



BRO. ANDREW ROSS KIRK.  
[PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE]

THE  
NEW ZEALAND CRAFTSMAN.  
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*PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.*

ANDREW ROSS KIRK, President Board of Benevolence, Grand Lodge of New Zealand, arrived in Lyttelton on April 1st, 1862. Settled in Christchurch, and has resided there since—with an interval of eighteen months spent in Temuka, South Canterbury. He was initiated in the Canterbury Lodge, 1048 E.C., at Christchurch on March 19th, 1875. I.G., 1876; J.W., 1877; S.W., 1878; W.M., 1879; Treasurer, 1880; Grand Steward in District Grand Lodge, 1876; Grand Superintendent of Works 1880; Grand J.W., 1881. He took an active part in establishing the Lincoln, Somerset, and Concord Craft Lodges, and the Lyttelton Kilwinning R.A. Chapter; was the first W.M. of the Lincoln Lodge in 1881—elected an honorary member, 1882; was elected an honorary member of the Concord Lodge, 1881; joined St. George's, E.C., Temuka, 1883. Is a member of Canterbury Kilwinning, R.A. Chapter, 136, E.C., having been exalted in 1876; has occupied each chair—that of M.E.Z. twice, 1879 and 1888. Was one of the founding members of the Memphis Chapter, No. 2 Rose Croix, 18th Degree; of the Supreme Grand Council of the 33rd Degree for New Zealand; Treasurer, 1876; M.W. Sovereign, 1878. Was President of the Widows' and Orphans' and Benevolent Board for Canterbury, E.C., 1889. Has been a member of the Standing Committee of the District Lodge for a number of years; joined St. Augustine, N.Z.C., 1890. Bro. Kirk took a very active part, with other Brethren, in the work of establishing the New Zealand Constitution, acting as Treasurer of the Canterbury Masonic Union, and on the formation of the Grand Lodge he was appointed President of the Grand Board of Benevolence.

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*ROYAL ARCH MASONRY*  
[CONTRIBUTED.]

WE are pleased to observe that the Grand Lodge of New Zealand is now actively engaged in taking charge of Royal Arch Masonry under its Constitution. This, of course, has, to a certain extent, been forced upon it by the lapsing of the warrants of those Chapters attached to Lodges under the English Constitution which have joined the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and whose members desire to continue their work.

There is still stronger reason why the New Zealand Grand Lodge should take charge of Chapters. Scotch Royal Arch Masonry in the Colony is not in a satisfactory state. That branch of our Order, as most of our readers are aware, is independent of Craft Freemasonry, constituting the great distinction between English and Scotch Freemasonry. The chapters have no connection with Lodges; the Supreme Chapter by its warrant conferring the Mark and Excellent Degrees in addition to the R.A.

We have nothing to say against the working of these beautiful Degrees, which we believe is all that can be desired. It is concerning the administration of the Supreme Chapter laws in the Colony of which we complain.

A Provincial Grand Chapter Superintendent, the late Bro. CALDWELL, was appointed in 1873, when three Scotch Chapters existed. On his resignation, Bro. PATERSON was appointed, and afterwards the late Bro. COURT. The Grand Superintendent is supposed to be nominated by the consent of all the Chapters ; really, however, he is nominated in Dunedin. He should visit the Chapters. The only occasion, however, on which they have been visited was by Provincial Grand Superintendent, Bro. COURT accompanied by Provincial Grand Scribe Bro. NEILL, about two years ago, when certain offices were conferred by Bro. COURT — Provincial Grand this, in one Chapter—Provincial Grand that, in another—some of these offices really are not authorised by Sup. Grand Chapter. As the various offices in Provincial Grand Chapters are elective, and taking into consideration the fact that no Provincial Grand Chapter has ever been called into existence here, the whole business was a complete farce. This is not as it should be. We feel sure that if a report had been sent to Supreme Chapter something more would have been heard of it. Further allusion has been made to this matter, in your March issue, in your report of proceedings of Waterloo R.A. Chapter.

