but two new ones.

He says he finds that, almost universally, a lodge which has a *good, efficient* and zealous Master is a prosperous one, and is rarely ever so without such a Master. Will Masters in Maine make a note of this?

In one instance, he arrested the charter of a lodge, and afterwards restored it, but appointed a new Master and Wardens to supercede those in office. The Grand Lodge, at first, held that the Grand Master had no power to appoint new officers, and by resolution confirmed all the acts of the lodge under those officers. Subsequently, it appearing that the Grand Master had a precedent for his action, the Grand Lodge re-considered its former action and approved the acts of the Grand Master, but declared the precedent a wrong one, and ordered that no such power be exercised by the Grand Master in the future.

To show the extent of non-affiliation, he calls attention to the fact, that nine years before the membership was 18,600, and that 14,700 Master Masons had been added since, and yet that the present membership is less than 18,000, showing that over 15,000 members, in nine years, have died, been suspended or expelled, moved away, or gone into the ranks of non-affiliates.

BRO. GEORGE S. BLACKIE presented the Report on Correspondence (61 pp.), generally a brief *résumé* of the Proceedings.

He takes strong ground against introducing the "benefit system" into masonry, as being "utterly subversive of the principles and ground-work of masonry."

We are exceedingly glad to welcome Bro. BLACKIE again, after a silence of five years; and we deeply regret that the late hour at which these Proceedings were received, makes it impossible for us to go over his excellent report.

COLON AND CUBA.

We had intended to make a *special* report in relation to the Grand Lodge of Cuba (so called) and the Grand Lodge of Colon; but having finally concluded to recommend that no action be taken this year, we incorporate our discussion in one general report.

We have received a variety of documents from the "Grand Lodge of Colon" and the "Grand Lodge of Cuba," which a want of time has prevented us from carefully examining. We are indebted to Bro. ALBERT PIKE for a full his-

tory of masonic matters in Cuba, of which we have, by his kind permission, availed ourselves in the following discussion.

In 1859, three lodges at Santiago de Cuba—two chartered by the Hesperic Grand Orient (in Spain), and one by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina—formed a Grand Lodge.

Immediately thereafter, ANDRES CASSARD formed the Supreme Council of Colon. CASSARD's authority was derived from the Southern Supreme Council, and was restricted to the forming of a Supreme Council only after the formation of a Grand Lodge, and *without* jurisdiction over the symbolic degrees.

Unfortunately, CASSARD gave them for their government a *Grand Orient* Constitution, and they undertook to form a Grand Orient, composed, among others, of the Grand Lodge and the Supreme Council. But this Grand Orient never organized and never met.

In 1867, the Grand Lodge adopted Constitutions for the government of Symbolic Masonry and the blue lodges, putting them in force of its own authority, as the supreme power of Symbolic Masonry. The Supreme Council inquired by what right this was done, and denied the power of the Grand Lodge to do it. In 1868 the dispute was settled by a decree of the Supreme Council putting the Grand Orient *in recess*, and providing for a General Assembly, in three months, to adjust everything, and in the meantime the Supreme Council was to govern all masonry. But the rebellion broke out, and in consequence the General Assembly was never held; the Grand Lodge could not meet, and the Supreme Council exercised all powers until 1873. In 1874, the Grand Lodge which had, from time to time, asserted its rights, exercised them by the creation, at Havana, of a "Provincial Mother Lodge," with power to create and govern lodges, but *under the Grand Lodge*. But this "Mother Lodge" became contumacious, encouraged the lodges to disregard the authority of the Grand Lodge, and proceeded so far in this direction, that on July 28, 1876, the Grand Lodge abolished it by a decree published in the Official Bulletin of the first of August, but which could not have reached Havana until three or four days afterwards. By this decree, the Grand Lodge of Colon resumed its direct authority over the lodges—which, with all powers of sovereignty over Symbolic Masonry, it had reserved to itself when it agreed to become a part of the Grand Orient, that never met or organized.

But in the meantime, other events had taken place. On July 2, 1876, the Provincial Mother Lodge, by resolution unanimously adopted, advised its constituents to withhold the dues from the Grand Lodge of Colon: this resolution, the proposer (Bro. ALMEIDA), now the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, in his History of Masonry, characterizes as "a real rebellion." About the middle of the same month, many of the members of this "Provincial Mother Lodge," undoubtedly expecting that discipline would follow their rebellious acts against the Grand Lodge, conceived the project of estab-

lishing a new Grand Lodge, as a means of escaping it. Thereupon Bro. ALMEIDA (as he says) was dispatched to New York to consult "the Eminent Masonic Jurisconsult, JOHN W. SIMONS." Bro. ALMEIDA sailed from Havana on July 22d. On consulting Bro. SIMONS, he enthusiastically welcomed the idea of the Havana Brethren and commended it in a letter to Bro. RICHARD VAUX, of Pennsylvania. We fear that the ardent desire of these distinguished Brethren, to separate Grand Lodges from all entanglements with Grand Orients, has led them into a serious error. Bro. ALMEIDA, after his consultation with Bro. SIMONS, sent a telegraphic dispatch to his co-adjutor in Havana, which was received at midnight of the very day (July 28) on which the Grand Lodge had abolished the Provincial Mother Lodge, and resumed direct authority over the lodges of its obedience.

Three days after (on the first of August), some of the Masters, Deputy Masters and Wardens of some of the lodges at Havana, *without any vote of or authority from their lodges, and, as we believe, without any regular notice at all*, and certainly without *any* notice to the lodges on the other side of the Island, met in convention, and assumed to form the Grand Lodge of Cuba, with exclusive jurisdiction throughout the whole Island! In their own official statement, they claim only that they represented lodges "faithful to the Mother Provincial Lodge." Our statement, that these officers who professed to represent their lodges, had no vote of their lodges, authorizing them to do so, is based upon allegations in the numbers of the Official Bulletin for February and March, 1878, and of which we have seen no contradiction. At any rate, in the official account, no lodge is mentioned, and it is not shown that any lodge had met and given authority to its officers to proceed in the matter. Moreover, the short time between the receipt of Bro. AMERICA's telegram and the meeting of the Convention, would scarcely give opportunity to call lodge meetings and act in the premises.

The lodges claimed to be represented at the formation of the Grand Lodge of Cuba were nine, viz: Amor Fraternal, Esperanza, Hijos de la Viuda, Cosmopolita, Constancia, Fé, Caridad, Yucayo, and Ciencia y Virtud. In Amor Fraternal, after the formation of the Grand Lodge, the Master endeavored to secure a ratification of his action: of the 28 members present, 21 protested against it, and withdrew, and sent their protest to the Grand Lodge. In Constancia, also, the proposition to confirm the proceedings was opposed by the Senior Wardens, and the Wardens, Orator, and four other officers, and 66 members protested against the action of their Master, and avowed their loyalty to the Grand Lodge of Colon. Also members of Cosmopolita and Hijos de la Viuda protested against the acts of their respective Masters.

We notice, moreover, that nearly all the officers of the Grand Lodge of Cuba were officers in the "Provincial Mother Lodge," when it commenced its rebellion against the Grand Lodge of Colon, and were prominent actors in

that rebellion. This fact has an important bearing, and should be borne in mind.

BRO. RAMON ILLA, in behalf of the adherents of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, defends their action on the ground that the original Grand Lodge of Colon committed suicide in 1868, by submitting to the Supreme Council, that it was created anew in 1873, and continued to be a part of the Grand Orient until after the first of August, 1876: and, therefore, that the lodges, which formed the Grand Lodge of Cuba, had the right to disown and repudiate it. But we think that this was an after-thought, and that, while it is an arrow shot by BRO. ILLA, it comes from BRO. SIMONS' quiver.

At the time of the attempted formation of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, there were in Cuba the following lodges, which were not notified to take part, and did not take part in that movement, viz: the three lodges which formed the original Grand Lodge of Colon formed in 1859; and one lodge chartered by it in 1864, one in 1865, one in 1866, one in 1867, and two in 1868, before the alleged suicide—nine in all.

BRO. ILLA says that, in 1873, the Supreme Council re-installed the Grand Lodge of Colon, "though only as a section *thereof*," that is to say, as a section of *itself*, but that is not correct, it was as a "section" of the *Grand Orient*, of which the Supreme Council was a "section" also: we remark here, that in the Grand Orient system the Grand Lodge is not subordinated to the Supreme Council, as BRO. VAUX assumes, but is *associated with* the Supreme Council in the Grand Orient, with full powers over Symbolic Masonry.

But all doubts on this point are dissipated by the fact that on August 28, 1874, a compact was made, by which the sovereign rights of the Grand Lodge of Colon over Symbolic Masonry were acknowledged and proclaimed, and to this compact the Havana, Cardenas and Matanzas Lodges were parties. This compact was actually signed by at least one of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Cuba!

After August, 1874, the Grand Lodge of Colon was either a regular Grand Lodge or it was not; if it was then regular, it has ever since continued to be, and now is, regular, and the so-called Grand Lodge of Cuba, of necessity, is not. If it was irregular, it involves the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Cuba in a curious absurdity; if it was not regular, the "Provincial Mother Lodge" was a clandestine Body, the lodges created both by it and the "Mother Lodge" were and are clandestine, and these Brethren proclaim themselves loyal to a clandestine Body, and united with clandestine lodges in the formation of a Grand Lodge! For *three* of the chartered lodges which BRO. ILLA says took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, were chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colon, after, he says, it had committed suicide, and the four lodges *U. D.* were created by this "Provincial Mother Lodge," herself created by the Grand Lodge of Colon, after he says it committed suicide!

The Grand Lodge of Cuba cannot be recognized for several reasons :

1. Because there was a regular Grand Lodge then existing in Cuba, or else the Grand Lodge of Cuba was formed by a convention composed in part of the representatives of clandestine lodges.

2. Because the officers undertaking to represent their lodges were not authorized by their lodges to do so.

3. Because the Convention was not legally called, nor all, or even a majority, of the regular lodges in the Island notified thereof.

4. Because a majority of the regular lodges in the jurisdiction did not participate in the movement: if we regard those chartered before the alleged "suicide of the Grand Lodge," *nine* did not participate, and it is not claimed that more than *six* did; if we regard *all* the lodges, *twenty-four* did not participate, and not more than *nine* did.

We desire to submit to Bros. SIMONS and VAUX the following questions, fraternally requesting from them a careful consideration and a direct answer :

1. If the Grand Lodge of Colon was not a regular Grand Lodge on August 1, 1876, had it not been irregular during the three years previous ?

2. Is a lodge, chartered by an irregular Grand Lodge, a regular lodge ?

3. Were the three lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colon between 1873 and 1876, which took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, regular or irregular ?

4. If irregular, is not the Grand Lodge, which they took part in forming, for that reason irregular, also ?

5. Are the Masters and Wardens of a lodge authorized to represent their lodge in the formation of a Grand Lodge, without a vote of the lodge empowering them to do so ?

6. Can a minority of lodges in a given jurisdiction legally form a Grand Lodge for that jurisdiction ?

7. Must not, at least, a majority of the lodges in the jurisdiction be notified of a convention to form a Grand Lodge, in order to make their action valid ?

We are compelled to say, after a very careful examination, that the proceedings of our Cuban Brethren, in their attempt to form a Grand Lodge, were, in our opinion, utterly in conflict with masonic law, and subversive of the principles upon which all other American Grand Lodges have been formed.

But in the hope that the two Grand Bodies will form a fraternal union, we recommend that further action upon this subject be postponed until the next Annual Communication.

STATISTICS.

We give our usual table.

TABLE.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Susp'd for non-payment of dues.	Died.	Rejected.
Alabama,.....	7,829	242	501	381	21	16	568	148	64
Arkansas,.....	8,291	347	435	395	22	25	322	210	.....
British Columbia,..	312	15	26	14	0	0	2	6	6
California,.....	12,168	574	662	486	8	10	354	162	222
Canada,.....	17,220	1,510	501	862	3	30	503	181	.....
Colorado,.....	1,486	120	105	71	3	.....	59	13	56
Connecticut,.....	15,016	441	106	162	8	9	138	155	149
Dakota,.....	253	.....	1	2	.....	.....	*5	2	.....
Delaware,.....	1,266	39	12	16	0	2	.....	12	3
Dist. of Columbia,.	2,750	126	76	46	2	0	149	38	.....
Florida,.....	2,212	115	156	80	2	.....	*55	39	38
Georgia,.....	13,195	393	317	593	60	.....	*622	189	120
Idaho,.....	405	20	8	21	2	2	.....	6	4
Illinois,.....	39,388	1,813	884	1,325	65	.....	1,498	417	535
Indiana,.....	28,101	1,162	646	1,061	204	59	495	335	.....
Indian Territory,..	260	36	17	23	0	0	4	1	.....
Iowa,.....	17,876	1,056	561	878	16	33	.....	116	.....
Kansas,.....	6,589	305	426	305	8	7	282	63	.....
Kentucky,.....	19,914	890	590	862	40	.....	*1,484	271	.....
Louisiana,.....	6,034	149	167	175	4	.....	*290	133	.....
Maine,.....	19,436	572	829	296	7	4	262	211	201
Manitoba,.....	316	35	23	29	0	0	5	5	.....
Maryland,.....	5,598	92	5	66	4	.....	100	38	.....
Massachusetts,....	26,214	1,005	1,359	543	4	0	878	271	360
Michigan,.....	27,055	1,058	566	701	46	.....	*669	238	448
Minnesota,.....	6,739	374	232	232	4	10	150	44	.....
Mississippi,.....	8,416	265	433	427	13	28	602	148	.....
Missouri,.....	23,220	780	824	873	85	82	336	295	339
Montana,.....	664	25	25	34	1	3	16	12	15
Nebraska,.....	2,889	139	289	112	5	.....	*57	16	.....
Nevada,.....	1,515	51	79	62	2	0	58	8	29
New Brunswick,...	2,236	139	56	104	1	.....	*100	20	.....
New Hampshire,...	7,647	206	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Jersey,.....	12,051	463	265	201	7	4	325	154	.....
New Mexico,.....	165	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New York,.....	78,913	3,081	1,346	1,246	41	16	5,167	917	816
North Carolina,....	11,710	245	117	173	17	26	239	114	86
Nova Scotia,.....	3,499	327	115	159	0	8	141	47	78
Ohio,.....	29,296	1,132	1,040	728	159	24	1,744	324	.....
Oregon,.....	2,384	155	108	114	9	6	42	27	48
Pennsylvania,.....	38,236	1,384	372	424	.....	.....	*1,328	461	.....
P. E. Island,.....	584	22	9	.....	0	0	3	3	.....
Quebec,.....	2,810	219	78	128	.....	.....	*101	30	.....
Rhode Island,.....	4,326	91	86	90	0	3	.....	51	51
South Carolina,....	6,913	262	.....	195	.....	.....	344	93	15
Tennessee,.....	17,911	479	532	864	31	314	488	275	.....
Texas,.....	16,850	921	1,120	1,134	52	.....	304	297	369
Utah,.....	367	29	19	17	0	1	2	2	12
Vermont,.....	8,649	216	71	137	3	2	95	76	78

GRAND LODGES.	M.	R.	A. & R.	W.	E.	S.	S. for n. p. d.	D.	R.
Virginia,.....	10,108	.....	89	338	11	15	223	121	.....
Washington,.....	808	53	63	42	0	5	18	9	22
West Virginia,...	3,365	172	113	95	7	7	172	46	52
Wisconsin,.....	10,688	550	264	348	7	19	249	91	211
Wyoming,....	300	29	15	10	2	0	2	2	
Total,.....	592,443	23,861	16,744	17,681	986	770	21,051	7,038	4,374

* Including suspensions of all kinds.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	1878. Gr. Lodges.	1878. Totals.	1877. Gr. Lodges.	1877. Totals.	1876. Gr. Lodges.	1876. Totals.
Members,	54	592,443	52	602,089	50	594,817
Raised,	51	23,861	50	30,695	48	34,208
Admissions, &c.,	51	16,744	46	17,978	46	19,231
Dimissions,	51	17,681	49	18,920	47	18,475
Expulsions,	48	986	49	1,039	47	908
Suspensions,	37	770	37	1,064	31	775
" npt. dues,	48	21,051	49	17,261	47	15,984
Deaths,	52	7,038	50	7,102	48	6,804
Rejections,	29	4,374	28	6,142	28	6,340

It will be seen that there has been a falling off in the total membership. This is the first time we have had occasion to report this fact. The dimissions exceed the affiliations, both of which, however, have decreased during the year. But the suspensions for non-payment of dues have increased about four thousand in forty-eight out of the fifty-four Grand Lodges, showing that the "pruning process" is still going on. The reduction in membership is owing, to quite an extent, to the surrender or forfeiture of charters: for instance, our membership in Maine has fallen off, but if the members of a lodge, whose charter has been surrendered during the past year, should be counted, there would be a small increase. But there is one consolation—although the number has decreased, we believe the average quality of the membership has increased.

CONCLUSION.

We intended to make our report briefer: but as it was printed nearly as fast as it was prepared, it has grown to its present dimensions almost of necessity.

Hoping it may do some good, it is

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, }
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, } Committee.
STEPHEN BERRY, }

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge proceed to the installation of officers.

Past Grand Master JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND was called to the East.

M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM was presented for installation by the Grand Marshal, and installed in ample form as Grand Master.

The Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens were then presented, and installed by Past Grand Master DRUMMOND.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following appointments:

R. W. JOSEPH M. HAYES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Bath.
" SAMUEL E. JEWETT,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Fort Fairfield
" E. HOWARD VOSE,	" 2d "	Calais.
" HENRY R. TAYLOR,	" 3d "	Machias.
" DAVID W. WEBSTER,	" 4th "	Castine.
" THOMAS J. PEEKES,	" 5th "	Charleston.
" FRANK H. DRUMMOND,	" 6th "	Bangor.
" JOHN P. BILLINGS,	" 7th "	Clinton.
" GEORGE L. MERRILL,	" 8th "	Searsport.
" PHILANDER J. CARLETON,	" 9th "	Rockport.
" ALMORE KENNEDY,	" 10th "	Waldoboro.
" GEORGE P. HASKELL,	" 11th "	Augusta.
" R. WESLEY DUNN,	" 12th "	Waterville.
R. W. TURNER BUSWELL,	" 13th "	Solon.
" JAMES B. WESCOTT,	" 14th "	Bath.
" ARCHIE L. TALBOT,	" 15th "	Lewiston.
" EDGAR H. POWERS,	" 16th "	Hanover.
" GEORGE W. DEERING,	" 17th "	Portland.
" SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	" 18th "	Denmark.
" JOHN S. DERBY,	" 19th "	Saco.
W. & Rev. CHAS. C. MASON,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Kent's Hill.
" CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "	Kennebunk.
" WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "	Portland.
" CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "	Augusta.
" H. C. MUNSON,	" "	Wilton.

W. & Rev. L. P. FRENCH,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Solon.
" J. R. BOWLER,	" "	Rockland.
" A. J. McLEOD,	" "	Waldoboro.
W. BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Portland.
" AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon,</i>	Gardiner.
" ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
" ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Camden.
" AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "	East Machias.
" CHARLES E. WELD,	" "	West Buxton.
" W. R. G. ESTES,	" "	Skowhegan.
" H. H. BURBANK,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Saco.
" WM. H. SMITH,	<i>G. Standard Bearer,</i>	Portland.
" LEVI W. SMITH,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Vinalhaven.
" MOSES W. EMERY,	" "	Sanford.
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	<i>Grand Lecturer,</i>	Portland.
" GEORGE M. HOWE,	<i>Grand Organist,</i>	Portland.
BRO. WARREN PHILLIPS,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

The remaining Grand Officers present were presented by the Grand Marshal, and installed by P. G. M. DRUMMOND.

The Grand Marshal made proclamation that the officers of the Grand Lodge were duly installed into their respective offices.

On motion of Bro. ROTHEUS E. PAINE,

Voted, That all Grand Officers, not now installed, present themselves for installation to one of the first four officers of the Grand Lodge, to a District Deputy Grand Master, or in their respective lodges, and cause certificates of such installation to be transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to notify each of the Grand Officers, who have not been installed, of his appointment, and of the vote of the Grand Lodge providing for his installation.

The Grand Officers not present, were Bros. HENRY R. TAYLOR, THOMAS J. PEEKES, GEORGE L. MERRILL, PHILANDER J. CARLETON, GEORGE P. HASKELL, R.

WESLEY DUNN, JAMES B. WESCOTT, EDGAR H. POWERS, SAMUEL G. DAVIS, D. D. G. Masters; Revs. CHARLES C. MASON, CHARLES C. VINAL, WILLIAM E. GIBBS, CHARLES A. CURTIS, L. P. FRENCH, J. R. BOWLER, A. J. McLEOD, Grand Chaplains; and MOSES W. EMERY, Grand Pursuivant.

M. W. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND presented the following report:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to which was referred so much of the address of the Grand Master as relates to the Grand Orient of France, have considered the matter and ask leave to report:

That there is no question that the Grand Orient of France has so far yielded to the demands of French atheism as to strike from the required qualifications of candidates, a belief in God, the Father.

For this reason, the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, Canada, and many of the States of our Union, have abolished all masonic intercourse with the Grand Orient.

The motto of the Grand Orient now is, "Freemasonry holds to the principle of an absolute freedom of conscience, and to the brotherhood of mankind. It excludes no one on account of his belief."

While this Grand Lodge yields to no man or body of men, in its emphatic belief in the freedom of conscience and the brotherhood of man, it recognizes these as the result of a belief in the Fatherhood of God. From time immemorial, a belief in God, the Creator and Father, has been the fundamental principle of Freemasonry, and from *this* principle *all others* flow as results. To abandon this principle, therefore, is to destroy the deep laid foundation upon which our whole Masonic Temple is builded. Our reply to the Grand Orient is, "No man or body of men can make innovations in masonry. To attempt this does not change masonry, but puts those who make the attempt outside of the pale of the Institution."

We therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, *for the Committee.*

Resolved, That the Grand Orient of France, by amending its Constitution in such a manner that atheists may be admitted as masons, has ceased to be a masonic body; and all masonic intercourse with it, its subordinate lodges, or the members of its obedience, is hereby forbidden.

Report accepted, and resolution adopted.

BRO. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following resolutions; which were adopted:

Resolved, That action upon the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of Colon or the Grand Lodge of Cuba, be postponed until the next Annual Communication; and that we hereby fraternally request the Brethren of both organizations to take measures to secure the unity of Freemasonry under one Grand Lodge in that jurisdiction.

Resolved, That action in reference to recognizing the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, be also postponed to the next Annual Communication, inasmuch as we have not sufficient evidence to determine the regularity of the formation of a Grand Lodge in New South Wales.

On motion of Bro. WILLIAM H. SMITH,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary, in issuing notices of the next annual communication, notify the lodges that the Committee on Credentials will be in session at half past seven o'clock in the morning, on the first day of the session, in Tyrian Hall.

The Grand Secretary reported, verbally, that the Trustees of the Charity Fund had examined the securities for the amounts invested, and found them correct; that they had approved the bond furnished by the Grand Treasurer; and had made appropriations for purposes of relief, amounting to eleven hundred dollars, distributed among seventy-seven applicants. Which report was accepted.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Foreign Correspondence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, STEPHEN BERRY.

On Publication.

IRA BERRY, MARQUIS F. KING, ALBERT W. LARRABEE.

On the History of Masonry in Maine.

ROTHEUS E. PAINE, CHARLES C. VINAL, CHARLES I. COLLAMORE.

On Masonic Jurisprudence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, WILLIAM P. PREBLE, HENRY H. DICKEY.

On Returns.

IRA BERRY, JOSEPH A. LOCKE, WARREN PHILLIPS.

On Credentials.

BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS, STEPHEN BERRY, WILLIAM H. SMITH.

On Amendments to Constitution.

ALBERT MOORE, DAVID CARGILL, HIRAM CHASE.

On Grievances and Appeals.

JOSEPH M. HAYES, ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, F. LORING TALBOT.

On Dispensations and Charters.

HORACE H. BURBANK, W. R. G. ESTES, JOHN B. REDMAN.

Which appointments were confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Bros. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND and IRA BERRY were continued with the Grand Master, as the Library Committee.

On motion of Bro. DRUMMOND,

Voted, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to procure copies of the Masonic Text Book for the use of the Grand Lodge and for exchanges with other Grand Lodges.

The minutes of this Communication were read by the Assistant Grand Secretary, and approved by the Grand Lodge.

BRO. STEPHEN BERRY, for the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that the business of the session was completed ; which report was accepted.

The Grand Lodge of Maine was then closed in ample form.

Attest,



Ira Berry,

Grand Secretary.

REPORTS
OF
District Deputy Grand Masters.

FIRST DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to present my report as D. D. G. M. of the First Masonic District for the past year.

The state of the Order in this District is quite satisfactory. The various lodges have gone on with their usual work and business in a peaceful and harmonious manner.

I have visited seven of the eight chartered lodges comprising this Masonic District.

Owing to sickness, I was unable to visit Monument Lodge, of Houlton, and commissioned P. D. D. JNO. B. TRAFTON to visit it for me. He reports the lodge in excellent condition, its records well kept and peace and harmony prevailing.

October 2d, I visited Molunkus Lodge, Sherman Mills. There was a good attendance, and the work on the M. M. degree was not only accurate as to ritual, but was performed in a manner which cannot fail to make a deep and lasting impression upon the mind of the candidate. The records are in good order. This lodge needs a larger hall very much, and I was pleased to learn that steps had been taken toward building one.

I visited Katahdin Lodge, Patten, October 3d. It was a stormy evening, but the attendance was good; and a very pleasant, and I trust profitable, evening was spent in passing the lectures. Much praise is due the Brethren for their excellent taste in furnishing and fitting up their hall; it is a very neat and inviting lodge room. The records are in the hands of a good Secretary.

November 22d, I installed the officers of Baskahegan Lodge, at Danforth, and witnessed work on the second degree. This is the youngest and most flourishing lodge in this District. Its officers are young and energetic, and will soon, I trust, have a hall sufficiently large to accommodate its rapidly increasing members. The records show a very good attendance, and are well and accurately kept.

December 27th, I installed the officers of Caribou Lodge, Caribou. It being my masonic home, I have attended most of the meetings the past year. Their records are in the hands of an efficient Secretary.

January 12th, I installed the officers of Eastern Frontier Lodge, at Fort Fairfield. There being no work on hand, the evening was very pleasantly spent in exemplifying work and passing lectures. Their records are very neatly and correctly kept.

January 19th, I installed the officers of Trinity Lodge, at Presque Isle; witnessed work upon the F. C. degree by the new officers, which was exceedingly well done. Records in excellent hands and well kept.

March 30th, I visited Pioneer Lodge, Ashland. This lodge, though deriving its membership from a large and rather sparsely settled jurisdiction, shows a percentage of attendance upon its meetings of which few lodges can boast, and is rapidly gaining the position it once occupied. Its officers are carefully selected and its work well done. The records are in the hands of a careful Secretary.

In all cases where I have been obliged to make corrections, they have been received with the kindest feeling, and all of the officers have evinced a desire to obtain the exact work.

I wish to return my thanks to the officers and Brethren throughout the District for the courtesy and respect which has been extended to me at all of my visits. The following is an abstract from the returns of the several lodges:

Number of lodges,	8
Whole number of members,	501
“ “ “ initiates,	38
Amount of initiation fee,	\$76.00
“ “ Annual fee,	75.15
Total to Grand Lodge,	<u>\$151.15</u>

Respectfully submitted,

CALVIN B. ROBERTS, D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

Caribou, April 15, 1878.

SECOND DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my annual report.

The past year has been one of unusual quiet in this District. There has been but little work; only nine initiations in the five lodges. The prevailing lack of money seems to produce its effect in masonic as well as business matters, of which we have good proof in the largely increased number of applications for charity and aid. None of the usual vexed questions have arisen to disturb the harmony of the lodges, or detract from their fraternal feelings. I have been able to visit but three of the five lodges, owing to circumstances which I could not control. In those I have visited, the work and business has been carried on in a good, thorough manner, and the records are well kept. The other two I have often heard from, and been kept well informed as to their progress, and am satisfied they are in the hands of faithful and competent officers, and are in excellent condition.

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

Lodges,	5	Deprived of membership,	35
Members,	696	Dimitted,	9
Initiates,	9	Deceased,	7
Suspended,	1	Non-affiliated,	26
Expelled,	1		
Initiation fees,		\$18.00	
Annual dues,		104.40	
		<u>\$122.40</u>	

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

E. HOWARD VOSE, *D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.*

Calais, April 26, 1878.

THIRD DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The supervision of the following lodges was assigned me as Deputy of the Third Masonic District:

Warren Lodge, No. 2, East Machias,
 Narraguagus Lodge, No. 88, Cherryfield,
 Harwood Lodge, No. 91, Machias,
 Tuscan Lodge, No. 106, Addison Point,
 Lookout Lodge, No. 131, Cutler,
 Pleiades Lodge, No. 173, Millbridge.

In submitting to you the present report for the masonic year, I have the pleasure of informing you that the lodges have been visited by me as follows :

February 12, 1878, installed officers of Warren Lodge, East Machias; examined records, &c. No work, but has competent officers; financial affairs well kept, and is really in good condition.

The lodge has been singularly afflicted during the year, in the loss by death of many members. Among them, Past Master and Past District Deputy Grand Master JOHN F. HARRIS, whose long continued and faithful labors on earth as a *man* and a *mason*, have their highest reward, their glorious fruition in that "Celestial Lodge above," and in that fadeless remembrance, cherished as heartfelt tribute by his Brethren.

February 16th, visited Lookout Lodge, Cutler, and installed officers, making such examination and suggestion as circumstances required.

February 20th, visited Tuscan Lodge, Addison, and publicly installed officers, as they had provided accommodation and entertainment for the pleasant occasion.

March 6th, visited Pleiades Lodge, Millbridge. As arrangements had been made for a public installation, that ceremony was witnessed by a large gathering of masonic friends. It was rendered more pleasing and impressive by the excellent anthems and musical selections of the choir, and a brief, yet appropriate address from Rev. Bro. H. M. EASTON. Supper tables, bountifully spread, social conversation and singing concluded the evening.

Though not actually visiting Narraguagus Lodge, Cherryfield, officially, it was my privilege to participate, last January, in the ceremonies of Chapter installation, wherein most of its officers held concurrent positions in the lodge. Therefore I obtained such information as could well be rendered respecting the lodge affairs.

Of Harwood Lodge, Machias, I ought, perhaps, in modesty, to speak "little thereof," being a member of it and in constant attendance. But justice requires me to make, at least, casual reference to its well-earned reputation, its efficient officers and its financial prosperity. It could not well be otherwise, under the careful administration of its present faithful and experienced Master.

The past unusual winter has rendered traveling, either with "wheels" or "runners" (our only modes of conveyance in this District, as yet innocent of railroads), a matter of fatigue, uncertainty and inconvenience. And where the visit to a single lodge involves two days' time, "duplicate visits" have been almost impossible. I regret this exceedingly, for in many instances the public nature of attendant ceremonies limited, if not precluded, that "strict examination" so essential where lodges, as well as individuals, are concerned.

While some of the lodges have had *no* work, and a general depression, perhaps, has been felt by all, yet I am happy to record that neither pecuniary allurements, nor the desire of "brightening rusty tools upon inferior mate-

rial" has warped them from adherence to masonic principle, or induced them for one moment to consider a poor acceptance preferable to "a square rejection."

To the matter of dues, more attention has been directed by lodges during the past year than at any former period.

Where the membership of a lodge is extended over several towns, or is composed largely of sea-faring men, whose occasional "home visits" are brief as well as unexpected, a Secretary finds extreme difficulty in collecting dues.

The accumulation is often of serious importance to the delinquent and to the lodge. In all such cases, great care and discretion has been recommended, that while the heart might be filled with charity, the hand should be guided by justice.

Respectfully submitted,

H. R. TAYLOR, *D. D. G. M. 3d M. D.*

Machias, March 28, 1878.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith most respectfully submit my report as D. D. G. M. of the Fourth Masonic District.

This District comprises eleven chartered lodges, all of which I have visited.

Masonry, in common with other associations, has felt the depressing effects of the lethargic industries of the country. The amount of work during the past year, as well as for some time previous, has been small; the natural result is, that there is less facility in its execution than would have existed with more practice. Yet an earnest desire is manifested by all the officers in this jurisdiction to conform strictly to the ritual in their work; but as all are not favored with ready means of information, they labor under difficulties.

The lodges in this District are mostly supplied with safe and convenient halls, which are generally well and comfortably furnished. In the construction of halls, the subject of ventilation has frequently received less attention than its importance demands.

The By-laws of all the lodges have received the sanction of the Grand Lodge. Marine Lodge is the only one which has not complied with the requirements of the Grand Lodge respecting its history. The lodges have generally supplied themselves with the New Text Book, which can but prove of great advantage to them, inasmuch as it brings, in so available a form, the information so necessary to the management of every lodge. It will also doubtless materially lighten the labors of Grand Officers.

November 19th, visited Eggmoggin Lodge, at Sedgwick. Witnessed an exemplification of work on the third degree, which was well done, and substantially in accordance with that of the Grand Lodge. They have a fine, commodious, well furnished hall. The Brethren justly feel proud of their beautiful masonic home, and manifest a high degree of interest. The records, kept by Bro. SMITH, are models of neatness, brevity and perspicuity.

November 20th, visited Marine Lodge, at Deer Isle, and found it in a much less prosperous condition than could be wished. They have had no work for two years. Much indifference prevails. They have an excellent hall, and a population of between three and four thousand from which to select material. Surely a good lodge ought to be sustained there. It is hoped that, by the interest manifested by some of the Brethren, and by judicious management, an improvement will soon be effected.

November 21st, visited Naskeag Lodge, at Brooklin. Found it in excellent condition and a good degree of interest prevailing, as indicated by the fact that the Terpsichorean exercises going on in the hall below failed to entice the young craftsmen from their labors. They have an excellent and well furnished hall. Witnessed an exemplification of work on the third degree, which was well done, and with very few variations from the established work. The records are very well and neatly kept.

December 10th, visited Tremont Lodge, at Tremont. Witnessed an exemplification of work on the third degree. The Senior Warden was absent, as were also several other officers, whose places were filled by officers *pro tem*. Many of the brethren had been away at sea, or engaged in fishing operations, and the lodge had not fully commenced its winter labors; yet, under all these adverse circumstances, the work was good and very impressively performed. The records were well kept, and the finances of the lodge well looked after and in good condition.

December 11th, visited Mt. Desert Lodge, at Mt. Desert. The evening was stormy and very disagreeable, yet quite a number of Brethren assembled in their comfortable, well furnished lodge room. Informed myself respecting their mode of work, which the Brethren were anxious to have conform to that authorized by the Grand Lodge. I am satisfied that their efforts have been attended with good success. The records were well kept, and the financial condition of the lodge is good.

December 12th, visited Lygonia Lodge, at Ellsworth. W. Bro. REDMAN, who is an excellent presiding officer, opened his lodge on the third degree; and as they had had no work since last spring, he passed lectures or parts of lectures in all the degrees, which showed that, when in practice, the lodge fully sustains its excellent reputation for good work. The records were in good condition and very neatly kept.

December 13th, visited Esoteric Lodge, at Ellsworth. Found the records well kept, and everything pertaining to them in good condition. By request, assisted by P. D. D. G. M. Bro. J. T. CUSHMAN, installed the officers elect

(the old officers had all been re-elected), after which witnessed an exemplification of work on the second degree. I have seldom witnessed greater promptness or business-like facility in the conferring of degrees; and, considering that the lodge had had no work since last spring, it was remarkably well done and in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge.

December 26th, visited Rising Star Lodge, at Penobscot. Found a high degree of interest prevailing in this new lodge. By request, assisted by P. M. CHAS. H. HOOPER, and Bro. REA, of Hancock Lodge, installed the officers elect. The records are very neatly kept by Bro. GRINDAL, who is remarkably successful in collecting lodge dues.

December 27th, visited Hancock Lodge, at Castine. I have witnessed about all the work this lodge has done, which is substantially correct, it being the aim of the officers to have their work correspond with that approved by the Grand Lodge. By request, installed the officers elect. The records are kept in Bro. SHEPHERD's neat and methodical manner.

February 4th, visited Felicity Lodge, at Bucksport. Witnessed an exemplification of work on the second degree, which was in conformity to the Grand Lodge requirements, and, considering the want of practice for some time past, was very well rendered. The records were well arranged and neatly kept.

February 5th, visited Rising Sun Lodge, at Orland. Witnessed an exemplification of work on the second degree. They had had no work for a long time, yet it was very well rendered, considering the want of practice, and was substantially correct. The records were well kept and in good condition.

The Brethren in West Brooksville who applied for a dispensation at the last session of the Grand Lodge, propose making another application at its next session. The situation is this: Brooksville is separated from Castine, where Hancock Lodge is located, by Castine harbor, or Bagaduce river. There is a ferry three miles above the village, but the usual mode of crossing, for the purpose of transacting business or attending lodge meetings, is to cross directly from the village; the distance is about two miles. Frequently it is difficult and sometimes impossible to cross. The Brethren, during the past two or three winters, have held weekly meetings for instruction, with a view to the establishment of a lodge there. They have a good secure hall (the one built by the Good Templars), which the Brother who owns it will present to the lodge in case a charter is granted. There are some excellent Brethren in Brooksville, who can soon qualify themselves for officers. I witnessed an exemplification of work on the second degree there a short time since, which was fairly done. They claim that that there are about sixty persons who would unite with the lodge if one were established there. This I consider a fair statement of their case.

Hancock, Eggemoggin and Rising Star Lodges now have jurisdiction in Brooksville. A lodge established there would have no territory besides the town of Brooksville for its support, and the territory of Hancock Lodge

would be reduced to the town of Castine. Eggemoggin and Rising Star Lodges would be less affected than Hancock Lodge. The people in the western part of Brooksville are better convened by Hancock Lodge than they would be by a lodge at West Brooksville. Brooksville has a population of 1,276, according to the census of 1870, and Castine a population of 1,304. The average population to a lodge in the State is 3,482, and setting aside 126,915 as not available for the support of lodges, there still remains a population to each lodge of 2,777, a number greater than the united population of both Brooksville and Castine. I can, therefore, foresee but the existence of two weak lodges, even if they *exist*, should a charter be granted.

Personally, I would be glad to see the Brooksville Brethren in the enjoyment of every masonic privilege they desire; but in the consideration of this question, the interests of masonry should be paramount to every other.

Permit me through you, to express my thanks to the Brethren for their kindness and courtesy during my visits.

The following is an abstract of the returns of lodges as far as received:

	No. Initiates.	Amount G. L. Dues.
Hancock, No. 4, Castine,	3	\$20.10
Felicity, No. 19, Bucksport,	2	27.55
Lygonia, No. 40, Ellsworth,	4	47.00
Rising Sun, No. 71, Orland,	0	14.25
Tremont, No. 77, Tremont,	3	24.30
Marine, No. 122, Deer Isle,	0	24.75
Eggemoggin, No. 128, Sedgwick,	4	24.05
Mt. Desert, No. 140, Mt. Desert,	3	19.95
Esoteric, No. 159, Ellsworth,	2	15.85
Naskeag, No. 171, Brooklin,	1	9.80
Rising Star, No. 177, Penobscot,	2	9.25
		<u>\$237.45</u>

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID W. WEBSTER, JR., D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

Castine, April 1, 1877.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

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

This District comprises eleven chartered lodges, most of which are in a prosperous condition. In a few instances lodges have done a fair amount of work, though the majority of them have done but little; but the work, in

nearly every instance, has been performed in a creditable manner. The records in most of the lodges are neatly and correctly kept; but some lodges change Secretaries quite too often, and the craft suffer thereby.

I wish to return my thanks to the Officers and Brethren throughout the District for the respect which has been extended to me at all my visits.

The following is an abstract from the returns of the several lodges:

Whole number of members,	979
" " initiates,	26
Amount of initiation fees,	\$52.00
" annual dues,	146.85
Total amount of dues to Grand Lodge,	\$198.85

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL DOLLOFF, JR., *D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.*

Dexter, April 27, 1878.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

As D. D. G. M. of the Sixth Masonic District, I have the honor herewith to submit the following report:

Of the thirteen lodges comprising this District, I have visited seven during the past masonic year. On account of business engagements, and the unprecedented bad traveling the past winter and this spring, I have been deprived of the pleasure of visiting all of the lodges in the District. A number of the lodges have done considerable work the past year; but the most of them have had but little to do, and some few have had none. Yet, so far as I have been able to see and learn, there has been a very good degree of interest manifested, and the meetings have been very well attended.

I had the pleasure of witnessing work in all but one of the lodges that I visited, and in most cases it was quite correct and very well rendered.

In every instance where I made corrections, or any suggestions, they were received with a fraternal spirit. I found the records of all of the lodges very correct and neatly kept.

Again, I wish to return my thanks to the officers and Brethren throughout the District, for the attention and courtesy that has been extended to me at all of my visits. Having served as D. D. G. M. for the two years past, I most respectfully decline a re-appointment.

The following is an abstract from the returns of the several lodges:

Whole number of members,	1,500
“ “ “ initiates,	38
Amount of annual fees,	\$225.90
“ “ initiation fees,	66.00
Total dues to Grand Lodge,	\$291.90

Respectfully submitted,

Bangor, May 3, 1878.

MANLY G. TRASK, *D. D. G. M. 6th M. D.*

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I here submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Seventh District:

The lodges in the District are enjoying as good an amount of prosperity as could be reasonably expected in a time of such great business depression as the past year has been. Most of the lodges are showing a very commendable activity in relation to the collection of their yearly dues from members who have been for a number of years in arrears, and seem to be determined that all shall share the *burdens* as well as the *benefits* of the Institution.