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## GRAND LODGES.

NEW ZEALAND.

### QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

INVERCARGILL had the honour of being the *locale* of the third Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, which was held in the Masonic Hall, Forth street, on April 10th. Members of Grand Lodge and of all the Craft Lodges in Southland assembled at 7.30, as they came in signing their names on the G.L. Attendance Roll. The gathering was very large, the seating capacity of the hall being taxed to the utmost, a few of the Brethren having to find accommodation on extra seats.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Henry Thomson, arrived at 8 o'clock, and constituted his Grand Lodge as follows :

Bro. A. H. Burton, Grand Superintendent of Otago, as Deputy Grand Master, Bro. H. Feldwick, Senior Grand Warden ; Bro. A. Cross, as Junior Grand Warden ; Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Stocker, as Grand Chaplain ; Bro. W. Smith, as Grand Treasurer ; Bro. the Rev. Wm. Ronaldson, Grand Secretary ; Bro. W. B. Scandrett, as Senior Grand Deacon ; Bro. W. G. Mehaffey, as Junior Grand Deacon ; Bro. the Rev. Frank Dodd, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies ; Bro. C. Sawyer, as Grand Sword Bearer ; Bro. J. A. Kirby, as Grand Pursuivant ; Bro. M. R. Bree, Grand Steward ; Bros. S. Nichol, Newman, G. Crosbie, J. S. Miller, and E. Titchener, as Grand Stewards ; Bro. H. Newlands, as Grand Tyler. The Grand Lodge officers then entered the Lodge in procession, and were received with the customary honours. The Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form,

The M.W.G.M. offered his hearty approval and congratulations to the Brethren in the district for such a splendid attendance. He then referred to a circular which had been circulated amongst the Lodges as to their approval of the Earl of Onslow as the future Grand Master for New Zealand. This circular had been answered in the affirmative by nearly every Lodge, absence of replies from others being accounted for by distance and difficulty in calling special meetings and shortness of time given for reply. He explained the position with reference to his request to the Earl of Onslow asking him to allow himself to be nominated as Grand Master. Having written to His Excellency when he was in the interior of the North Island delay had arisen in replying, but on the second of the present month the following telegram had been received :

" H. Thomson, Christchurch (Confidential)—Yours received. Have been in communication with a number of Brethren in different parts of the colony ; am hopeful of reconciliation, but cannot accept offer at present, or unless some means of reconciliation can be devised. I can never consent to head a party, and still prefer not to be put forward in any capacity except that of peacemaker.—ONSLOW."

Since the receipt of this the following had come to hand,,and enabled him to read the confidential telegram :

" H. Thomson, Tapanui. — I think you may say that but for the inflexible determination to take no step tending towards reconciliation exhibited by the Southern Masons I should have persevered in my efforts to bring about such a state *of* affairs as would have enabled free intercommunication between all the New Zealand Lodges to be resumed ; and my telegram of the 2nd is not confidential.—ONSLOW."

The M. W.G.M. urged upon the assembled Brethren, notwithstanding that in some instances a want of courtesy had been shown by some of the Lodges who had not given in their allegiance to the Grand Lodge, to show as much courtesy and kindness as if they belonged to Lodges under their own Constitution.

The Grand Secretary read apologies for non-attendance.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Communication, held in Auckland, were read and confirmed.

A telegram was read from the Assistant Grand Secretary, V. W. Bro. W. H. Cooper, stating that petitions had been lodged with the R.W. the Grand Superintendent of Auckland for two new lodges in that District.

The Grand Treasurer forwarded a voucher, signed by the manager of the Bank of New Zealand in Christchurch, which stated that the amount to the credit of the Grand Lodge on April 7th, 1891, was £166 9s 11d.

The report of the Board of General Purposes was read. The Board stated that since their last report Lodge Ngapara had been consecrated and opened, Lodges Hiram, E.C. South Dunedin, and Foxton Kilwinning, S.C., had joined Grand Lodge ; recognition had been granted by the Grand Lodges of Montana, Nevada, South Australia, and the Grand Orient of Belgium.