Sebasticook Lodge, at Clinton, has done the most work of any lodge in the District during the last year, and have used, as I believe, only the best of material. The records are well and neatly kept, and the affairs of the lodge are in a generally prosperous condition.

Central Lodge, at China, is the largest lodge in the District, as well as the oldest, and its affairs are in the hands of able and judicious managers, who well understand their duty and strive to do it.

Unity Lodge have a large and commodious hall at Thorndike Station, and give promise of becoming a large and prosperous lodge. Their hall was dedicated on the 22d day of November last, by Deputy Grand Master C. I. COLAMORE, who seemed well pleased with their new and commodious rooms, and who gave the lodge excellent and appropriate advice after the dedicatory services. The opposition to the removal of this lodge from Freedom to Thorndike is rapidly disappearing, and the lodge has, I believe, if rightly managed, a prosperous future before it.

Star in the West Lodge, at Unity, still occupy their old hall, and, although this lodge deserves and should have better accommodations, I do not learn that there is any prospect of it in the near future. There are only two lodges in the District that exceed it in numbers, and it is generally in a prosperous condition, with the exception of its very poor accommodations as to rooms.

Liberty Lodge, at Liberty, in regard to numbers, is the second lodge in the District, and they have one of the best lodge rooms. Their work for the past year has been small, and yet there are few lodges where a better interest has been maintained. They have made a very determined effort for the collection of their dues during the past year, and have thus far succeeded well.

Quantabacook Lodge have maintained a good degree of interest, and have done a fair amount of work for the past year. Its records are well kept, and the lodge is in the hands of good and efficient officers.

Marsh River Lodge, at Brooks, I have met with at about every meeting for the past year. This lodge has reduced its dues during the past year, and have made quite an effort for the collection of arrearages. Considering the financial standing of the lodge, it has made a wrong move in the reduction of its dues. The meetings have been well attended during the past year, and its affairs are in a very fair condition.

I have been unable to make a visit to Trojan Lodge, at Troy, and Plymouth Lodge, at Plymouth, during the past year. Trojan Lodge has done no work for the past year, and Plymouth but a small amount. The affairs of both these lodges are in the hands of true and tried Brethren, and they tell me that they have a good degree of interest in their meetings.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, allow me to thank you for the honor and trust reposed in me by the position to which you have appointed me, and which I have tried to fill to your acceptance, and also to decline a re-appointment.

To the Brethren of the District, I would say that your kindness to me for the past four years which I have held the position, will ever be remembered by me; and may the same feeling be always shown to you which you have shown to me in my intercourse with you. The position was not sought by me at the first, and I now gladly relinquish it, and hope that a better man may be found to fill it.

Fraternally yours,

Brooks, April 15, 1878. JOHN H. GORDON, D. D. G. M. 7th M. D.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, I submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Eighth Masonic District.

There are eight lodges in this District, all of which I have visited once for the purpose of performing the duties required of me, and have endeavored to give such instruction and make such corrections as I deemed necessary.

I am certain, however, that the lodges in this District labor under a disadvantage, as there is but one copy of the work, as given by our Grand Lecturer and acknowledged by the Grand Lodge to be correct, in the whole District, at least only one that I have learned of. I have found the interest in the working operations of the lodges not as lively as I would like to see manifested. I have no doubt that they work as correctly as lodges of other Districts, made up of the same classes and laboring under the same circumstances. There are many seafaring men who come and go, and some of the lodges have members and officers two miles and more from the lodge room, which hinders them from coming to the lodge in bad weather and traveling. My visits to the lodges I put off until the late dates, you will notice, because of the open winter, thinking we might have some snow. I finally started, both in bad weather and traveling, but in every case met the Brethren, and hence I report the work as I have, as being done well, considering the disadvantageous circumstances before mentioned. I want to recommend, however, that the Brethren show more of an interest than usually manifested. The records of the lodges I find in nearly every case neatly and correctly kept, with the exception of one particular which I have pointed out, and which no doubt will be correct in future. The records of two of our lodges, Timothy Chase and Mariners', are very neatly and correctly kept. As regards the penmanship, it would be difficult to decide between the two, but on the whole I give the preference to Timothy Chase Lodge, as their records are very systematically arranged, showing good taste on the part of the Secretary, and good judgment in the members for the choice they have made.

October 24th, I visited Pownal Lodge and witnessed work on the M. M. degree; and I will say here, that I have had the work exemplified, when there has not been actual work, in every lodge I have visited.

January 8th, I visited Mariners' Lodge and witnessed work on the M. M. degree. January 22d, installed their officers publicly at Union Hall, and everything passed pleasantly. After installation we had refreshments in the dining room in the same building, and, as heretofore, the ladies did credit to themselves. I have visited this lodge several times, and have conferred the P. M. degree upon the present Master.

January 9th, I installed the officers of Pownal Lodge, and enjoyed every moment while with them, as they are noted for their hospitality. I will say that, as usual, they had tables filled with refreshments that would satisfy the hungry.

January 16th, made my official visit to Excelsior Lodge; witnessed work on the M. M. degree, and had a pleasant time.

March 19th, visited King David's Lodge, and was received by Bro. HOWE. Had a very agreeable visit, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree.

March 22d, visited Howard Lodge, and was kindly received and entertained by Bro. MORGAN. The Brethren were eager to receive instruction, and willing to be corrected.

March 27th, I visited Island Lodge, and was made welcome by Bro. THOMAS WILLIAMS, and as kindly received by the Brethren present. I found all anxious to receive all the masonic knowledge they can get.

March 29th, I visited Timothy Chase Lodge, where I was kindly received, and agreeably to Text Book. Witnessed work on the M. M. degree.

April 1st, visited Phoenix Lodge. The lodge received me agreeably to Text Book, and I spent the evening very pleasantly, witnessing the work and listening to remarks by the Brethren.

In conclusion, permit me to say, there has been nothing during the past year among the lodges of this District but harmony, so far as I know. Brotherly love seems to prevail. Also allow me to extend my thanks for the kind and courteous treatment I have received, and my assurance that the past masonic year will long be remembered.

The following is an abstract of returns:

Number.	Lodges.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.	Initiation fees.	Annual Fees.	Total Dues.
24	Phoenix,	Belfast.	179	2	\$4.00	\$26.85	\$30.85
62	King David's,	Lincolnton.	103	3	6.00	15.45	21.45
68	Mariners',	Searsport.	164	5	10.00	24.60	34.60
69	Howard,	Winterport.	101	3	6.00	*15.60	21.60
89	Island,	Islesboro'.	75	3	6.00	11.25	17.25
119	Pownal,	Stockton.	62	3	6.00	9.30	15.30
126	Timothy Chase,	Belfast.	136	3	6.00	20.40	26.40
151	Excelsior,	Northport.	35	4	8.00	5.25	13.25
							\$180.70

*Forty-five cents not rendered in 1877.

GEORGE L. MERRILL, D. D. G. M. 8th M. D.

Searsport, April 9, 1878.

NINTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Ninth Masonic District.

I have visited all of the lodges in the District, and report as follows:

January 21, 1878, commenced my official visits with St. George Lodge, No. 16, Warren. Witnessed work on the third degree.

January 31st, visited Union Lodge, No. 31, Union. Witnessed work on the third degree.

February 5th, visited Mt. Hope Lodge, No. 59, South Hope. Witnessed work on the second degree.

March 12th, visited Rockland Lodge, No. 79, Rockland. Witnessed work on the third degree.

March 19th, visited Orient Lodge, No. 15, Thomaston. Witnessed work on the third degree.

March 20th, visited Aurora Lodge, No. 50, Rockland. Witnessed work on the third degree.

March 25th, visited St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, Rockport. Witnessed exemplification of work on the third degree.

April 16, visited Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, Vinal Haven. Witnessed work on the third degree.

April 25th, visited Eureka Lodge, No. 84, St. George. Witnessed work on the third degree exemplified.

April 26th, visited Amity Lodge, No. 6, Camden. Witnessed work exemplified on the third degree.

I found all the above lodges doing very good work, considering the small amount being done, and most of them having comparatively new officers. Their records were in fine condition. Found nothing worthy of note to prevent their prosperity in future.

Total number of members,	1,782
“ “ “ initiates,	39
Amount of initiation fees,	\$ 78.00
“ “ annual dues,	267.30
	<u>\$345.30</u>

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

C. D. SMALLEY, *D. D. G. M. 29th M. D.*

TENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The condition of the Order in this District is substantially what it was at date of my last report. We have experienced little, either of prosperity or adversity. No unusual circumstances have arisen that call for particular mention. The year whose record we now lay aside, has been one of average interest, possibly, and also one, I fear, of average indifference.

Of the nine lodges in this District I have visited six. The other three I

have failed to reach, and will here say, that in most of my appointments I was singularly unfortunate in forecasting the state of the weather and the roads, but will yield to the Brethren at Boothbay, who in this line were more successfully unsuccessful than myself, in that they got beyond all known methods in receiving, and treated us to a hurricane, thinking, I presume, and with intention to impress all, that the remaining items in the bill were on the same enlarged scale.

Of the lodges visited I witnessed work, or an exemplification of the same, in all but one; examined the records of all, and, by correspondence and personal intercourse with members of the other lodges, have informed myself somewhat of their history for the past year, and gathered such information of their present circumstances and condition as I could, without a personal inspection of their work and records. I cannot say there has been any marked improvement during the year, neither would I suggest that the lodges of this District have receded from their former standards, but there has not been that advancement that I would wish to have recorded. Some are doing excellent work and fully maintain the good reputation they have heretofore acquired. The records, so far as I have examined them, are fairly and correctly kept, and I discover no unusual departures.

The following is an abstract of returns received:

Lodge,	Location.	Members.	Initiates.
Alna,	Damariscotta,	159	7
Anchor,	South Bristol,	33	0
Bristol,	Bristol,	129	0
Dresden,	Dresden,	45	1
King Solomon's,	Waldoboro',	130	11
Lincoln,	Wiscasset,	93	0
Meduncook,	Friendship,	59	0
Riverside,	Jefferson,	101	1
Seaside,	Boothbay,	98	2
		<hr/> 847	<hr/> 22

Initiation fees, \$44.00

Annual dues, 127.05

Amount due Grand Lodge,

\$171.05

Including Lincoln Lodge, which was not reported last year, the foregoing abstract shows a decrease of four in membership and eleven in the number of initiates.

Fraternally yours,

ALMORE KENNEDY, D. D. G. M. 10th M. D.

Waldoboro', April 11, 1878.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my report as D. D. G. M. of the Eleventh Masonic District, comprised of nine chartered lodges, seven of which I have visited, witnessed work, examined records and installed their officers; and it gives me much pleasure to again report them in a prosperous condition and doing good work.

June 2d, I visited Monmouth Lodge, North Monmouth; witnessed work in the third degree, which was very well done, considering that it was the first work for over a year. Some departures from the ritual, as adopted by the Grand Lodge, were manifested, of which due corrections were made; also, some suggestions were given to the Secretary about the records.

September 19th, again visited Monmouth Lodge and installed their officers, and exemplified the work in the third degree; after which a pleasant social hour was spent, accompanied with a bountiful supply of refreshments. Some of the members wish to remove this lodge to the "Center," and I suppose they will petition the Grand Lodge for permission so to do. From the character and number of its members, and their lodge funds and first class furniture, they deserve a better hall than the inconvenient one they now occupy.

September 28th, visited Morning Star Lodge, Litchfield; witnessed work in the third degree, which was up to the usual standard of work in this lodge, which is very good indeed. The candidate came some eight miles in the rain, and there was a good attendance of the members of the lodge. After the work, assisted by W. and Rev. Bro. CHARLES R. CURTIS, Grand Chaplain, I installed the officers. The installation services were followed by one of their bountiful and peculiar banquets. This lodge is in good hands, doing a fair amount of work; and our lodges must look to their laurels, or this "country lodge" will outstrip them all.

October 10th, visited Kennebec Lodge, Hallowell; work in the third degree; a very large attendance of the Brethren, and there is a good degree of interest manifested in this old lodge, the oldest in this District. I was unexpectedly called upon to exemplify the work, and I would suggest to the lodge the propriety of giving the District Deputy a little notice on such an occasion, so that he can properly prepare himself and have the assistance of such Brethren, that the work in hand may be rightly done and "none go away dissatisfied." After the lodge was closed we repaired to the banquet room, where the hot oysters and coffee of Bro. BROCK were enjoyed by all.

November 22d, I installed the officers of Kennebec Lodge, publicly; a large attendance of the members and their families. I was assisted by Rev. Bro. CALEB FULLER, Chaplain of the lodge, and the excellent singing of the Hallowell Quartette Club. After the installation services, there were some brief appropriate addresses by members of the lodge, interspersed with singing

followed by supper in the banquet hall. I am indebted to Bros. A. D. NILES and JOHN S. SNOW for courtesies shown on this occasion.

November 15th, by request of the officers of Bethlehem Lodge, Augusta, I met with them and performed the burial services of our Order over the body of our late Bro. NATHANIEL G. WARE, who passed away after a long and painful illness of years.

November 19th, I installed the officers of Bethlehem Lodge, publicly. I had the assistance of R. W. Bro. S. J. CHADBOURNE, Junior Grand Warden, and of W. and Rev. Bro. CHAS. R. CURTIS, Grand Chaplain. Rev. Bro. CURTIS has accompanied me on my official visits to a number of the lodges, and I desire to express my obligations to him for his valuable services, which have so often supplied the deficiencies of my own, and whose assistance has been as cheerful as it has been invaluable. After the installation, which was a spirited and interesting occasion, and, I believe, will be productive of good results for the benefit of the Craft in this jurisdiction, the members of the lodge, with their families and invited guests, repaired to the spacious banquet room, where the annual supper was unanimously voted a decided success. Bethlehem Lodge being my masonic home, I have attended about all its meetings, and will only say that it is a good working lodge, and in the hands of capable and efficient officers.

January 8th, I installed the officers of Augusta Lodge, Augusta. There was a large attendance of the members and visiting Brethren, and a very pleasant social evening was spent. Appropriate remarks were made by several of the Brethren, and the Augusta Quartette Club favored us with some of their best pieces, followed by supper in the banquet hall. I have visited this lodge often; it is in good hands, the same officers that served so acceptably the previous year being re-elected. The Secretary being re-elected for the tenth term, is a sufficient voucher for the records being correct.

November 20th, visited Hermon Lodge, Gardiner; work in the third degree, which was very well done. There was a large attendance of the members, and a good interest shown in the work and welfare of this old lodge. Any commendation I might see fit to accord the work of the officers of "old Hermon," would be superfluous, as its excellences are well known in this District. Their records I found correctly and neatly kept.

January 22d, I installed the officers of Hermon Lodge, publicly, assisted by Rev. Bro. HAYDEN and an excellent Quartette. The lodge room was completely filled by the Brethren with their ladies. After the services, we all partook of a very inviting repast, this part of the ceremony being highly enjoyed by all present; after which, we returned to the lodge room, where a brief address and a series of sentiments were given by Bro. H. S. WEBSTER, their W. Master, which were aptly responded to by several of the Brethren. Bro. WEBSTER is a finished workman, and he has infused into his officers and Brethren some of his zeal and interest, and all are determined to sustain the

reputation of this lodge for being one of our best working and most social lodges.

January 17th, I granted a dispensation to Ionic Lodge, Gardiner, to elect a Junior Warden at a special meeting of said lodge, the Junior Warden elected at their annual meeting having declined to serve.

January 28th, installed the officers of Ionic Lodge, publicly; a large number of the members were present with their families and invited guests, and all appeared to be interested in the services. A fine quartette added much to the harmony of the occasion. After the installation, the ladies and Brethren, to the number of one hundred and fifty, sat down to an excellent supper, the tables being spread in spacious banquet rooms; after which, the company repaired to the hall, where a series of sentiments were presented by Past Master GUSTAVUS MOORE, which were wittily responded to by different Brethren. All seemed well pleased, and many of the ladies expressed themselves willing to attend another.

March 4th, visited Ionic Lodge. Witnessed work in the third degree, performed by the new officers for the first time, which was done in strict conformity to the Grand Lodge standard, and was executed in a manner worthy of much praise. This gave evidence that the lodge had made excellent choice in their selection of officers. Examined the records; they were, as usual, correctly and neatly kept.

March 18th, I made an appointment to visit Dirigo Lodge, Weeks's Mills, but a severe storm prevented my going. I have, through the kindness of W. Bro. BOLSTER, Past Master of Dirigo Lodge, kept myself well informed as to its condition, and am happy to state that the members are abiding in peace and harmony, and that the lodge is in a prosperous condition.

Temple Lodge, Winthrop, I have been unable to visit as yet, but am in hopes to visit them before the meeting of the Grand Lodge in May.

I have answered several questions by reference to the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge. In two or three instances, at the request of those inquiring, I have submitted the questions to the M.W. Grand Master. All the lodges in this District have supplied themselves with the Maine Masonic Text Book.

In closing this report, I desire to express once more an acknowledgment for the courtesy, respect and consideration bestowed upon me in my official and social relations with the Brethren of the Eleventh Masonic District.

Whole number of members,	1,108
" " initiates,	42
Amount of initiation fees,	\$84.00
" annual dues,	166.20
" dues to the Grand Lodge,	\$250.20
Respectfully submitted,	

GEO. P. HASKELL, D. D. G. M. 11th M. D.

Augusta, April 1, 1878.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The undersigned, D. D. G. M. of the Twelfth Masonic District, would respectfully submit the following report:

I have visited the nine lodges comprising this District, have inspected their records and work, and have given them such instruction as they seemed to require. I am compelled to state that I did not find our institution in so flourishing a condition as I had hoped, and had some reason to expect. In one lodge no work has been done during the year, in others but very little, and I found in many instances the officers very "rusty," and among the members a lack of interest and enthusiasm. In every instance where I found occasion to make corrections, impart instruction or give advice, it was received in a very grateful as well as fraternal spirit.

November 17, 1877, visited Messalonskee Lodge, at West Waterville; found the records kept in a good, business-like manner by Bro. LOUIS BELANGER, the Secretary. I noticed but few errors, to which I called his attention. The officers had but recently been installed, hence had had but little time for practice, but the work in the third degree was very well done, and will be done better the next time. Worshipful Bro. ROWELL manifested a determination to master the work as well as the lodge, and received my few suggestions very gratefully. The attendance at the meetings of this lodge has been small, and it seems that there is a lack of interest on the part of the members. I hope there will be an improvement in this respect before another year.

November 19th, visited Waterville Lodge. In the absence of the Master, Bro. F. A. SMITH, Senior Warden, who has since been elected and installed as Master, occupied the East. The attendance at the meetings of this lodge has not been as large as it ought to be with so large a membership, but I have observed during the year a growing interest and a larger attendance. On this evening there was quite a full lodge, and the third degree was conferred in a correct and very impressive manner. Bro. L. A. Dow is one of the best Secretaries in the District, and attends to his business accurately and promptly. This lodge has, during the year, deprived several members of membership for non-payment of dues.

December 15th, visited Rural Lodge, in Sidney. The records were in the hands of Past Master SHAW, who is writing the history of the lodge; but from my knowledge of the business ability of Bro. SAWTELLE, the Secretary, I believe they will be found to be well and accurately kept. I witnessed work in the third degree, which was not performed quite to my satisfaction. The officers were new and had had but little practice, and but one candidate previous to this one had been raised in the lodge for more than two years. I

gave what instruction I considered necessary, which was gratefully received, and believe an improvement will be made in the manner of their work. Their lodge room is very small and hardly suitable, yet for a small lodge it answers the purpose. The attendance was quite small.

December 18th, visited Vassalboro Lodge, at North Vassalboro; found a very neat, comfortable lodge room, and a well trained lodge. The work in the third degree was performed with that degree of accuracy which left me but little chance for criticism. I have seldom seen a lodge where all the officers displayed so much intelligence and so correct conception of the work as here. The records, kept by Bro. BALLANTINE in a neat and accurate manner, showed evidence of a good degree of interest in masonry and in the lodge on the part of the Officers and Brethren.

February 16, 1878, visited Neguemkeag Lodge, at Vassalboro; inspected the records, in which I found but few errors. The attendance during the year has been small. The work in the third degree was performed with a good degree of accuracy. The officers manifested a correct conception of the degree, and with little more practice will become very efficient and accurate. I earnestly recommended to them, as I have to the other lodges in the District, that the officers attend the session of the Grand Lodge every year.

February 26th, visited Asylum Lodge, at Wayne; found the lodge in not so flourishing a condition as could be desired, though on the part of some of the members, including the Master, a good degree of interest was manifest. The record book showed evidence of small attendance, and no work since last May; witnessed an exemplification of the work in the first degree, which was in a measure satisfactory, though not quite up to the standard. I gave them some instruction, both on this and on the third degree, which was very gratefully received. I recommended that they change the time of meeting from the first Tuesday in each month to the Tuesday on or before the full moon, in order that the members, many of whom live from three to seven miles from the lodge room, might have the benefit of moonlight going to and from the lodge; also recommended that at alternate meetings they pass lectures and exemplify work in the several degrees, in course. I think if these two recommendations are adopted their interest will be much increased, and they will soon become much better posted. The records were well and nearly accurately kept.

February 27th, visited La Fayette Lodge, at Readfield, which I found in quite a flourishing condition, though evidently suffering somewhat from the effects of the hard times. But little work has been done by this lodge during the year. The records I found kept by Bro. F. E. BEAN in a neat and business-like manner. By invitation of the W. M., Bro. J. E. LEWIS, I installed the officers and exemplified for them the work in the third degree. They have a good working lodge, and I hope there will soon be manifest, on the part of all the members, a deeper interest in the Institution of Freemasonry.

I was gratified to notice among the Brethren present at the meeting several Past Masters.

March 12th, visited Vernon Valley Lodge, at Mount Vernon. This lodge is on the best financial footing of any in the District. It owns the building occupied for a lodge-room, with the land on which it stands. Dr. BURBANK is a model Secretary, and keeps a neat and accurate record. The attendance at the meetings during the year has been good, and a good degree of interest was manifest. The work in the third degree was very well done, and the few criticisms I found it necessary to make were kindly and thankfully received. I found here Past D. D. G. M. MAYHEW, who still takes a deep interest in the lodge, and holds the office of Treasurer.

March 23d, visited Relief Lodge, at Belgrade. Found a very slim attendance, owing partially to the bad traveling, and partially to a lack of interest on the part of the members. The records are well kept by the Secretary, Bro. MOSHER. The first degree was exemplified. The work was not performed as well as I have seen it, though the Master evidently had a correct conception of the degree. I gave such instruction as they seemed to require on this and other parts of the work; also advised them to pass lectures and exemplify work at every meeting. I hope to see a deeper interest in this lodge soon.

In closing my report, I desire to express to you, Most Worshipful, my thanks for the honor conferred in appointing me to this position. I trust I realize the responsibilities attending it, and have endeavored to discharge my duties as faithfully as my limited talents would allow. Though the duties of the office have been somewhat arduous, they have not been unattended with pleasure. The officers and members of the different lodges have received me with the utmost courtesy, and I have made very many pleasant acquaintances.

The returns show :

Whole number of members,	778
" " " initiates,	16
Amount of annual dues,	\$116.70
" " initiation fees,	32.00
Total,	<u>\$148.70</u>

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Waterville, May 19, 1878.

R. W. DUNN, D. D. G. M. 12th M. D.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO THE M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report :

The history of the lodges under my jurisdiction during the past year has

been marked by no prominent salient features. The growth of the several lodges during the year has been gradual and healthy. The regular meetings have all been well attended, and the work on the several degrees well performed. But few new masons have been made, but all the lodges have had some accessions in this direction. The best feature of all is, that all the lodges in the District have been entirely harmonious—a condition which has not before existed for some years. Our Brethren seem to have imbibed the true spirit of masonry, and the condition of all the lodges is one of great hope for the future.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

S. S. BROWN, D. D. G. M. 13th M. D.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

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

There are eight lodges in this District, all of which I have officially visited, and, as required by the Constitution, have inspected their records and mode of work.

I have visited United Lodge, No. 8, at Brunswick, three times this year. June 19th, I witnessed work on the E. A. degree, which was fairly done, but the attendance small. October 16th, witnessed work on the F. C. degree, which was good and very correct; attendance small as before. November 20th, witnessed work on the M. M. degree; was not as good as I had anticipated seeing, and not up to the standard work. The records are still in the hands of Bro. L. H. STOVER, which are neatly and correctly kept, and easy to be understood.

November 14th, I visited Polar Star Lodge, No. 114, at Bath; witnessed work on the F. C. degree, which was very good—an improvement on the work of same degree last year. The W. M., Bro. E. M. FULLER, I think is trying hard to sustain the reputation of Polar Star Lodge. Their records are well kept, and attendance good.

November 15th, I visited Webster Lodge, No. 164; witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was very good; the lecture very correct, and records in excellent order.

November 26th, I visited Solar Lodge, No. 14, at Bath; witnessed work on the E. A. degree, which was good. I like their mode of instructing the candidate in the lectures very much; the J. W. and S. D. passing the First Section, the S. W. giving the Second Section, and the Master giving the Third Section.

The S. D., Bro. WALTER G. WEBBER, who has been a mason only a little over a year, is *very* well and *correctly* posted. Records are well kept.

January 7th, I publicly installed the officers of Ancient York Lodge, Lisbon Falls, in presence of the Brethren and their ladies.

January 14th, I visited Richmond Lodge, No. 63, at Richmond. I found the Master very low with consumption. The Senior Warden, W. H. WHITNEY, assumed the East, and conferred the E. A. degree in a very creditable manner. The work and lectures were very correct—as near the standard as any lodge in the District. Their records well and correctly kept, and attendance good.

January 16th, I visited Village Lodge, No. 26, at Bowdoinham; saw the M. M. degree exemplified, which was not up to the standard. There is not the interest manifested in this lodge that I would like to see. They have a very nice record book, and their records are kept to compare with the book. Attendance small.

February 11th, I visited Ancient York Lodge, No. 155; witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was very good, considering it was the first work the newly elected officers had done.

February 12th, I visited Acacia Lodge, No. 121, at Durham; saw the E. A. degree exemplified in a very satisfactory manner. Attendance small, records complete.

In closing this report, allow me to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy with which I have been received in my visits to the lodges in this District.

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

Number of lodges,	8
“ members,	925
“ initiates,	24
Dues to Grand Lodge,	\$186.75
Respectfully submitted,	

SIMEON STONE, *D. D. G. M. 14th M. D.*

Lisbon Falls, April 8, 1878.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith respectfully submit my third year's report:

There are thirteen chartered lodges in this District, all of which I have visited one or more times during the year, and have witnessed work or exemplification on one or more of the degrees in each, and all have done well, and, with one exception, exceedingly well. I find that all of them, except Blue Mountain Lodge, No. 67, have had work during the year, and are zealous,

and, as a consequence, are prosperous. I also find that all have convenient, and most of them excellent halls, and that their average attendance is good.

June 21, 1877, I assisted the Grand Lodge, composed in part of Grand Master EDWARD P. BURNHAM, Past Grand Masters REUEL WASHBURN, JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, DAVID CARGILL and ALBERT MOORE, in the dedication at Livermore of the new and convenient hall of Oriental Star Lodge, following which a dinner was given on the green to all the masons and their friends present, after which an address was delivered by P. G. M. DRUMMOND in a grove near the village.

July 3d, I publicly installed the officers of Evening Star Lodge, at Buckfield. The installation was held at the Baptist Church, after which refreshments were served at their hall. I am under obligation to P. M. BISBEE for entertainment for me and mine at that time.

August 9th, by the request and at the expense of Mystic Tie Lodge, I visited Weld to examine and report to the Grand Master as to the advisability of permitting them to remove to a different hall. I examined the proposed rooms, and recommended to the Grand Master that their request be granted, and they were permitted to remove.

October 16th, I visited Oriental Star Lodge, at Livermore, and installed their officers, after which I witnessed work on the E. A. degree. The Senior Warden being absent, Past Grand Master WASHBURN, eighty-four years of age, offered to fill his chair, and went through the work correctly, so far as the ceremonies were concerned, and very near correct according to the ritual.

October 18th, I visited Rabboni Lodge, at Lewiston, and, with the assistance of P. D. D. W. J. BURNHAM, installed their officers in the presence of the Brethren, their wives and other invited friends, to the number of two hundred, after which all were invited to partake of an excellent banquet, which the ladies had provided; the music upon this occasion was fine, and added much to the enjoyment of the evening.

November 20th, I visited Ancient Brothers' Lodge, at Auburn, and installed their officers in the presence of their wives and friends. Refreshments, music and a social occasion followed.

February 4, 1878, I visited Wilton Lodge, No. 156, at Wilton, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was well done. This lodge always has a good attendance, and the impromptu address of Rev. Bro. MUNSON at the close of the work was good, because it was practical, and I wish I could have repeated it to every lodge in my District.

February 12th, I visited Evening Star Lodge, No. 147, at Buckfield, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was done in an excellent manner. The officers of this lodge have brought it up, in manner of work, remarkably well within a short time.

February 13th, I visited Nezinscot Lodge, No. 101, at Turner, and witnessed work on the third degree, which I informed them at the time, was as near correct as I had ever seen, except the lecture.

It is perhaps needless to say, that there was a large attendance, and that they took their usual means of making the social hour after work pass pleasantly. For entertainment on this visit, I am indebted to P. D. D. FRANCIS T. FAULKNER.

February 14th, I visited Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, at Livermore, and saw the M. M. degree exemplified in a smooth manner. The venerable Past Grand Master WASHBURN, who was a member of this lodge, was present and addressed the Brethren in a very feeling manner, saying that the impression was upon him that this would be the last visit that he could ever make to the lodge he loved so well, asking his Brethren to live up to the teachings of masonry and strive for the prosperity of Oriental Star, as he had tried to do for so many years, and that they would be better men and better masons for it; and closed by tenderly asking them that when death should overtake him, they would bear his body to its last resting place.

February 14th, I visited Whitney Lodge, No. 167, at Canton, and saw an exemplification of work on the third degree, which was fairly done. The S. D. requires but little practice to make him an extra good officer in his part. After work, a collation was furnished the Brethren.

February 18th, I visited Maine Lodge, No. 20, at Farmington, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was done in a very satisfactory manner. I wish to commend this lodge for requiring of their candidates suitable proficiency in the preceding degree.

February 19th, I visited Mystic Tie Lodge, No. 154, at Weld, and saw an exemplification of the M. M. degree, which was fairly done. After work a social hour was pleasantly spent, during which refreshments were served. The Brethren of this lodge have fitted themselves up a new hall in a very neat and convenient manner, and seem to be flourishing.

February 20th, I visited Blue Mountain Lodge, No. 67, at Phillips, and saw an exemplification of work on the E. A. degree, which I think they can improve upon with a little practice. The monitorial was well delivered.

February 27th, I visited Reuel Washburn Lodge, No. 181, at Livermore Falls, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was done in a praiseworthy manner. This lodge is in a very flourishing condition, with plenty of good material to make zealous officers of.

March 8th, I attended the funeral of Past Grand Master REUEL WASHBURN, at Livermore, who was buried by Oriental Star Lodge. Rev. Bro. ROBERT BLACKMER, a former pastor of his, preached the funeral sermon, having promised Bro. WASHBURN seven years before that he would do so if alive and could possibly be present. The Rev. Brother also acted as Chaplain in the services at the grave. Bro. WASHBURN died March 4, 1878, aged eighty-five years. He was born in Raynham, Massachusetts, in 1793.

March 13th, I visited Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, at Auburn, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was promptly, distinctly, and handsomely done.

March 18th, I visited Ashlar Lodge, No. 105, at Lewiston, and witnessed work on the third degree, the most of which was done in a superior manner.

The examination of the candidate was very good, and showed that suitable proficiency is required of candidates in this lodge.

March 19th, I visited Ancient Brothers' Lodge, No. 178, at Auburn, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was well done. I am pleased to again find this lodge back in their old quarters.

March 20th, I visited Rabboni Lodge, No. 150, at Lewiston, and witnessed work on the third degree, which was done in a distinct, interesting and impressive manner.

I was invited during the year, by P. D. D. F. E. SLEEPER, to again install the officers of Webster Lodge, at Sabattisville, in the Fourteenth District; which I did at the Baptist Church, before a large audience, W. Bro. O. G. DOUGLASS acting as Marshal; after which an excellent address was delivered by Rev. Bro. MARRINER, of Auburn. The Brethren and their invited friends then returned to the lodge hall, where a social hour or two was spent pleasantly, with refreshments and good music.

Although I am proud of the superior manner in which all of my lodges have done their work during the past year, I think it proper for me to say, that taking all things together, the officers of Tranquil and Rabboni Lodges stand at the head. The records of all the lodges are correctly kept, and some of them extra neat, among which are Ashlar, Ancient Brothers', Tranquil, Maine, Reuel Washburn and Nezinscot.

I have now served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy three successive years, during which I have each year visited each lodge at least once, and witnessed work or exemplification at each visit; and, allowing me to be judge, I think every lodge is prepared to do good work, and that all are flourishing. And I wish now, on retiring from this office, which I shall always recall with much pleasure, to again return my thanks to all the Officers and Brethren whom I have met on so many pleasant occasions, for the fraternal kindness and uniform courtesy which I have always received from one and all, and for the respect shown for such advice as I have thought proper to give.

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

Number of lodges,	13
" members,	1,147
" initiates,	50
Dues to Grand Lodge,	\$284.05

Respectfully submitted,

FESSENDEN I. DAY, *D. D. G. M. 15th M. D.*

Lewiston, April 30, 1878.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The undersigned, D. D. G. M. of the Sixteenth Masonic District, respectfully presents his report:

There are nine chartered lodges in this District, all of which I have visited once, and a portion of them twice during the year.

June 10, 1877, I granted a dispensation to King Hiram Lodge to attend in procession the dedication of the hall of Oriental Star Lodge, at Livermore.

July 24th, I visited Paris Lodge and saw work very creditably rendered in the third degree. I am pleased to say that this lodge is in a good condition, having recovered from its paralyzed state, in which it seriously suffered. I predict it will soon be one of the best lodges in the District.

August 20th, I visited Oxford Lodge and witnessed the exemplification of work in the first degree. This is one of the best working lodges in the District, and the officers exhibit a praiseworthy emulation in performing their several duties, and sustaining the high reputation it has previously borne. They are entitled to much credit for the systematic method they have established to care for their sick and indigent Brethren. They practically demonstrate the principles of masonry in benevolent deeds.

August 22d, I visited Mt. Tire'm Lodge. The notice I sent them was not received. It being a very busy time, but a few Brethren were present. The records were accurately kept, and the lodge appears to be in a healthy and prosperous condition.

September 20th, I visited Crooked River Lodge. Work was very creditably rendered in the third degree. The correction of mistakes in the work were kindly received. The officers were anxious that their work should conform to that of the Grand Lodge. The records were nicely and correctly kept.

November 8th, I visited Bethel Lodge and witnessed work correctly and impressively rendered in the third degree; much enthusiasm exists in this lodge. This lodge has the best hall in the District, elegantly furnished and adorned. It is an honor to the Brethren of Bethel Lodge, and, best of all, their benevolent acts correspond with the beautiful hall in which they meet.

December 19th, I visited Blazing Star Lodge. I witnessed work in the second degree, which was performed in a very satisfactory manner. This lodge exemplifies the true principles of masonry in a noble manner, by attending to and caring for their poor and distressed Brethren. Their charity and benevolence merit the approbation of every mason. They exercise those principles *individually*, and the lodge has listened to and answered the calls from the distressed to that extent that its finances are somewhat embarrassed. The Supreme Grand Master will bless them in their works of charity.

December 20th, I visited Tyrian Lodge and witnessed work in the second degree, which was admirably and correctly done. Without disparagement to

any other lodge, I can say that this is the best working lodge in the District. The records are perfect models of neatness, and are systematically arranged. It is a flourishing and model lodge.

January 22, 1878, I visited King Hiram Lodge and found their hall filled with Brethren. Work was creditably and satisfactorily performed in the third degree. After the business of the evening was over, the ladies spread a bountiful collation of good things which was duly appreciated, after which the Brethren and ladies indulged in a social time for several hours. Such gatherings serve to conciliate true friendship, and establish peace and harmony among the Brethren and all connected with them.

Being a member of Jefferson Lodge, I have been present at all of their meetings during the year. The officers are prompt in their attendance, and determined to do correct work. Their Master, Bro. JAMES L. BOWKER, although a young mason, is thoroughly posted in the ritual, and is determined that it shall be correctly rendered by all the officers. The lodge is in a prosperous condition, and its members enthusiastic.

January 25th, I publicly installed the officers of Jefferson Lodge; and February 7th, I publicly installed the officers of Bethel Lodge. The halls at each place were crowded with ladies and invited guests, and pleasant times prevailed.

I am pleased to say that every lodge in this District has a hall in, which to meet, safe, convenient and well furnished, and some of them adorned in a superior manner; and so far as I have been able to ascertain, peace, harmony and union prevail in all of them.

In conclusion, permit me to tender my sincere thanks to the members of the several lodges in this District for the courteous treatment I have received from them, and I assure them their kind favors will be long remembered by me, and the visits I have made to the several lodges will remain bright spots in my masonic experience. Thanking you, Most Worshipful, for the honor you conferred on me by the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master, I shall decline another appointment, and trust a Brother younger and better qualified will take my place.

The following is a

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

Whole number of members,	935
Initiates,	38
Initiation fees,	\$76.00
Annual fees,	140.25
Total dues to Grand Lodge,	\$216.25

Respectfully submitted,

ALDEN CHASE, D. D. G. M. 16th M. D.

Bryant's Pond, April 5, 1878.

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In the discharge of my duties as D. D. G. M., I have visited all the lodges in the Seventeenth District during the year last past, and all officially with one exception.

On the 27th of December last, I visited Harmony Lodge, No. 38, at Gorham, and installed its officers in the presence of a large number of the Brethren and their ladies. The occasion was exceedingly enjoyable and seemed to be appreciated by all present. It was my intention to have again visited this lodge, but circumstances were such as to render it impossible for me to do so. I am satisfied, however, from my intercourse with its officers and members, and information that I have received from others, that the lodge is prosperous and well cared for.

To the other lodges in the District, I have made visits official to each in some one instance, and witnessed work in all with a few exceptions. As a rule, the work has been excellently well done; in several instances it has been of a high character, and such as I have seldom seen excelled. In most of the lodges the records are accurately and neatly kept, and the transactions presented in proper form, while a few need to make improvement in this respect.

It is a noticeable fact that all the lodges in this District have convenient and commodious apartments for their meetings, with the single exception of Standish Lodge, No. 70, at Standish. The room occupied by this lodge is small, illy adapted to the working of the degrees, and poorly furnished. I am informed by the Master that, while the lodge has a moderate fund invested, the demands upon it for charitable purposes have been so considerable for some years past, that the Brethren have not thought best to run the risk of burdening themselves with a debt which might seriously embarrass them; and, although a new lodge room would give new impetus and vigor to the fraternity there, I could not but commend their prudence, and advise them to wait until their financial condition was improved.

Since the completion of the new halls in Portland, quite an increase in the work is apparent, and in the interest of the members of the city lodges. The degrees are well rendered and the meetings fully attended.

The number of initiates in all the lodges in the District for the year past is very nearly the same as of the year preceding, and I believe the condition of the lodges generally throughout the District to be prosperous, the interest well maintained, and the increase sufficient to be healthy.

In my visits to the lodges I have at all times been received with courtesy and attention by both officers and members.

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

Number of lodges,	11
“ “ members,	1870
“ “ initiates,	52
Dues to Grand Lodge,	\$384.50
Fraternally submitted,	

GEO. W. DEERING, *D. D. G. M. 17th M. D.*

Portland, April 29, 1878.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

*To M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit to you my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Eighteenth Masonic District:

Of the ten lodges in this District I have visited all save one, Drummond Lodge, Parsonsfield. The evening appointed for my official visit, owing, I presume, to the inclemency of the weather, failed to have in attendance at the lodge room a single member, nor did I meet one. The condition of this lodge, therefore, I am unable to report.

I deem it inexpedient to review the other lodges in detail. I regard them as enjoying as great a degree of prosperity as during the previous year. Their stated communications have been regularly held with good attendance, and in many, special meetings have been necessary.

From the neglect of some of the Secretaries to seasonably make their returns, I am unable to give the number of initiates, but judge, from the examination of the various records at the time of my visits, that they must exceed those of the preceding year.

I desire to notice particularly Freedom Lodge, Limerick. Last year I was obliged to speak of it as being in a rather forlorn condition. This year I found it, apparently, very much improved. Meetings have been regularly held with fair attendance; some work done, and a good degree of interest was manifested. At the time of my visit, the work of the M. M. degree was done in a very acceptable manner.

I desire to acknowledge the courtesy and fraternal kindness with which I have ever been received by the different lodges, and to return to them my most sincere thanks.

Fraternally yours,

Denmark, April 1, 1878.

S. G. DAVIS, *D. D. G. M. 18th M. D.*

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my official report for the past masonic year.

The remarkable financial depression that has so unfortunately affected business circles, has been followed by its natural result—a decrease in the number of initiates—a result, however, which I think will be rather beneficial than otherwise.

Two lodges—York and Arundel—have done no work, and four others—St. John's, Fraternal, Buxton and Arion—have raised but one candidate each. The remaining lodges have been called upon to perform rather less than their usual labors.

Ocean Lodge, which has been the victim of its members' apathy, and which, in the appropriate language of the old common law indictments, of this "mortal disease did languish, and languishing did live," has at length succumbed, and its charter, through you, has been returned to the Grand Lodge. Its furniture, except that of a purely masonic character, was disposed of agreeably to your suggestion. The Treasurer's book is in my possession, the balance appearing thereby to remain in the hands of that officer having been paid me, and for which I have accounted in my report to the Grand Treasurer.

The Secretary's book and the amount of dues collected since the surrender of the charter have not been returned to me, though I have made repeated requests for them. If possible, I will obtain them in season to account for them at the coming communication.

The total number of members reported this year in this jurisdiction is 1,068; number of initiates, 30; leaving in my hands \$220.20 exclusive of the amount received from Ocean Lodge.

Thanking you for the honor you have given me by your appointment, and the many courtesies extended to me during the year,

I remain fraternally yours,

JOHN S. DERBY, *D. D. G. M. 19th M. D.*

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Trustees of the Charity Fund.

The Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine met at Masonic Hall, in Portland, on Tuesday, the seventh day of May, A. D. 1878, at five o'clock in the afternoon.

Present—Bro. EDWARD P. BURNHAM,
 “ CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,
 “ MARQUIS F. KING,
 “ SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,
 “ DAVID CARGILL,
 “ WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,
 “ WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD,
 “ JOSEPH M. HAYES,
 “ ALBERT MOORE,
 “ IRA BERRY.

The meeting was called to order by M. W. EDWARD P. BURNHAM.

Bro. MOSES DODGE, Grand Treasurer, made the following report, which was accepted, viz:

PORTLAND, May 7, 1878.

To the Trustees of the Charity Fund:

The receipts of the Treasurer the last year, were	\$4,445.98
The disbursements the last year, were	4,350.14
The balance now in the Treasury is	1,237.64

The amount of interest from invested funds, for the year ending May 1, 1877, was	1,444.37
The amount appropriated and expended in charity is	1,143.00
The balance remaining of the sum reserved for emergent cases is	75.00
The balance of the sum reserved to be used in aid of the Masonic Board of Relief, and uncalled for is	20.00
The remaining balance of interest not expended is	384.43
The amount of interest from Charity Fund which may be appropriated is:	
Dividends from National Banks,	750.00
Interest from Savings Banks,	179.54
Interest on \$6,000.00 Mortgage on Real Estate,	373.50
Interest on \$800.00 U. S. 5-20 Bonds,	49.80
Interest on \$1,000.00 City of Portland Bond,	60.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,412.84

In accordance with a resolution adopted by the Trustees, I have deposited in Maine Savings Bank three hundred dollars as a "Reserved Fund of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine."

In May, 1877, an appropriation of seven dollars was made for the benefit of EZEKIEL W. HODGKINS. I have written several times to Bro. WM. S. ADAMS, and other officers of Seaside Lodge, at Boothbay, in relation to it, but have received no answer.

The invested charity fund remains as by report of last year.

The change in the official report of the Grand Treasurer has been made as requested by the Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

MOSES DODGE, *Grand Treasurer.*

The Grand Treasurer presented a Bond for approval; he also exhibited the securities for the invested funds, which were examined and found correct.

The Secretary laid before the Trustees the applications for relief which he had received, and a schedule of the same prepared by him for the use of the Board, which were committed to Bros. DAVID CARGILL and MARQUIS F. KING.

The Trustees then adjourned, to meet at nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1878.

The Board of Trustees met, agreeably to adjournment.

Present—Bros. EDWARD P. BURNHAM, CHARLES L. COLLAMORE, MARQUIS F. KING, SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, DAVID CARGILL, WM. R. G. ESTES, WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD, ALBERT MOORE, TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, IRA BERRY.

BRO. CARGILL, for the committee to which the applications for relief were referred, reported them back, having examined them and designated their respective urgency by numbers placed against them on the schedule from one to five.

The report was accepted, and the several cases having been considered by the Board and some changes made, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the schedule be approved and appropriations made in accordance therewith.

Voted, That No. 1 represent Five Dollars.

Voted, That Two Hundred Dollars be added to the Reserved Fund.

Voted, That Twenty-five Dollars remain in the Treasury, subject to the order of Bro. MARQUIS F. KING, for use of the Portland Board of Masonic Relief.

Voted, That Ten Dollars be donated to the widow of Bro. CILLEY, *provided*, Marsh River Lodge shall by their vote so recommend.

Voted, That the balance of the amount at the disposal of the Trustees remain in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, subject to the Grand Master's order, for the relief of such cases of need as he may deem proper.

Voted, That the Bond presented by the Grand Treasurer be approved.

Voted, That the Board of Trustees now adjourn.

Adjourned accordingly, *sine die*.

Attest,

IRA BERRY, *Secretary*.

Regulations of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

ARTICLE I.

This 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.

ARTICLE IV.

If the applicant reside out of the Masonic District in which the Grand Lodge is holden, the application and certificate aforesaid, together with the merits of the case, shall be examined and approved by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the applicant resides, or by one of the permanent members of the Grand Lodge.

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.

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 and Grand Secretary, or a majority of them.

A true copy from the Record of Regulations and Votes.

Attest:

IRA BERRY, *Sec'y of Board of Trustees.*

LIST OF LODGES BY DISTRICTS.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 72 Pioneer, <i>Dalton.</i> | 130 Trinity, <i>Presque Isle.</i> |
| 96 Monument, <i>Houlton.</i> | 165 Molunkus, <i>Sherman.</i> |
| 98 Katahdin, <i>Patten.</i> | 170 Caribou, <i>Lyndon.</i> |
| 112 Eastern Frontier, <i>Fort Fairfield.</i> | 175 Baskahegan, <i>Danforth.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 2.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 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.

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 Warren, <i>East Machias.</i> | 106 Tuscan, <i>Addison Point.</i> |
| 88 Narraguagus, <i>Cherryfield.</i> | 131 Lookout, <i>Cutler.</i> |
| 91 Harwood, <i>Machias.</i> | 173 Pleiades, <i>Millbridge.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 4.

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| 4 Hancock, <i>Castine.</i> | 128 Eggemoggin, <i>Sedgwick.</i> |
| 19 Felicity, <i>Bucksport.</i> | 140 Mount Desert, <i>Mount Desert.</i> |
| 40 Lygonia, <i>Ellsworth.</i> | 159 Esoteric, <i>Ellsworth.</i> |
| 71 Rising Sun, <i>Orland.</i> | 171 Naskeag, <i>Brooklin.</i> |
| 77 Tremont, <i>Tremont.</i> | 177 Rising Star, <i>Penobscot.</i> |
| 122 Marine, <i>Deer Isle.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 5.

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 39 Penobscot, <i>Dexter.</i> | 149 Doric, <i>Monson.</i> |
| 44 Piscataquis, <i>Milo.</i> | 157 Cambridge, <i>Cambridge.</i> |
| 52 Mosaic, <i>Foxcroft.</i> | 160 Parian, <i>Corinna.</i> |
| 64 Pacific, <i>Exeter.</i> | 163 Pleasant River, <i>Brownville.</i> |
| 109 Mount Kineo, <i>Abbot.</i> | 168 Composite, <i>La Grange.</i> |
| 124 Olive Branch, <i>Charleston.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 6.

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10 Rising Virtue, <i>Bangor.</i> | 93 Horeb, <i>Lincoln.</i> |
| 49 Meridian Splendor, <i>Newport.</i> | 137 Kenduskeag, <i>Kenduskeag.</i> |
| 60 Star in the East, <i>Oldtown.</i> | 139 Archon, <i>East Dixmont.</i> |
| 65 Mystic, <i>Hampden.</i> | 148 Forest, <i>Springfield.</i> |
| 66 Mechanics', <i>Orono.</i> | 172 Pine Tree, <i>Mattawamkeag.</i> |
| 83 St. Andrew's, <i>Bangor.</i> | 174 Lynde, <i>Hermon.</i> |
| 87 Benevolent, <i>Carmel.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 7.

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 45 Central, <i>China</i> . | 111 Liberty, <i>Liberty</i> . |
| 58 Unity, <i>Thorndike</i> . | 129 Quantabacook, <i>Searsmont</i> . |
| 75 Plymouth, <i>Plymouth</i> . | 134 Trojan, <i>Troy</i> . |
| 85 Star in the West, <i>Unity</i> . | 146 Seabastcook, <i>Clinton</i> . |
| 102 Marsh River, <i>Brooks</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 8.

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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 24 Phoenix, <i>Belfast</i> . | 89 Island, <i>Islesboro'</i> . |
| 62 King David's, <i>Lincolnton</i> . | 119 Pownal, <i>Stockton</i> . |
| 68 Mariners', <i>Searsport</i> . | 126 Timothy Chase, <i>Belfast</i> . |
| 69 Howard, <i>Winterport</i> . | 151 Excelsior, <i>Northport</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 9.

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|--------------------------------|--|
| 6 Amity, <i>Camden</i> . | 59 Mount Hope, <i>Hope</i> . |
| 15 Orient, <i>Thomaston</i> . | 79 Rockland, <i>Rockland</i> . |
| 16 St. George, <i>Warren</i> . | 82 St. Paul's, <i>Rockport</i> . |
| 31 Union, <i>Union</i> . | 84 Eureka, <i>St. George</i> . |
| 50 Aurora, <i>Rockland</i> . | 145 Moses Webster, <i>Vinalhaven</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 10.

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| 3 Lincoln, <i>Wiscasset</i> . | 120 Meduncook, <i>Friendship</i> . |
| 43 Alna, <i>Damariscotta</i> . | 135 Riverside, <i>Jefferson</i> . |
| 61 King Solomon's, <i>Waldoboro'</i> . | 144 Seaside, <i>Boothbay</i> . |
| 74 Bristol, <i>Bristol</i> . | 158 Anchor, <i>South Bristol</i> . |
| 103 Dresden, <i>Dresden</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 11.

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 5 Kennebec, <i>Hallowell</i> . | 104 Dirigo, <i>South China</i> . |
| 25 Temple, <i>Winthrop</i> . | 110 Monmouth, <i>North Monmouth</i> . |
| 32 Hermon, <i>Gardiner</i> . | 136 Ionic, <i>Gardiner</i> . |
| 35 Bethlehem, <i>Augusta</i> . | 141 Augusta, <i>Augusta</i> . |
| 41 Morning Star, <i>Litchfield</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 12.

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| 33 Waterville, <i>Waterville</i> . | 108 Relief, <i>Belgrade</i> . |
| 48 Lafayette, <i>Readfield</i> . | 113 Messalonskee, <i>West Waterville</i> . |
| 53 Rural, <i>Sidney</i> . | 123 Asylum, <i>Wayne</i> . |
| 64 Vassalboro', <i>North Vassalboro'</i> . | 116 Neguemkeag, <i>Vassalboro'</i> . |
| 99 Vernon Valley, <i>Mt. Vernon</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 13.

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| 28 Northern Star, <i>North Anson</i> . | 116 Lebanon, <i>Norridgewock</i> . |
| 34 Somerset, <i>Skowhegan</i> . | 123 Franklin, <i>New Sharon</i> . |
| 80 Keystone, <i>Solon</i> . | 125 Meridian, <i>Pittsfield</i> . |
| 92 Siloam, <i>Fairfield</i> . | 161 Carrabassett, <i>Canaan</i> . |
| 95 Corinthian, <i>Hartland</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 14.

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|---------------------------------|---|
| 8 United, <i>Brunswick</i> . | 114 Polar Star, <i>Bath</i> . |
| 14 Solar, <i>Bath</i> . | 121 Acacia, <i>Durham</i> . |
| 26 Village, <i>Bowdoinham</i> . | 155 Ancient York, <i>Lisbon Falls</i> . |
| 63 Richmond, <i>Richmond</i> . | 164 Webster, <i>Webster</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 15.

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| 20 Maine, <i>Farmington.</i> | 150 Rabboni, <i>Lewiston.</i> |
| 21 Oriental Star, <i>Livermore.</i> | 154 Mystic Tie, <i>Weld.</i> |
| 29 Tranquil, <i>Auburn.</i> | 156 Wilton, <i>Wilton.</i> |
| 67 Blue Mountain, <i>Phillips.</i> | 167 Whitney, <i>Canton.</i> |
| 101 Nezinscot, <i>Turner.</i> | 178 Ancient Brothers', <i>Auburn.</i> |
| 105 Ashlar, <i>Lewiston.</i> | 181 Reuel Washburn, <i>Livermore Falls.</i> |
| 147 Evening Star, <i>Buckfield.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 16.

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 18 Oxford, <i>Norway.</i> | 97 Bethel, <i>Bethel.</i> |
| 30 Blazing Star, <i>Rumford.</i> | 100 Jefferson, <i>Bryant's Pond.</i> |
| 57 King Hiram, <i>Dixfield.</i> | 132 Mount Tire'm, <i>Waterford.</i> |
| 73 Tyrian, <i>Mechanic Falls.</i> | 152 Crooked River, <i>Otisfield.</i> |
| 94 Paris, <i>South Paris.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 17.

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|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Portland, <i>Portland.</i> | 70 Standish, <i>Standish.</i> |
| 12 Cumberland, <i>New Gloucester.</i> | 81 Atlantic, <i>Portland.</i> |
| 17 Ancient Land-Mark, <i>Portland.</i> | 86 Temple, <i>Saccarappa.</i> |
| 23 Freeport, <i>Freeport.</i> | 127 Presumpscot, <i>Windham.</i> |
| 36 Casco, <i>Yarmouth.</i> | 180 Hiram, <i>Cape Elizabeth.</i> |
| 38 Harmony, <i>Gorham.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 18.

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| 11 Pythagorean, <i>Fryeburg.</i> | 107 Dayspring, <i>Newfield.</i> |
| 13 Oriental, <i>Bridgton.</i> | 117 Greenleaf, <i>Cornish.</i> |
| 27 Adoniram, <i>Limington.</i> | 118 Drummond, <i>Parsonsfield.</i> |
| 42 Freedom, <i>Limerick.</i> | 153 Delta, <i>Lovell.</i> |
| 56 Mount Moriah, <i>Denmark.</i> | 169 Shepherd's River, <i>Brownfield.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 19.

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 9 Saco, <i>Saco.</i> | 115 Buxton, <i>Buxton.</i> |
| 22 York, <i>Kennebunk.</i> | 143 Preble, <i>Sanford.</i> |
| 47 Dunlap, <i>Biddeford.</i> | 162 Arion, <i>Lyman.</i> |
| 51 St. John's, <i>South Berwick.</i> | 176 Palestine, <i>Biddeford.</i> |
| 55 Fraternal, <i>Alfred.</i> | 179 Yorkshire, <i>North Berwick.</i> |
| 76 Arundel, <i>Kennebunkport.</i> | |



OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE, 1878.

M. W.	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Saco.
R. W.	CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Bangor.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Portland.
"	S. J. CHADBOURNE,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	E. Dixmont.
"	MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland.
"	IRA BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
"	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Bath.
"	SAMUEL E. JEWETT,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Fort Fairfield.
"	E. HOWARD VOSE,	" 2d "	Calais.
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	" 3d "	Machias.
"	DAVID W. WEBSTER,	" 4th "	Castine.
"	THOMAS J. PEAKS,	" 5th "	Charleston.
"	FRANK H. DRUMMOND,	" 6th "	Bangor.
"	JOHN P. BILLINGS,	" 7th "	Clinton.
"	GEORGE L. MERRILL,	" 8th "	Searesport.
"	PHILANDER J. CARLETON,	" 9th "	Rockport.
"	ALMORE KENNEDY,	" 10th "	Waldoboro.
"	GEORGE P. HASKELL,	" 11th "	Augusta.
"	R. WESLEY DUNN,	" 12th "	Waterville.
"	TURNER BUSWELL,	" 13th "	Solon.
"	JAMES B. WESCOTT,	" 14th "	Bath.
"	ARCHIE L. TALBOT,	" 15th "	Lewiston.
"	EDGAR H. POWERS,	" 16th "	Hanover.
"	GEORGE W. DEERING,	" 17th "	Portland.
"	SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	" 18th "	Denmark.
"	JOHN S. DERBY,	" 19th "	Saco.
W. & Rev.	CHAS. C. MASON,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Kent's Hill.
"	CHARLES C. VINAL,	" "	Kennebunk.
"	WILLIAM E. GIBBS,	" "	Portland.
"	CHARLES A. CURTIS,	" "	Augusta.
"	H. C. MUNSON,	" "	Wilton.
"	L. P. FRENCH,	" "	Solon.
"	J. R. BOWLER,	" "	Rockland.
"	A. J. MCLEOD,	" "	Waldoboro.
W.	BENJ. F. ANDREWS,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Portland.
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	<i>Senior Grand Deacon,</i>	Gardiner.
"	ARLINGTON B. MARSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
"	ROTHEUS E. PAINE,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Camden.
"	AUSTIN F. KINGSLEY,	" "	East Machias.
"	CHARLES E. WELD,	" "	West Buxton.
"	W. R. G. ESTES,	" "	Skowhegan.
"	H. H. BURBANK,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Saco.
"	WM. H. SMITH,	<i>Grand Standard Bearer,</i>	Portland.
"	LEVI W. SMITH,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Vinalhaven.
"	MOSES W. EMERY,	" "	Sanford.
"	TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	<i>Grand Lecturer,</i>	Portland.
"	GEORGE M. HOWE,	<i>Grand Organist,</i>	Portland.
Bro.	WARREN PHILLIPS,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

LIST OF SUBORDINATE LODGES, WITH THEIR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS,

AS RETURNED MARCH 1, 1878.

-
- Aacela**, 121, Durham. Joseph H. Davis, South Durham, m; Augustus H. Parker, West Durham, sw; Chas. S. Fenlason, North Pownal, jw; Alfred Lunt, South Durham, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1863. 14
- Adoniram**, 27, Limington. Ira M. Berry, m; John F. Moulton, sw; Leonard Abbott, jw; Frank A. Hobson, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered September 10, 1818. 18
- Alna**, 43, Damariscotta. J. Fred Sumner, m; Franklin Clark, sw; Edwin H. Winslow, jw; William A. Jones, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered January 21, 1823. 10
- Amity**, 6, Camden. John P. Wellman, m; Thomas C. Atwick, sw; Fred. M. Richards, jw; H. Granger Fuller, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon each month; election, January; chartered March 10, 1801. 9
- Anchor**, 158, South Bristol. Llewellyn S. Gamage, m; Nelson W. Gamage, sw; Bradford Thompson, jw; George C. Farrar, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1870. 10
- Ancient Brothers'**, 178, Auburn. Albert M. Penley, m; Milton J. Loring, sw; George Parker, jw; Edwin T. Stevens, s. Meeting third Tuesday of each month; election, October; chartered June 21, 1875. 15
- Ancient Land-Mark**, 17, Portland. Henry F. Perry, m; Clayton J. Farrington, sw; E. S. Ridlon, jw; Geo. L. Swett, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, December; chartered June 10, 1806. 17
- Ancient York**, 155, Lisbon Falls. William S. Cotton, Jr., m; George W. Gould, sw; Alonzo Purinton, jw; George B. Shorey, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 4, 1870. 14
- Archon**, 139, East Dixmont. Benjamin F. Porter, m; Samuel F. Mansur, sw; Silas W. Philbrick, jw; Amos Whitney, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 8, 1867. 6

- Arion, 162, Goodwin's Mills. Cyrus W. Murphy, m; James W. Smith, sw; Howard K. Smith, jw; Jerome Smith, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered May 9, 1872. 19
- Arundel, 78, Kennebunkport. Charles H. Goodwin, m; Charles Tripp, sw; Horace L. Goodwin, jw; Seth E. Bryant, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered June 26, 1854. 19
- Ashlar, 105, Lewiston. George H. Benson, m; Fred B. Sands, sw; Levander N. Tarbox, jw; John Winn, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered November 5, 1860. 15
- Asylum, 133, Wayne. L. R. Sturtevant, m; J. F. Gordon, sw; Thomas Wing, jw; Chandler F. Cobb, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, September; chartered May 9, 1867. 12
- Atlantic, 81, Portland. Richard K. Gatley, m; Algernon D. Pearson, sw; Charles C. Bedlow, jw; Alpheus G. Rogers, s. Meeting third Wednesday in every month; election, December; chartered May 3, 1855. 17
- Augusta, 141, Augusta. Edwin C. Dudley, m; Charles C. Hunt, sw; Charles A. Curtis, jw; Elisha F. Blackman, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, January; chartered March 21, 1867. 11
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. Nathan Wiggin, m; Erastus B. Bragg, sw; Robert Paul, jw; Enoch Davies, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, January; chartered July 18, 1826. 9
- Baskahegan, 175, Danforth. Henry H. Putnam, m; James H. Dingee, sw; Loren H. Floyd, jw; Joel Foss, s. Meeting Thursday on or next before full moon; election, October; instituted December 3, 1874. 1
- Benevolent, 87, Carmel. Charles H. Kimball, m; Charles F. Kimball, sw; John F. Dorr, jw; Camillus K. Johnson, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1857. 6
- Bethel, 97, Bethel. Jarvis C. Billings, m; Daniel Webster Towne, sw; George Weston Haskell, jw; Leander T. Barker, s. Meeting second Thursday in each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1860. 16
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Edward F. Beale, m; Charles H. Brick, sw; H. A. B. Chandler, jw; H. F. Blanchard, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, November; chartered 1821. 11
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford Centre. Florus H. Bartlett, m; Winfield S. Howe, sw; E. Hopkins Hutchins, jw; Henry M. Colby, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 11, 1819. 16
- Blue Mountain, 67, Phillips. Bartholomew T. Parker, m; Willard M. Chandler, sw; James Morrison, Jr., jw; Oscar Sweet, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, November; chartered July 20, 1850. 15
- Bristol, 74, Bristol. John C. Chamberlain, m; Samuel F. Tarr, sw; Moses M. Rhodes, jw; Wait K. Weston, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered March 1, 1853. 10
- Buxton, 115, West Buxton. Cyril P. Harmon, m; Willis Crockett, sw; Samuel L. Donnell, jw; James Meserve, s. Meeting Monday evening on or next before full moon in each month; election, January; chartered March 18, 1863. 19
- Cambridge, 157, Cambridge. Horace Ham, m; Henry Watson, sw; Moses G. Page, jw; Charles C. Hale, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1870. 5

- Caribou, 170, Lyndon. George M. Emery, m; Robert McCubrey, sw; Cyrus W. Hendrix, jw; Alonzo W. Boynton, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon in each month; election, December; chartered July 27, 1872. 1
- Carrabassett, 161, Canaan. George W. Johnson, m; John E. Brock, sw; Abel Prescott, jw; Albion R. Chase, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Tuesday in October; chartered March 2, 1871. 13
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Monroe Stoddard, m; Lorenzo L. Shaw, sw; George E. Thoits, jw; Josiah M. Walker, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered October 14, 1821. 17
- Central, 45, China. Lynn W. Rollins, m; Ora O. Crosby, sw; William S. Hunewell, jw; Willis W. Washburn, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before each full moon; election, September; chartered April 8, 1824. 7
- Composite, 168, LaGrange. Marcellus Nason, m; Frank G. Perkins, sw; Manly G. Brackett, jw; Ronella L. Doble, Medford Centre, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 9, 1872. 5
- Corinthian, 95, Hartland. Thomas Walker, m; John O. Rowell, sw; Charles Hawes, jw; Joseph P. Folsom, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 15, 1859. 13
- Crescent, 78, Pembroke. J. A. Leighton, m; Duncan Z. McIntosh, sw; Fred. J. Carter, jw; A. G. Levy, s. Meeting first Wednesday in the month; election, December; chartered July 10, 1856. 2
- Crooked River, 152, Bolster's Mills. Oscar V. Edwards, m; Moses E. Hall, sw; Isaac Sands, jw; Alpheus B. Lovewell, s. Meeting Thursday on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered April 15, 1869. 16
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. John I. Sturgis, m; Albert W. Larrabee, Auburn, sw; William A. Knight, North Gray, jw; George H. Goding, Danville, s. Meeting Saturday before full moon; election, November; chartered June 13, 1803. 17
- Day Spring, 107, West Newfield. Frank Chellis, m; George H. Straw, sw; Al Q. Mitchell, jw; Nathan N. Loud, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before the full moon; election, September; chartered May 9, 1861. 18
- Delta, 153, Lovell. Augustus N. French, m; James E. Farrington, sw; Eben N. Fox, jw; Marshall Walker, s. Meeting second Thursday of each month; election, December; chartered May 5, 1869. 18
- Dirigo, 104, Weeks's Mills. O. F. Rowe, m; H. S. Gray, sw; Frank Percival, jw; O. F. Sproul, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 12, 1860. 11
- Doric, 149, Monson. Sumner A. Patten, m; Cyrus A. Packard, sw; Braddish B. Jackson, jw; Edwin R. Haynes, s. Meeting Monday on or after full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1868. 5
- Dresden, 103, Dresden. Woodbury F. Mayers, m; George W. Palmer, sw; Washington F. Lilly, jw; Edward H. Barker, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 9, 1861. 10
- Drummond, 118, North Parsonsfield. Joseph Wedgewood, m; John Neal, sw; George E. Stanley, jw; A. K. Lougee, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered May 7, 1863. 18
- Dunlap, 47, Biddeford. Edwin Stone, m; Nahum S. Drown, sw; George H. Monroe, jw; Tristram Hanson, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered January 13, 1826. 19

- Eastern, 7, Eastport. W. J. Fisher, m; W. F. Bradish, sw; P. M. Kane, jw; Noel B. Nutt, s. Meeting first Monday in the month; election, December 27th; chartered June 8, 1801. 2
- Eastern Frontier, 112, Fort Fairfield. Charles W. Johnston, m; Enoch Ginn, sw; Joseph S. Hall, jw; Charles P. Whitney, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1863. 1
- Eggemoggin, 128, Sedgwick. Austin H. Dority, m; Adrian C. Dodge, sw; G. Richard Currier, jw; Samuel H. Wilson, s. Meeting second Monday of each month; election, January; chartered March 1, 1865. 4
- Esoteric, 159, Ellsworth. Arthur W. Greely, m; William F. Emerson, sw; Francis A. Macomber, jw; James A. McGown, s. Meeting first Thursday of each month; election, December; chartered September 3, 1870. 4
- Eureka, 84, St. George. Charles G. Crocker, m; Patrick P. Robinson, sw; Enoch R. Clark, jw; S. A. Wheeler, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 2, 1855. 9
- Evening Star, 147, Buckfield. Charles R. Whitten, m; A. C. Tubbs, sw; Benjamin F. Carey, jw; Alfred Cole, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 7, 1868. 15
- Excelsior, 151, Northport. Oscar Hills, m; Edward H. Jackson, sw; Albert W. Hasson, jw; Wm. A. Pendleton, s. Meeting Wednesday before full moon; election, December; chartered March 1, 1869. 8
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Guy W. McAlister, m; Wesley Lockhart, sw; Albert M. Houston, jw; Edwin P. Hill, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered March 14, 1809. 4
- Forest, 148, Springfield. Hiram Stevens, m; Charles R. Brown, sw; Louis C. Stearns, jw; John A. Larrabee, Carroll, s. Meeting Saturday on or before the full moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1868. 6
- Franklin, 123, New Sharon. Jabez S. Mooars, m; W. W. Norcross, sw; Chas. H. Barden, jw; J. L. Harding, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 3, 1865. 13
- Fraternal, 55, Alfred. Marcus W. Towne, m; Asa L. Ricker, sw; Otis R. Whicher, jw; Alonzo Leavitt, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered January 10, 1828. 19
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. Edwin A. Sadler, m; Charles B. Hasty, sw; Ebenezer Cobb, jw; Harry V. Moore, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered January 11, 1823. 18
- Freeport, 23, Freeport. S. A. Thurlow, m; W. F. Bennett, sw; B. W. Chandler, jw; G. P. Soule, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1845. 17
- Greenleaf, 117, Cornish. Preston Durgin, m; Charles C. O'Brien, sw; Israel Boothby, jw; Roscoe G. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 4, 1863. 18
- Hancock, 4, Castine. Charles H. Hooper, m; John P. Stevens, sw; John F. Rea, jw; Isaiah L. Shepherd, s. Meeting first Thursday in each month; election, December; chartered June 9, 1794. 4
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. William Hasty, m; George Agry, Jr., sw; N. C. Cummings, jw; John G. Watson, s. Meeting Wednesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered January 22, 1822. 17
- Harwood, 91, Machias. Leander H. Crane, m; Melville J. Allen, sw; Wm. G. Stone, jw; Eliphalet S. Means, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered April 8, 1858. 3

- Hermion, 32, Gardiner. Henry S. Webster, m; George L. Towle, sw; Evander G. Snow, jw; LaRoy W. Goodspeed, s. Meeting first Tuesday of each month; election, January; chartered June 23, 1820. 11
- Hiram, 180, Cape Elizabeth. Thomas B. Haskell, m; William F. Rundlett, sw; Robert S. Melcher, jw; Elisha N. Jordan, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered November 1, 1875. 17
- Horeb, 93, Lincoln. Thomas W. Porter, m; Orrick H. Wakefield, sw; Fred. E. Sprague, jw; James M. Adams, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Monday in December; chartered June 5, 1858. 6
- Howard, 69, Winterport. Henrie T. Sanborn, m; Andrew J. Crocker, sw; John M. Snow, jw; Otis C. Couillard, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May, 1852. 8
- Ionie, 136, Gardiner. Philip H. Winslow, m; Gilbert Eastman, sw; Henry Farrington, jw; Barrett A. Cox, s. Meeting first Monday of each month; election, January; chartered May 9, 1867. 11
- Island, 89, Islesboro'. James F. Grindle, m; Edwin Coombs, sw; Gilford G. Pendleton, jw; Daniel A. Hatch, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, February; chartered Nov. 5, 1857. 8
- Jefferson, 100, Bryant's Pond. James L. Bowker, m; William H. Pearson, sw; Frank P. Cole, jw; Alden Chase, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 8, 1860. 16
- Katahdin, 98, Patten. Oliver Cobb, m; Charles D. Fish, sw; Charles R. Brown, jw; Charles C. Perry, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered August 24, 1859. 1
- Kenduskeag, 137, Kenduskeag. William C. Spratt, m; William K. Nason, sw; Llewellyn J. Blanchard, jw; Charles H. Sleeper, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866. 6
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. H. L. Grindall, m; E. W. Whitcomb, sw; W. F. Gilman, jw; Orlando Currier, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered March 17, 1796. 11
- Keystone, 80, Solon. Randal F. Durrill, m; Charles B. McIntire, sw; Calvin Boyington, jw; Turner Buswell, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 4, 1855. 13
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Robert W. Perry, m; Lucien H. Duncan, sw; John French, jw; David Howe, s. Meeting Tuesday on or preceding full moon; election, December; chartered January 13, 1850. 8
- King Hiram, 57, Dixfield. Lamont C. Willoughby, m; Daniel F. Newton, sw; John S. Swett, jw; W. M. Kidder, s. Meeting Tuesday on or after full moon; election, October; chartered April 10, 1828. 16
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro. Charles P. Redman, m; Jesse K. Willett, sw; Samuel L. Miller, jw; William D. Libby, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December 27th; chartered May 4, 1849. 10
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. J. Eugene Lewis, m; Sewall J. Hawes, sw; Fred. E. Bean, jw; Charles H. Millett, s. Meeting first Saturday in each month election, February; chartered May 20, 1850. 12
- Lebanon, 116, Norridgewock. Seth H. Willard, m; Benjamin D. Bowden, sw; Charles H. Emmons, jw; Edward C. Hale, South Norridgewock, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered April 30, 1863. 13

- Lewy's Island, 138, Princeton. Joseph S. Farrar, m; Andrew J. Deuplizia, sw; Reuben J. Crafts, jw; Charles A. Rolf, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, December, St. John's Day; chartered May 8, 1867. 2
- Liberty, 111, Liberty. Gustavus H. Cargill, m; Weston B. Marden, sw; Levi T. Brown, jw; Ambrose P. Cargill, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 8, 1862. 7
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. T. Carlton Dole, m; Isaac G. Williamson, sw; Woodbury Parsons, jw; Joseph W. Taggart, s. Meeting Thursday evening on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 19, 1792. 10
- Lookout, 131, Cutler. Alex. D. Ross, m; Ira K. Ackley, sw; Henry C. Warren, jw; Fred. W. Thurlow, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1866. 3
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. John B. Redman, m; Carlton McGown, sw; Edmund McFarland, jw; Levi B. Wyman, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, January; chartered April 11, 1822. 4
- Lynde, 174, Hermon. S. S. Hewes, m; Emery Morrell, sw; Frank H. Jewell, jw; F. F. Phillips, s. Meeting Saturday before the full moon each month; election, December; chartered May 7, 1874. 6
- Maine, 20, Farmington. Roliston Woodbury, m; Hiram C. Barnard, sw; Horace L. Parsons, jw; David H. Knowlton, s. Meeting Monday in week of full moon; election, October; chartered June 13, 1808. 15
- Marine, 122, Deer Isle. George H. Howard, m; John W. Green, sw; Charles H. M. Pressey, jw; Martin V. B. Green, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September, chartered March 18, 1864. 4
- Mariners' 68, Searsport. Alvah M. Dutch, m; J. F. Bickmore, sw; G. W. Putnam, jw; Henry A. Webber, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 10, 1853. 8
- Marsh River, 102, Brooks. Jeremiah Webb, m; William C. Rowe, sw; James H. Webber, jw; James McTaggart, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before the full moon each month; election, December; chartered May 9, 1861. 7
- Mechanics', 66, Orono. Edgar E. Ring, m; William C. Taylor, sw; Albert J. Heald, jw; Albert J. Durgin, s. Meeting first Wednesday each month; election, December 27th; chartered May 12, 1851. 6
- Meduncook, 120, Friendship. Sylvester Morse, m; Frank A. Geyer, sw; Oliver P. Davis, jw; Luther A. Marshall, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered February 6, 1864. 10
- Meridian, 125, Pittsfield. Llewellyn Parks, m; Geo. W. Willis, sw; Harrison W. Gardiner, jw; William P. Martin, s. Meeting Friday evening on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1865. 13
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Wilbur H. Miles, m; Orel Dexter, sw; John B. Marsh, jw; Hollis J. Rowe, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 13, 1826. 6
- Messalonskee, 113, West Waterville. Charles Rowell, m; George W. Goulding, sw; Louis Belanger, jw; George T. Benson, s. Meeting on the first Saturday of each month; election, December; chartered May 16, 1862. 12
- Molunkus, 165, Sherman Mills. Edward A. Cushman, m; James M. Emery, sw; James W. Washburn, jw; Geo. R. Blodgett, s. Meeting Tuesday on or last preceding full moon of each month; election, October; chartered August 26, 1871. 1

- Monmouth, 110, North Monmouth. Jeremiah Gordon, m; Benj. Ellis, sw; Leonidas Pettengill, jw; W. H. H. Brown, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, September; chartered May 21, 1861. 11
- Monument, 96, Houlton. Sabine F. Berry, m; John Z. Swanton, sw; Geo. G. Bickford, jw; John H. Bradford, s. Meeting second Wednesday of each month; election, March; chartered May 5, 1859. 1
- Morning Star, 41, Litchfield Corner. Cyrus Kindrick, m; Thomas Holmes, sw; William H. Dustin, jw; J. W. Starbird, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered July 11, 1822. 11
- Mosaic, 52, Foxcroft. Elbridge A. Thompson, m; Wainwright Cushing, sw; Charles E. Paul, jw; Elihu B. Averill, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 16, 1827. 5
- Moses Webster, 145, Vinalhaven. Chas. B. Vinal, m; Matthew Roberts, sw; Calvin B. Vinal, jw; H. M. Roberts, s. Meeting second Tuesday each month; election, September; chartered January 13, 1868. 9
- Mount Desert, 140, Mount Desert. Thaddeus S. Somes, m; John J. Somes, sw; Mark T. Richardson, jw; Lyman H. Somes, s. Meeting Saturday eve on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered May 8, 1867. 4
- Mount Hope, 59, South Hope. Asa P. StClair, m; Robert A. Martin, sw; Elijah G. Mink, jw; Thaddeus Hastings, s. Meeting Wednesday before full moon; election, December; chartered May 5, 1848. 9
- Mount Kineo, 109, Abbot. Charles N. Rand, m; Marcell L. Hussey, sw; William S. McKusick, jw; Llewellyn S. Flint, s. Meeting Saturday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered May 8, 1862. 5
- Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. David P. Lord, m; George S. Bucknell, sw; Nathaniel Robinson, jw; Dominicus G. Tarbox, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered January 23, 1828. 18
- Mount Tire'm, 132, Waterford. William Douglass, m; Horace Maxfield, sw; Charles A. Allen, jw; Alfred S. Kimball, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before the full of the moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866. 16
- Mystic, 65, Hampden. George W. Smith, m; Isaiah C. York, sw; Moncena Miles, jw; Wm. E. Bogart, s. Meeting third Saturday of every month; election, December; chartered May 12, 1851. 6
- Mystic Tie, 154, Weld. Samuel E. Perkins, m; Edwin B. Lufkin, sw; Lyman L. Jones, jw; Abel D. Russell, s. Meeting Tuesday of the week of full moon; election, December; chartered June 8, 1869. 15
- Narraguagus, 88, Cherryfield. Edward R. Wingate, m; Lycurgus Wasgatt, sw; Edward T. Workman, jw; Arthur R. Willey, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before the full moon; election, January; chartered May 28, 1857. 3
- Naskeag, 171, Brooklin. Joseph B. Babson, m; Isaac Mayo, sw; Rupert W. Nutter, jw; Augustus G. Blake, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, January; chartered May 8, 1873. 4
- Neguemkeag, 166, Vassalboro'. Arioch Wentworth, m; Daniel Rollins, sw; Hanson O. Lampson, jw; Ezekiel Small, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered December 22, 1871. 12
- Nezinscot, 101, Turner. Sumner S. Merrill, m; Chas. H. Thayer, sw; John E. Ashe, jw; S. D. Andrews, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 3, 1860. 15

- Northern Star, 28, North Anson. Benjamin Adams, m; Benjamin Mantor, sw; William H. Williams, jw; Columbus S. Mantor, s. Meeting Tuesday on or next preceding full moon; election, December; chartered December 15, 1818. 13
- Ocean, 142, Wells. Charter received from Grand Master (surrendered), December 28, 1877. 19
- Olive Branch, 124, Charleston. T. H. Wentworth, m; George W. Dunning, sw; M. F. Martin, jw; O. L. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1865. 5
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. Levi Morse, m; H. G. Copeland, sw; A. O. Robinson, jw; E. O. Cushing, s. Meeting first Tuesday in each month; election, January; chartered September 10, 1805. 9
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. Albert F. Richardson, m; Frank P. Bennett, sw; George H. Willard, jw; Micajah Gleason, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 12, 1804. 18
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Everett L. Philoon, m; Byron C. Waite, sw; James N. Atwood, jw; John Larrabee, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered June 11, 1811. 15
- Oxford, 18, Norway. Freeland Howe, m; Clarence M. Smith, sw; Jonas W. Swan, jw; James O. Crooker, s. Meeting Monday on or next before full moon; election, September; chartered September 14, 1807. 16
- Pacific, 64, Exeter. Justus H. Jackman, m; Merritt Southard, sw; Daniel Witham, jw; Charles E. Merriam, Garland, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon in each month; election, January; chartered May 12, 1851. 5
- Palestine, 176, Biddeford. James F. Boardman, m; Francis L. Emery, sw; Melville Woodman, jw; Edward Randall, s. Meeting third Monday in each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1875. 19
- Parian, 160, Corinna. Winkworth S. Allen, m; G. B. Frost, sw; Jno. S. Burrill, jw; Lewis Hutchins, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered September 9, 1870. 5
- Paris, 94, South Paris. David I. Black, m; Elisha F. Stone, sw; Charles H. George, jw; J. Ferdinand King, s. Meeting Tuesday on or preceding full moon; election, December, St. John's Day; chartered May 5, 1859. 16
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Alton P. Fassett, m; William H. Dustin, sw; Joseph S. Campbell, jw; Newell H. Bates, s. Meeting Monday on or next before each full moon; election, December; chartered January 24, 1822. 5
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Jed. C. Cates, Jr., m; Alfred A. Small, sw; George W. Purington, jw; Russell G. Dyer, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered February 9, 1816. 8
- Pine Tree, 172, Mattawamkeag. Charles O. Libbey, m; Danville S. Chadbourne, sw; Wilbur F. Lovejoy, jw; George W. Smith, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1874. 6
- Pioneer, 72, Ashland. John G. Mosher, m; Leroy C. Dorman, sw; Angus Young, jw; Silas S. Gilman, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, March; chartered May 5, 1854. 1
- Piscataquis, 44, Milo. James M. Palmer, m; Orrin Hamlin, sw; Lambert Sands, jw; William P. Young, s. Meeting Friday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered October 23, 1823. 5
- Pleasant River, 163, Brownville. Alvin S. Wilkins, m; William F. Jenks, sw; Charles L. Nichols, jw; Andrew P. Carle, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, November; chartered July 28, 1871. 5

- Pleiades, 173, Millbridge. Vinal D. Wass, m; Francis A. Googins, sw; Nelson C. Wallace, jw; Andrew R. Perkins, s. Meeting Monday; election, January; chartered May 6, 1874. 3
- Plymouth, 75, Plymouth. Grenville Mansur, m; William H. Conant, sw; S. P. Gifford, jw; Clarendon Butnan, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1854. 7
- Polar Star, 114, Bath. Edwin M. Fuller, m; George F. Stacy, sw; James T. Reed, jw; Frank Brown, s. Meeting second Wednesday of each month; election, March; chartered March 7, 1863. 14
- Portland, 1, Portland. John H. Hall, m; William N. Prince, sw; John Evans, jw; Convers O. Leach, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, November; chartered March 20, 1762. 17
- Pownal, 119, Stockton. Simon B. Littlefield, m; Jerre M. Grant, sw; Emery Berry, jw; Warren F. Griffin, s. Meeting first Wednesday of each month; election, January; chartered July 4, 1863. 8
- Preble, 143, Sanford. George E. Allen, m; Edwin S. Wright, sw; Isaiah B. Stiles, jw; Louis B. Goodall, s. Meeting Monday on or next before full moon; election, December; chartered May 7, 1868. 19
- Presumpscot, 127, Windham. Alfred S. Sawyer, m; Calvin Morrell, sw; Lorenzo D. King, jw; Cornelius N. Morrell, s. Meeting Saturday evening on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 3, 1866. 17
- Pythagorean, 11, Fryeburg. Frank Y. Bradley, m; Wyman H. Jones, sw; Thomas S. Pike, jw; Frank E. Howe, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 13, 1803. 18
- Quantabcook, 129, Searsmont. Charles M. Cunningham, m; Galen Keen, sw; William S. Cox, jw; Otis D. Wilson, s. Meeting first Saturday in each month; election, October; chartered May 3, 1863. 7
- Rabboni, 150, Lewiston. Oscar G. Douglass, m; Fred Kelley, sw; Frank W. Parker, jw; Lucellus E. Timberlake, s. Meeting Wednesday succeeding full moon; election, September; chartered December 28, 1868. 15
- Relief, 108, Belgrade. Charles A. Yeaton, m; Charles H. Lovejoy, sw; B. Frank Yeaton, jw; James C. Mosher, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered May 8, 1862. 12
- Reuel Washburn, 181, Livermore Falls. Wm. H. Wood, m; Dr. A. G. French, sw; Frank Garcelon, jw; W. S. Treat, s. Meeting second Wednesday of month; chartered May 4, 1876. 15
- Richmond, 63, Richmond. Albion J. Drew, m; William H. Whitney, sw; Charles H. Jackson, jw; Ambrose P. Jewett, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, October; chartered May 10, 1850. 14
- Rising Star, 177, Penobscot. Benjamin H. Cushman, m; William D. Bridges, sw; Jerome Sellers, jw; I. P. Grindal, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, November; chartered June 17, 1875. 4
- Rising Sun, 71, Orland. Asa Conary, m; Hudson Saunders, sw; Aaron G. Page, jw; James C. Saunders, s. Meeting first Tuesday in each month; election, December; chartered October 18, 1852. 4
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. William H. Thompson, m; Charles York, sw; Frank E. Sparks, jw; Charles I. Collamore, s. Meeting last Tuesday in each month; election, December; chartered September 16, 1802. 6
- Riverside, 135, East Jefferson. W. A. Jackson, m; A. B. Noyes, sw; J. L. Burns, jw; S. Herbert Bond, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered March 13, 1866. 10

- Rockland, 79, Rockland. Henry E. Hutchinson, m; John F. Singh, sw; Sumner H. Boynton, jw; Edwin T. G. Rawson, s. Meeting first Tuesday eve of each month; election, January; chartered May 5, 1855. 9
- Rural, 53, Sidney. Charles T. Hamlen, m; James F. Warren, sw; A. S. Davenport, jw; Ambrose Sawtelle, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered July 25, 1827. 12
- Saco, 9, Saco. Stephen G. Dorman, m; Winfield S. Dennett, sw; John Quinby, jw; George A. Emery, s. Meeting first Wednesday in each month; election, June; chartered June 16, 1802. 19
- St. Andrew's, 83, Bangor. George Lansil, m; Aug. B. Farnham, sw; William H. Kirkpatrick, jw; Arlington B. Marston, s. Meeting last Friday in each month; election, December; chartered February 6, 1856. 6
- St. Croix, 46, Calais. William Parritt, m; Charles A. McCollough, sw; John F. Oliver, jw; Stephen D. Morrell, s. Meeting first Monday each month; election, December, St. John's day; chartered May 29, 1845. 2
- St. George, 16, Warren. Alvin V. Hinkley, m; Warren Morse, Jr., sw; Melvin Parker, jw; Urban H. Hovey, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered March 10, 1806. 9
- St. John's, 51, South Berwick. George H. Wakefield, m; A. Grafton Nealley, sw; Otis E. Moulton, jw; George H. Muzzey, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, May; chartered February 13, 1827. 19
- St. Paul's, 82, Rockport. Andrew J. Morton, m; Herbert L. Shepherd, sw; Perez B. Cooper, jw; G. B. Sidelinger, s. Meeting Monday evening on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 2, 1856. 9
- Sea Side, 144, Boothbay. Caleb Hodgdon, m; Emery D. Winchenbaugh, sw; George B. Dunton, jw; Freeman Boynton, s. Meeting Friday before the full moon; election, December; chartered October 7, 1867. 10
- Sebasticook, 146, Clinton. David S. Wardwell, m; Simon W. Baker, sw; B. T. Foster, jw; Mark P. Hatch, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered February 3, 1868. 7
- Shepherd's River, 169, Brownfield. Charles H. Fogg, m; D. D. Meserve, sw; I. S. Lowell, jw; S. B. Bean, s. Meeting Saturday of each month, on or before full moon; election, June; chartered July 1, 1872. 18
- Siloam, 92, Fairfield. Charles E. Ward, m; George L. Lerner, sw; Arthur H. Totman, jw; William P. Farnsworth, s. Meeting Thursday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered March 8, 1858. 13
- Solar, 14, Bath. W. Scott Shorey, m; John H. Stantial, sw; John R. Knowlton, jw; J. Lufkin Douglas, s. Meeting first Monday in each month; election, December; chartered September 10, 1804. 14
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Bryce M. Hight, m; James H. Frost, sw; George A. Barnard, jw; Charles M. Lambert, s. Meeting Monday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered January 11, 1821. 13
- Standish, 70, Standish. Charles F. Swasey, m; Daniel L. Warren, sw; J. Clinton Shaw, jw; John D. Higgins, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 5, 1858. 17
- Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. Mellan A. Austin, m; Edgar B. Weeks, sw; Stephen C. Morse, jw; Charles A. Bailey, s. Meeting Monday on or next preceding full of the moon; election, September; chartered May 5, 1848. 6
- Star in the West, 85, Unity. Reuel S. Ward, m; Manley Ward, sw; Daniel W. Parkhurst, jw; Ralph Berry, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 24, 1856. 7

- Temple, 25, Winthrop. Wm. E. Whitman, m; Ronald C. McIlroy, sw; W. H. Pettengill, jw; Wallace R. White, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered October 6, 1817. 11
- Temple, 86, Saccarappa. William L. Warren, m; George F. Hunt, sw; John W. Bacon, jw; Stephen A. Cordwell, s. Meeting Wednesday evening of the week in which the moon is full; election, December; chartered May 6, 1856. 17
- Timothy Chase, 126, Belfast. Andrew E. Clark, m; Joseph C. Townsend, sw; Robert P. Chase, jw; Jones E. Davis, s. Meeting first Thursday each month; election, January; chartered May 3, 1865. 8
- Tranquil, 29, Auburn. John B. Jordan, m; Henry D. Donovan, sw; Algeron M. Roak, jw; James F. Atwood, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 20, 1847. 15
- Tremont, 77, Tremont. William Stanley, m; William L. Gilley, sw; Nathan Clark, jw; John T. R. Freeman, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, January; chartered May 3, 1856. 4
- Trinity, 130, Presque Isle. Albert Jones, m; James McCubry, sw; Aubrey M. Smith, jw; George H. Freeman, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered July 17, 1865. 1
- Trojan, 134, Heald's Corner, Troy. Wm. E. Dorman, West Troy, m; William F. Mitchell, East Troy, sw; Timothy W. Hawes, East Troy, jw; Abner Hodgdon, East Troy, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered February 19, 1866. 7
- Tuscan, 106, Addison Point. Christopher Curtis, m; Barnard L. Farrell, sw; Benj. F. Cleaves, jw; William A. Sawyer, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered May 9, 1861. 3
- Tyrian, 73, Mechanic Falls. Edward F. Stevens, m; J. M. Libby, sw; Henan N. Whittle, jw; Edward F. Edgecomb, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, October; chartered May 10, 1853. 6
- Union, 31, Union. Wm. A. Albee, m; Aaron D. Wiley, sw; Oscar A. Bartlett, jw; Cyrus R. Morton, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered April 8, 1820. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. Benjamin F. Morse, m; F. C. Whitehouse, sw; James Barron, jw; L. H. Stover, s. Meeting Tuesday evening on or next preceding full moon; election, December; chartered December 14, 1801. 14
- Unity, 58, Thorndike. Addison B. Sparrow, m; William L. Busher, sw; Raymond S. Rich, Jr., jw; G. H. Rich, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered May 6, 1863. 7
- Vassalboro', 54, North Vassalboro'. Warren A. Evans, m; J. C. Evans, sw; O. Chaffee, jw; Thomas Ballantine, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September; chartered May 31, 1827. 12
- Vernon Valley, 99, Mount Vernon. Augustus F. Smart, m; George C. Hopkins, sw; Henry Graves, jw; Silas Burbank, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November; chartered May 3, 1860. 12
- Village, 26, Bowdoinham. James H. Wilson, m; Silas Adams, sw; Charles W. Frost, jw; Benj. L. Higgins, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October; chartered June 9, 1817. 14
- Warren, 2, East Machias. Austin F. Kingsley, m; George D. Cosseboom, sw; William Rushton, jw; Austin Harris, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December 27th; chartered September 10, 1778. 3
- Washington, 37, Lubec. John O. Baker, m; John Thayer, Jr., sw; William H. Hunter, jw; Alfred Small, s. Meeting first Wednesday in the month; election, December; chartered June 16, 1822. 2

- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Frank A. Smith, m; A. L. McFadden, sw; R. T. Beazley, jw; Levi A. Dow, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December; chartered June 20, 1820. 12
- Webster, 164, Webster. Frank E. Sleeper, m; William H. Wright, sw; Retiah D. Jones, jw; Thaddeus C. Billings, s. Meeting Thursday on or before each full moon; election, December; chartered July 28, 1871. 14
- Whitney, 167, Canton. James Ripley, m; Alphens Packard, sw; Joseph S. Mendall, jw; Wm. H. H. Washburn, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, June; chartered May 9, 1872. 15
- Wilton, 156, Wilton. Justus Webster, No. Chesterville, m; Alonzo B. Adams, sw; Anson Morseman, jw; Ansil Walker, s. Meeting Wednesday of the full of the moon; election, September; chartered May 4, 1870. 15
- York, 22, Kennebunk. Joseph H. Hill, m; George A. Gilpatric, sw; Charles H. Ferguson, jw; Francis C. Simonds, s. Meeting Monday on or before the full moon; election, December; chartered March 19, 1813. 19
- Yorkshire, 179, North Berwick. Haven A. Butler, m; George S. Dutch, sw; W. C. Pike, jw; C. W. Greenleaf, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, January; chartered September 18, 1875. 19

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M.W. JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	Lancaster, Mass.,	P. G. M.
" HIRAM CHASE,	Belfast,	"
" JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	Portland,	"
" WILLIAM P. PREBLE,	Portland,	"
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	Portland,	"
" DAVID CARGILL,	Augusta,	"
" ALBERT MOORE,	North Anson,	"
R.W. PELEG SPRAGUE,	Boston,	P. D. G. M.
" JOHN J. BELL,	Exeter, N. H.,	"
" EZRA B. FRENCH,	Washington, D. C.,	P. S. G. W.
" ISAAC DOWNING,	Kennebunk,	"
" GUSTAVUS F. SARGENT,	Boston,	"
" DAVID BUGBEE,	Bangor,	"
" FRANCIS L. TALBOT,	East Machias,	"
" THADDEUS R. SIMONTON,	Camden,	"
" WILLIAM O. POOR,	Belfast,	"
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	Ellsworth,	P. J. G. W.
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	Wiscasset,	"
" STEPHEN B. DOCKHAM,	Massachusetts,	"
" OLIVER GERRISH,	Portland,	"
" FRANCIS J. DAY,	Hallowell,	"
" JOHN W. BALLOU,	Bath,	"
" HENRY H. DICKEY,	Lewiston,	"
" A. M. WETHERBEE,	Warren,	"

GRAND OFFICERS DECEASED.

M. W. WILLIAM KING,	P. G. M.	R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	P. D. G. M.
" SIMON GREENLEAF,	"	" JAMES L. CHILD,	"
" WILLIAM SWAN,	"	" ELISHA HARDING,	"
" CHARLES FOX,	"	" SAM'L L. VALENTINE,	"
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	"	" DAVID C. MAGOUN,	"
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	"	" AMOS NOURSE,	"
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	"	" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	P. S. G. W.
" HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	"	" GEORGE THACHER,	"
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	"	" JOEL MILLER,	"
" ALEX'R H. PUTNEY,	"	" WILLIAM ALLEN,	"
" JOHN MILLER,	"	" EDMUND B. HINKLEY,	"
" JOHN T. PAINE,	"	" J. W. MITCHELL,	P. J. G. W.
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	"	" REUBEN NASON,	"
" JABEZ TRUE,	"	" FRYE HALL,	"
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,	"	" JOSEPH COVELL,	"
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	"	" T. K. OSGOOD,	"
" JOHN H. LYNDE,	"	" WILLIAM KIMBALL,	"
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	"	" JOHN WILLIAMS,	"
" REUEL WASHBURN,	"	" STEPHEN WEBBER,	"

Brethren Died during the Year,

FROM MARCH 1, 1877, TO MARCH 1, 1878.

Portland Lodge—Stephen W. Eaton, March 5; Jonathan Johnson, April 26; Charles Sampson, July 11, aged 57; Jonathan M. Heath, August 4, 67 y'rs 5 mo's; Newell W. Foster, Jan. 9, 38 y'rs; Amos Chick, Jan. 18, 77 y'rs.

Warren, East Machias—Capt. Theodore Munson, June 7, at home; Capt. William H. Foster, July 26; John F. Harris, Sept. 30; Charles N. Wallace, Oct. 7—these four buried with masonic honors; Capt. Aaron Thompson, Nov. 23, at home—killed accidentally; Capt. George E. Wilcox, in May, at Rio Janeiro, of yellow fever.

Lincoln, Wiscasset—Daniel McCobb; Rufus R. Wright.

Hancock, Castine—Colin L. Mead, June.

Kennebec, Hallowell—Wesley Collins; G. W. Perkins.

Amity, Camden—Warren Conant, March 25; H. E. Alden, Sept. 3; William H. Benson, Jan. 20.

Eastern, Eastport—George W. Gorham, July 10.

United, Brunswick—John D. Lincoln; William S. Given; Waitstill W. Douglas.

Saco—George L. Evans.

Rising Virtue, Bangor—Albert Noyes, March 16, at Bangor; George S. Bartlett, Sept. 15, at Calcutta; Seth Emery, Feb. 19, buried with masonic honors.

Pythagorean, Fryeburg—Josiah Chase, November.

Cumberland, New Gloucester—Charles C. Keith, of typhoid fever, at St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 13; Henry Bennet, Jan. 15—Honorary member, died of old age.

Oriental, Bridgton—Joseph Hall, Feb. 2—had been a mason 49 years.

Orient, Thomaston—George W. Tuttle.

St. George, Warren—Western E. Ware, June 29; Robert Davis, Oct. 3.

Ancient Land-Mark, Portland—Samuel Scholes, November 8; Francis Cook, July; E. A. Delanoy, 1876, at Porto Rico.

Oxford, Norway—John Garry, May 10, of cancer; Hasley Shedd, Nov. 27, of heart disease.

Maine, Farmington—Jonathan Fairbanks, May.

York, Kennebunk—Robert A. Kimball, Past Master, Feb. 20, of scarlet fever—masonic funeral.

Temple, Winthrop—Sands Bailey, Oct.; John Magoon, supposed to be dead; Philip C. Philbrook, Oct. 1874—death not known till within the past year.

Village, Bowdoinham—Harmon Jaques, July 22, aged 73; John L. Purinton, Oct. 4; George Henry, Honorary member, Dec. 17, aged 91; all three buried with masonic honors.

Adoniram, Limington—James McArthur, Jan. 12—charter member.

Tranquil, Auburn—Eben R. Saunders, Dec. 7.

Union—John Mears, April 18, masonic burial; Philo Thurston, May 2, aged 82 years, 9 months, 17 days—the oldest member of the lodge—raised June, 1820.

Hermion, Gardiner—Stephen Webber, April 13, 1876; John C. Nelson, April 15, 1877; Thomas Searles, July 24; Charles F. Scott, Aug. 7; Andrew Johnson, Sept. 13; Alphonso H. Clark, Nov. 12.

Waterville—Morris Soule, March 4; Edward H. Jordan, Sept. 7.

Somerset, Skowhegan—James L. Gilman, March 14,—killed by the bursting of a bulk-head while repairing a flume; Norris Marston, July 3.

Bethlehem, Augusta—Newton Reynolds, June 21; Nathaniel G. Ware, Nov. 13.

Casco, Yarmouth—William G. Allen, supposed lost at sea; Edwin W. Hill, Feb. 27—washed overboard.

Harmony, Gorham—E. F. Nason, March 28; John Webb, Sept. 25.

Penobscot, Dexter—John Wilson Barron, Feb. 23.

Lygonia, Ellsworth—Charles H. Joy, Dec. 9—Past Master; Gardiner G. Gasper and Samuel J. Murch, died at sea, of yellow fever.

Morning Star, Litchfield—Stone Emerson, Jan. 6; Alonzo Woodard, Jan. 28.

Freedom, Limerick—Samuel Lord.

Piscataquis, Milo—Yorick R. Samson, Aug. 15—masonic funeral.

Central, China—Albert L. Webb, June 27.

St. Croix, Calais—John Ivory, Aug. 16; James W. Bartlett, Sept.; Joseph McLain, Oct. 3.

Dunlap, Biddeford—James B. York; Charles Hardy, Dec. 30.

Lafayette, Readfield—Hiram Gilman, March 18—masonic burial.

Aurora, Rockland—R. W. E. E. Wortman, April 12, aged 48 years; Verial E. Wall, Sept. 20, aged 32; Emery L. Stetson, Sept. 21, aged 44; Charles S. Bradbury, Sept. 25—died at sea, on the passage from Aspinwall toward Progreso, Mexico; James L. Jameson, Nov. 25—lost on Smith's Island, near Cape Charles, Virginia; John Stone, Feb. 18—died of yellow fever at Rio Janeiro, Brazil.

St. John's, South Berwick—George H. Goodrich, Aug. 26; John H. Burleigh, Dec. 5—killed by accident.

Mosaic, Foxcroft—John W. Pettengill, Nov. 26—masonic burial; Salmon Holmes, Dec. 18, a charter member—buried with masonic honors. Only one charter member left, and he 85 years old.

Rural, Sidney—Henry Field, March 26.

Fraternal, Alfred—Richard A. Bradbury; S. Frank Turner.

King Hiram, Dixfield—Charles A. Wait, June 20.

Star in the East, Oldtown—Augustus R. Chase, April.

King Solomon's, Waldoboro'—Orin Welt, supposed to have been lost at sea.

King David's, Lincolnville—Atherton W. Pendleton, July 3; Geo. W. Hunt, Sept. 3; Orlando McCobb, Sept. 18, of fever, at Matanzas; Joseph Brewster, Jr., Nov. 8.

Richmond—Francis B. Ring, March 16; Albion J. Drew, W. Master, Feb. 11.

Pacific, Exeter—Thomas S. Ranney, of Stetson, April 23, aged 49; Hannial P. Knight, of Corinth, July 18, aged 44.

Mariners', Searsport—D. A. Panno, lost at sea.

Howard, Winterport—Patrick McShea, Dec. 30—made a mason in Ireland, in 1819; one of the first members of Howard Lodge.

Tyrian, Mechanic Falls—Paul Granier, date unknown; Edmund Chase, Feb. 14.

Bristol—Arthur Hewey, July—buried with masonic honors.

Arundel, Kennebunkport—George M. English, April 28, at Rio Janeiro.

Tremont—James W. Lawler, March 24, at Wilmington, N. C., of yellow fever.

Crescent, Pembroke—Richard Adams, April 24—buried by Enterprise Lodge, No. 48, Jersey City, N. J.—Crescent Lodge paid expenses; George K. Hatch, Sept. 20, aged 41—Master of Lodge at time of death; was Post-master twelve years, and Selectman six years—buried by St. Bernard Commandery, of Eastport, and Crescent Lodge; four hundred Brethren and citizens in procession; music by Pembroke Cornet Band; Charles James, Dec. 23, aged 74—Tyler of the lodge about 15 years, oldest member, honorable and worthy—watch-maker and jeweler by trade.

Rockland—Wilson Boggs, in Savannah, Georgia; Hiram F. Hix, vessel with all on board supposed to be lost, not been heard from for more than a year; Robert R. Spaulding, Aug. 14, at home; Isaac P. Clay, Nov. 10, in Bluehill, Maine; John T. Berry, 2d, Nov. 21, at home.

Keystone, Solon—Jonah P. Spaulding, July 1; Daniel Churchill, in Wisconsin.

Atlantic, Portland—Frank H. Jordan, supposed to be lost with steamer George Cromwell, in the Bay of Fundy; Alfred M. Burton, Nov. 29—one of the charter members; Nathaniel Whitney, Feb. 17.

St. Paul's, Rockport—John N. Farnham; R. B. Blaisdell, lost at sea; John Brown, Oct. 28.

St. Andrew's, Bangor—Alonzo T. Danforth, July 2; Edmund H. Fogg, Aug. 5; Francis O. J. Burr, Oct. 4; Silas B. Dearborn, Sept. 7.

Eureka, St. George—Ira M. Gilman, lost at sea; John L. Tracy, June 22; Hugh Murry, died in the British provinces; George K. Davis, died at sea, from exposure in an open boat, after leaving the wreck of the schooner Fred Fish.

Star in the West, Unity—Alden B. Webb, March 15.

Temple, Saccarappa—Charles B. Stevens, Dec. 5—charter member.

Benevolent, Carmel—James Garland, May 10.

Narraguagus, Cherryfield—David W. Tucker, date unknown.

Island, Islesboro'—Simon D. Sprague, Nov. 19—a worthy Brother; Otis F. Coombs, Dec. 19, the first Master of the lodge, a much respected ship-master,—died on the passage from Palermo towards New York.

Harwood, Machias—Joseph W. Sawyer, Fall of 1876, at sea; John P. Handy, April 9; Kingman Smith, Aug. 11; Ira Nash, date unknown.

Horeb, Lincoln—Rev. Alvin J. Bates; Joseph Porter, Feb. 6.

- Paris, South Paris—Erastus King, Sept., 1877, in Massachusetts; Samuel Bacon, Dec. 3,—buried with masonic rites, Dec. 6.
- Corinthian, Hartland—Nahum L. Hayden, July.
- Monument, Houlton—E. D. French, March 22; Theodore A. Heywood, Nov.; Marcus Peters, Jan. 19.
- Bethel—Dr. P. C. Wiley, drowned by the upsetting of a boat.
- Jefferson, Bryant's Pond—George Briggs, May 17—a minister in the Methodist order, a worthy and active Brother; buried with masonic services.
- Nezinscot, Turner—Benjamin F. Perry, Sept. 20, at West Auburn, of typhoid fever—buried with masonic honors.
- Dirigo, Weeks's Mills—William L. Lewis, February, 1878.
- Ashlar, Lewiston—George C. Leavitt, March 9, at Wilton, buried by Wilton Lodge; Lyman O. Goodwin, July 30, at Salem, Mass.; George G. Carlton, Feb. 15, at Denver, Colorado—buried with masonic honors by Denver Lodge.
- Tuscan, Addison—A. J. Ray, September, 1877.
- Relief, Belgrade—James H. Mosher, Feb. 23.
- Liberty—Frye Abbott, 1874; Henry D. Foy, May 8, of cancer; Abial D. Glidden, May 9; William A. Messer, June 24; West W. Jones, Aug. 6; Jacob Lowell, Oct. 1. The last four died of consumption.
- Polar Star, Bath—Levi L. Sprague, May 10; Frank M. Stinson, Nov. 14.
- Lebanon, Norridgewock—Joseph H. Pierce, March 16; John Shorey, Aug. 24—both buried by the Fraternity.
- Greenleaf, Cornish—Horace A. Pike, Dec. 19; charter member, first Senior Warden, and Past Master of Greenleaf Lodge.
- Meduncook, Friendship—Sylvester Poland; vessel supposed to have been foundered in the gale of Nov. 3, 1876.
- Acacia, Durham—Emery H. Tuttle, Feb. 18, in San Francisco, Cal.
- Marine, Deer Isle—Charles Waters, Dec. 18—lost at sea.
- Olive Branch, Charleston—Abner Paine, Nov. 1877; Samuel S. Hall, Jan. 16; A. F. Buck, Jan. 24.
- Presumpscot, Windham—Jason Webb, May 10.
- Eggemoggin, Sedgwick—Joshua E. Grindle, April 12, in Boston—buried in Sedgwick, with masonic honors; Lucius B. Dority—lost at sea, date unknown.
- Trinity, Presque Isle—George Dingee, Jan. 12.
- Lookout, Cutler—Alfred Maker, Oct. 10, in California—killed instantly, by a log rolling on him.
- Mount Tire'm, Waterford—Marshall Sanderson, Feb. 9—charter member—buried by lodge.
- Asylum, Wayne—Curtis Swift, April; J. C. Knight, May 15.
- Trojan, Troy—Lyman Green, Dec. 18.
- Riverside, Jefferson—E. B. Benner, July 25.
- Kenduskeag—Edwin N. Tebbetts, Aug. 20.
- Mount Desert—Herschel Heath, lost at sea.
- Augusta—Frank O. Turner, June 13.
- Preble, Sanford—A. W. Dam, June 29.

Sea-side, Boothbay—Ezekiel W. Hodgkins, June 30; Nahum B. Pierce, Sept. 2; Charles T. Harris, Sept. 23;—all buried with masonic rites.

Doric, Monson—John H. Pratt, Sept. 20; Rufus R. Drake, Nov. 26.

Rabboni, Lewiston—George I. Parker, 1876, in the West; John Thompson, June, 1877; Chas. A. Ranks, Nov. 1877.

Excelsior, Northport—James L. Brown, Dec. 9, 1876,—lost at sea.

Crooked River, Bolster's Mills—Reuben Gilkey, Jan. 6, aged 31.

Cambridge—Sands Bailey, Sept. 1877,—Honorary member.

Parian, Corinna—William W. Nutter, Oct. 21.

Pleasant River, Brownville—Zadoc F. Wilkins, Jan. 7.

Webster—James Keats, April 29.

Naskeag, Brooklin—Reuben A. Watson, lost at sea.

Pine Tree, Mattawamkeag—George W. Sylvester, Aug. 27.

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

Reuel Washburn,

PAST GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF MAINE.

BORN IN RAYNHAM, MASS., MAY 21, 1793,

DIED IN LIVERMORE, ME., MARCH 4, 1878, AGED 85 YEARS.

The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the
way of righteousness.

REPRESENTATIVES

of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Maine.

- JOSEPH C. STEVENS, Lancaster, Mass.,—Minnesota.
WILLIAM P. PREBLE, Portland,—New York, Oregon.
EZEKIEL ROBINSON, Readfield, Iowa.
IRA BERRY, Portland,—Missouri, Maryland.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland,—New Jersey, Nova Scotia, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, Texas, Florida, Tennessee, Kansas and Kentucky.
DENISON E. SEYMOUR, Calais,—New Brunswick.
EDWARD P. BURNHAM, Saco,—Nebraska.
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, Portland,—Colorado.
STEPHEN BERRY, Portland,—District of Columbia.
JOHN W. BALLOU, Bath,—Arkansas.
HENRY H. DICKEY, Lewiston,—California.
ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, Bangor,—Montana.
ALBERT MOORE, North Anson,—North Carolina.
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, Bangor,—Mississippi.
JOSEPH W. CLAPP, Augusta,—Idaho.
CHARLES M. RICE, Portland,—Michigan.
STEPHEN J. YOUNG, Brunswick,—New Hampshire.
AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, Bangor,—Delaware.
F. LORING TALBOT, East Machias,—Nevada.
EDWIN F. DILLINGHAM, Bangor,—Indiana.
SILAS ALDEN, Bangor,—South Carolina.
AUSTIN D. KNIGHT, Hallowell,—Connecticut.
MARQUIS F. KING, Portland,—Wisconsin.
WILLIAM R. G. ESTES, Skowhegan,—West Virginia.
ALDEN M. WETHERBEE, Warren,—Manitoba.
DAVID CARGILL, Augusta,—Canada.
GEORGE W. DEERING, Portland,—Illinois.

REPRESENTATIVES

of the Grand Lodge of Maine near other Grand Lodges.

- Alabama*—JAMES B. LUCKIE, Montgomery.
Arkansas—OLIVER C. GRAY, Little Rock.
California—ALEXANDER G. ABELL, San Francisco.
Canada—JOHN W. MURTON.
Colorado—EDWARD C. PARMELEE, Georgetown.
Connecticut—ALBERT H. CARGILL, Fairhaven.
Delaware—J. THOMAS BUDD, Middletown.
District of Columbia—EZRA B. FRENCH, Washington.
Florida—DEWITT C. DAWKINS, Jacksonville.
Georgia—G. W. MAXSON, Talbotton.
Illinois—DANIEL WADSWORTH, Auburn, Sangamon County.
Indiana—WILLIAM HACKER, Shelbyville.
Kansas—JOHN H. BROWN, Wyandotte.
Kentucky—H. M. FAIRLEIGH, M. D., Hopkinsville.
Louisiana—CLIFFORD BELCHER, New Orleans.
Manitoba—WILLIAM N. KENNEDY, Winnipeg.
Michigan—REV. D. B. TRACY, Detroit.
Minnesota—A. T. C. PIERSON, St. Paul.
Mississippi—JOHN F. MCCORMICK, Shubuta.
Missouri—XENOPHON RYLAND, Lexington.
Montana—CORNELIUS HEDGES, Helena City.
Nebraska—N. S. HARDING, Nebraska City.
Nevada—GEORGE ROBINSON, Washoe City.
New Brunswick—DAVID BROWN, St. Stephens.
New Hampshire—ALEXANDER M. WINN, Portsmouth.
New Jersey—JAMES G. AITKIN, Trenton.
New York—JOSEPH D. EVANS, New York City.
North Carolina—LEWIS S. WILLIAMS, Charlotte.
Nova Scotia—L. F. DARLING.
Ohio—
Oregon—JOSIAH MYRICK, Oregon City.
Quebec—JOHN HELDER ISAACSON, Montreal.
Rhode Island—
Tennessee—LEWIS R. EASTMAN, Nashville.
Vermont—PARK DAVIS, St. Albans.
Washington Territory—T. F. McELROY, Olympia.
West Virginia—HUGH STERLING, Wheeling.
Wisconsin—MELVIN S. YOUNG, Milwaukee.

STANDING REGULATIONS.

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) attend during the session, ten cents per mile (one way) from the Lodge Hall to the Grand Lodge Hall, when the delegate is a member of the lodge he represents; the distance in all cases to be computed by the usually traveled route. [1865, p. 98.]

2. *Resolved*, That after all the lodges shall have furnished their histories to the present time, it shall be their duty once in ten years, commencing in 1870, to furnish their history for the preceding decade, or so much as shall be lacking. [1866, p. 165.]

3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will not remit Grand Lodge dues to subordinate lodges on account of loss by fire of property not insured. [1866, p. 192.]

4. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Maine disapproves of the public use of masonic emblems, especially that ostentatious display calculated to lead the world to suppose that we are still an operative fraternity and endeavoring to receive more wages. [1867, p. 113.]

5. *Resolved*, That every lodge, after adopting or revising by-laws, shall send a transcript of such by-laws or revision immediately to the Grand Secretary for examination, and await the approval of the Grand Master before recording or printing. [1868, p. 225.]

6. *Resolved*, That Masters of lodges be required to report to the Grand Master all invasions of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge by lodges of other jurisdictions, with all the circumstances attending, so far as they may be able—to be by the Grand Master reported at each annual communication. [1869, p. 406.]

7. *Resolved*, That no action shall be had in any lodge under this jurisdiction, upon a petition for degrees, or for an election of an officer or officers of a lodge, under a dispensation from the Grand Master, until the expiration of *forty-eight* hours from the time the notices calling the meeting for action have been issued and delivered. Notices calling the meeting in either case, shall be delivered either in person, or left at the last and usual place of abode of every member within a distance of one mile of the lodge room. Notices to other members may be sent by *mail*. [1871, p. 346.]

8. [*Repealed*.]

9. *Resolved*, That whenever a lodge, after being constituted, requests a Grand Officer to visit them and install their officers, or dedicate a hall, the expenses attending such visit must be paid by the lodge requesting the services, and not by the Grand Lodge. [1874, p. 308.]

10. *Resolved*, That no Brother charged with unmasonic conduct, and on trial before any lodge, or this Grand Lodge, should be refused a right to testify in his own behalf. [1876, p. 44.]

11. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of, and is hereby enjoined upon the District Deputy Grand Masters in the several Masonic Districts, to use their best endeavors to impress upon the various lodges in their several jurisdictions, and their Masters and Wardens, the importance of the attendance of said officers upon the communications of the Grand Lodge, and to make use of their best efforts to have every lodge represented at all such communications by their first three officers. [1877, p. 301.]

12. *Resolved*, That no action shall be had in any lodge under this jurisdiction, upon a petition for the approval or recommenda-

tion for a new lodge, until the same shall have been before the lodge one month. [1877, p. 453.]

13. *Resolved*, That, with the consent of his lodge, a member may petition another lodge for membership without taking a dimit; the lodge receiving the application may act thereon, but the applicant shall not become a member of such lodge until he has filed his dimit and signed the by-laws; and, unless he procures his dimit and signs the by-laws within six months after his election, he shall lose all rights thereunder. [1878, p. 558.]

14. *Resolved*, That on application at a stated communication, and on paying all dues and assessments, a member shall be entitled to a discharge from membership at the next stated communication, without a vote of the lodge, unless charges are pending against him. But this shall not prevent a lodge from recommending a dimitted member to the favorable consideration of the Craft. [1878, p. 578.]

15. One lodge cannot confer a degree at the request of another lodge, unless the requesting lodge waives jurisdiction, and the other lodge accepts the candidate in the usual manner, and for its usual fees. [1878, p. 567.]

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

Section 56, p. 21, was amended so as to read :

Provided, that it may be lawful for said Trustees to exchange said fund from one investment to another, at a meeting of the Board, and not otherwise. [1878, p. 306.]

Section 7, to read :

SEC. 7. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary, shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Communication on the first Tuesday of May, the election to commence at three o'clock P. M. A majority of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice. All Grand Officers not herein designated for election shall be appointed by the Grand Master. [1878, p. 568.]

Section 38,—provision for the appointment of a Committee on By-Laws, stricken out. [1878, p. 568.]

Section 113, providing that "no fee for affiliation shall be required in any lodge," stricken out. [1878, p. 568.]

Grand Lodges and

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND MASTERS.
Alabama,	Henry Clay Armstrong, Suspension.
Arkansas,	John F. Hill, Clarksville.
British Columbia,	Frederick Williams, Esquimalt.
California,	John Mills Browne, Vallejo.
Canada,	W. H. Weller, Cobourg.
Colorado,	Cornelius J. Hart, Pueblo.
Connecticut,	Dwight Phelps, West Winsted.
Dakota,	George H. Hand, Yankton.
Delaware,	Thomas N. Williams, Seaford.
District of Columbia,	E. G. Davis, Washington.
Florida,	Wm. A. McLean, Jacksonville.
Georgia,	James M. Mobley, Hamilton.
Idaho,	E. A. Stevenson, Pioneerville.
Illinois,	Joseph Robbins, Quincy.
Indiana,	Robert Van Valzah, Terre Haute.
Indian Territory,	J. S. Murrow, Atoka.
Iowa,	Zephaniah C. Luse, Iowa City.
Kansas,	John Guthrie, Topeka.
Kentucky,	Campbell H. Johnson, Henderson.
Louisiana,	Samuel J. Powell, St. Francisville.
Maine,	Edward P. Burnham, Saco.
Manitoba,	George F. Newcomb, Winnipeg.
Maryland,	John H. B. Latrobe, Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	Charles A. Welch, Waltham.
Michigan,	John W. Finch, Adrian.
Minnesota,	Edward W. Durant, Stillwater.
Mississippi,	Charles T. Murphy, Durant.
Missouri,	Thomas C. Ready, St. Louis.
Montana,	William A. Clark, Deer Lodge.
Nebraska,	George W. Lininger, Omaha.
Nevada,	Merrill P. Freeman, Elko.
New Brunswick,	Robert T. Clinch, St. John.
New Hampshire,	Solon A. Carter, Keene.
New Jersey,	Marshall B. Smith, Passaic.
New Mexico,	William W. Griffin, Santa Fé.
New York,	Joseph J. Couch, Brooklyn.
North Carolina,	Horace H. Munson, Wilmington.
Nova Scotia,	J. W. Lawrie, Halifax.
Ohio,	William M. Cunningham, Newark.
Oregon,	Robert Clow, Dallas.
Pennsylvania,	James M. Porter, Philadelphia.
Prince Edward Island,	John Yeo, Port Hill.
Quebec,	Melbourne M. Tait, Montreal.
Rhode Island,	Charles R. Cutler, Warren.
South Carolina,	Beaufort W. Ball, Laurens C. H.
Tennessee,	Americus V. Warr, Rossville.
Texas,	Norton Moses, Galveston.
Utah,	John S. Scott, Salt Lake City.
Vermont,	Henry H. Smith, Rutland.
Virginia,	Beverley R. Wellford, Jr., Richmond.
Washington,	Robert Crosby Hill, Coupeville.
West Virginia,	George Baird, Wheeling.
Wisconsin,	Jed. P. C. Cottrill, Milwaukee.
Wyoming,	Orlando North, Evanston.

Addresses of Grand Officers.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

Daniel Sayre, Montgomery.
 Luke E. Barber, Little Rock.
 Eli Harrison, Jr., Victoria.
 Alexander G. Abell, San Francisco.
 J. J. Mason, Hamilton.
 Edward C. Parmelee, Georgetown.
 Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford.
 W. E. Caton, Elk Point.
 William S. Hayes, Wilmington.
 Wm. R. Singleton, Washington.
 DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.
 J. Emmett Blackshear, M. D., Macon.
 Charles Himrod, Boise City.
 John F. Burrill, Springfield.
 William M. Smythe, Greencastle.
 R. P. Jones, Caddo, Choctaw Nation.
 Theodore S. Parvin, Iowa City.
 John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
 Hiram Bassett, Millersburg.
 Jas. C. Batchelor, M. D., New Orleans.
 Ira Berry, Portland.
 John H. Bell, Winnipeg.
 Jacob H. Medairy, Baltimore.
 Charles H. Titus, Boston.
 William P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
 A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
 J. L. Power, Jackson.
 John D. Vincil, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
 William R. Bowen, Omaha.
 Samuel W. Chubbuck, Gold Hill.
 W. F. Bunting, St. John.
 George P. Cleaves, Concord.
 Joseph H. Hough, Trenton.
 David G. Miller, Santa Fé.
 James M. Austin, New York City.
 D. W. Bain, Raleigh.
 Benjamin Curren, Halifax.
 John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati.
 R. P. Earheart, Portland.
 John Thomson, Philadelphia.
 B. W. Higgs, Charlotteton.
 John H. Isaacson, Montreal.
 Edwin Baker, Providence.
 Charles Inglesby, Charleston.
 John Frizzell, Nashville.
 George H. Bringhurst, Houston.
 Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Henry Clark, Rutland.
 William B. Isaacs, Richmond.
 Thomas M. Reed, Olympia.
 Odell S. Long, Wheeling.
 John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee.
 William G. Tonn, Evanston.

CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.

Oliver S. Beers, Mobile.
 George E. Dodge, Little Rock.
 William H. Hill, Los Angeles.
 Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
 Lawrence N. Greenleaf, Denver.
 Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford.
 F. J. DeWitt, Yankton.
 Joseph W. H. Watson, Newport.
 W. R. Singleton, Washington.
 D. C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.
 Samuel Lawrence, Atlanta.
 A. Heed, Boise City.
 Theodore T. Gurney, Chicago.
 A. P. Charles, Seymour.
 J. S. Murrow, Atoka.
 T. S. Parvin, Iowa City.
 John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
 Thomas Todd, Louisville.
 George H. Braughn, New Orleans.
 Josiah H. Drummond, Portland.

John S. Tyson, Baltimore.

William P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
 A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
 James M. Howry, Oxford.
 John D. Vincil, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.

Robert H. Taylor, Virginia.

Albert S. Wait, Newport.
 Joseph H. Hough, Trenton.

John W. Simons, New York.
 George W. Blount, Wilson.
 Allen H. Crowe, Halifax.
 John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati.
 Stephen F. Chadwick, Salem.
 Richard Vaux, Philadelphia.

H. W. Nye, Ironhill.
 Henry W. Rugg, Providence.
 Chas. Inglesby, Charleston.
 Geo. S. Blackie, Nashville.
 J. B. Likens, Houston.
 C. Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Henry Clark, Rutland.
 William F. Drinkard, Richmond.
 T. M. Reed, Olympia.
 O. S. Long, Wheeling.
 Emmons E. Chapin, Columbus.
 William G. Tonn, Evanston.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE
Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge,
1878.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, G. M.	Ex Officio.
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, D. G. M.	"
MARQUIS F. KING, S. G. W.	"
SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, J. G. W.	"
IRA BERRY, R. G. S.	"
WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,	elected May 2, 1876, for three years.
WILLIAM E. CRAWFORD,	" " " "
JOSEPH M. HAYES,	" May 1, 1877, "
ALBERT MOORE,	" " " "
DAVID CARGILL,	" May 7, 1878, "
TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	" " " "

ADDRESSES.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM, <i>Grand Master</i> ,	SACO, ME.
IRA BERRY, <i>Grand Secretary</i> ,	PORTLAND, ME.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, <i>Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence</i> ,	PORTLAND, ME.

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ISSUED JUNE 5, 1878.

The Sixtieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge will be held at
Masonic Hall, Portland, Tuesday, May 6, 1879, at 9 o'clock A. M.