The Board also reported that copies of the draft Constitutions had been forwarded to Lodges for their consideration, and that Warrants and Certificates would be forwarded directly after the numbering of Lodges had taken place.

The Board of Benevolence reported that £115 5s 7d was now lying to the credit of the fund, and that when the sum of £26 5s, outstanding, was added the credit would be £141 10s 7d. The Board reported having made a grant of £10, and two of £5 during the quarter.

The Acting Superintendent of Wellington, R.W. Bro. E. T. Gillen, reported twenty-one Lodges, working under Grand Lodge in his District. with a membership of over 700. Returns had been received from sixteen Lodges, with an actual membership of 641.

The nomination of officers was as follows :

#### OTAGO DISTRICT.

Lodge Hiram, Dunedin—E. Titchener, P.M. ; J. A. Kirby, W.M.

Lodge of Waitaki, Oamaru—E. G. Lane, M.M.

Bro. Hargood, P.M. (Lodge Clutha) by P.M. Bro. Do Renzy.

T. Hay McKenzie, P.M. (Lodge Clutha), nominated by W., Bro. Rev. Frank Dodd,  
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

A. J. Barth, P.M. (Lodge of Otago) nominated as Grand Organist by P.M., Bro. De Renzy.

W. Henderson, P.M. (Lodge Waikonaiti), nominated by R. W., Bro. A. H. Burton, G.S. of Otago.

#### SOUTHLAND DISTRICT.

W. H. Hall, P.M. (Lodge Southern Cross), nominated by P.M., Bro. Scandrett.

C. Sawyer, P.M. (Lodge Southern Cross), nominated by P.M., Bro. H. Feldwick, S.G. Warden.  
M. R. Bree, P.M.G. Steward (Lodge Mokoreta), nominated by Bro. G. Crosbie, W.M. Lodge Mokoreta.  
W. H. Hannay, P.M. (Lodge Fortitude, Bluff), nominated by P.M. Bro. Newman.  
A. Cross, P.M. (Lodge Southern Cross), nominated by W. Bro. W. Smith, W.M. (Lodge Southern Cross).  
Venerable Archdeacon Stocker, P.M. (Lodge Southern Cross), nominated by P.M. Bro. Feldwick, S.G. Warden as Grand Chaplain.

#### CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

Lodge Geraldine, Canterbury—J. Macpherson Murray, R.W.M. ; Alfred White, S.W.  
Lodge Concord, Papanui—R.C. Bishop, P.M., as President of the Board, of General Purposes ; C. P. Hulbert, P.M., as President of the Board of Benevolence ; A. Kaye, P.M., as Grand Treasurer ; E. C. Brown, M.M., as Grand Steward.  
Lodge Southern Cross, Kaiapoi—Rev. D. J. Murray, P.M., as Grand Chaplain ; W. R. May, P.M., as Grand Steward.  
Lodge St. Augustine, Christchurch—Henry Thomson, P.M. ; C. P. Hulbert, P.M. ; F. J. Smith, P.M. ; C. Hull, P.M. ; G. Tombs, P.M. ; F. W. Francis, P.M. ; E. C. Brown, M.M.  
Lodge Unanimity, Lyttelton—S. Derbidge, P.M. ; H. T. Arnold, P.M. ; J. H. Schmidt, P.M. ; J. Thomson, P.M. ; Colin Cook, W.M.

#### WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Lodge Waterloo, Wellington—A. J. Masters, P.M., as Grand Steward. Lodge Patea Kilwinning—W. J. Gibbons, S.W., as Grand Steward. Lodge Leinster, Wellington—James Patterson, P.M.  
Lodge St. John, Featherston—Rev. Thomas Porritt, W.M.  
Lodge Manawatu Kilwinning, Palmerston North—J. H. Hankins, Assistant Grand Registrar, and J. Walkley, Grand Steward, nominated to the same offices.  
R. C. Hamerton, P.M., and G. H. Elliott, P.M. of Wellington, by P.M. Bro. De Renzy, consent to be obtained.  
George Fisher, M.M., M.H.R. (Lodge N.Z. Pacific, Wellington), nominated by R.W. Bro. A. H. Burt In, G.S. of Otago.  
Bro. Young, P.M. (Lodge N.Z. Pacific), nominated by P.M., Bro. George Robertson, P.G. Secretary.

#### AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

Lodge Coromandel, Thames—Tames Brown, P.M. Lodge Wairoa, Auckland—W C. Walker, P.M. Lodge Albion, Devonport—J. H. Logan, P.M. Lodge Ara, Auckland—G. H. Powley, P.M. Lodge St. Andrew, Auckland—Dr. Walker, P.M. Lodge Beta, Hamilton—Bro. Primrose, P.M. Lodge Sir Walter Scott, Thames—Bro. Clark, P.M. Lodge Ponsonby, Auckland—Bro. Forrest, P.M. Lodge Manukau, Onehunga—Bro. Bruford, P.M.  
Frank Lawry, P.M., M.H.R. (Lodge Manukau, Onehunga), nominated by P.M., Bro. Feldwick, S. Grand Warden.

#### NELSON DISTRICT.

Lodge Victory,—A. E. Cresswell, P.M.

Grand Secretary states that it is possible other nominations went to the Grand Lodge office in Christchurch ; they will, of course, be added to the list, and will be printed and circulated to members of Grand Lodge in plenty of time for the Annual Communication in June.

Auditors.—The following were nominated and elected by Grand Lodge :—P.M., Bro. De. Renzy, Dunedin; P.M., Bro. Hull, Christchurch; P.M., Bro. Fenerty, Christchurch ; P.M. Bro. F. J. Smith, Christchurch.

Board of General Purposes and Board of Benevolence.—The R.W., Bro. Henry Feldwick, Senior Grand Warden, nominated the present members of these two Boards for re-election.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master strongly recommended the formation of local Boards of General Purposes, to consider the draft Constitutions. Grand Lodge was closed at 9.50 p.m.

## THE BANQUET.

The Lodges in the Invercargill District gave a banquet at the Southland Club in honour of the visit of Grand Lodge. A large number sat down to an excellent banquet provided by Bro. Johnson. The great room was tastefully decorated with banners and scrolls bearing the names of the various Lodges who had joined the New Zealand Constitution, conspicuously displayed. After the usual loyal toasts.

Bro. Sawyer, P.M., proposed, "The New Zealand Grand Lodge and Grand Master" in an excellent speech. Glancing at the measure of opposition to the Grand Lodge and the large share of success that had attended it, he expressed the sympathy of the Masons in this locality for the Grand Lodge Officers, in having to bear the brunt of the opposition they had been subjected to—not, he was happy to say from this locality, In Southland they had avoided such feeling, and though the sister Lodges had not come over, yet he felt sure that a large majority of the members were in favour of joining the Grand Lodge.

M. W. Bro. H. Thomson, in responding to the toast, after saying that the position held by the Grand Lodge Officers could not be compared to a bed of roses, stated that the object they had in forming a Grand Lodge for New Zealand was to have one great governing body instead of twelve—three Grand Lodges at Home and nine Provincial Grand Lodges in the colony ; to have one law for all the Lodges instead of three—the English, the Irish, and the Scotch ; and generally to simplify and solidify Masonry in New Zealand. The most of those who at present stand out admit not only that it is desirable to have one Grand Lodge, but that it is inevitable. If so, if it is inevitable, what wisdom was there in putting it off, giving both themselves and the present officers enormous trouble and annoyance. After going into the question of fees and demonstrating that those who joined the Grand Lodge would actually make a saving in that respect, the speaker referred to the vigour and enthusiasm which was being displayed under the new Constitution, giving the numbers of new initiations that had taken place, which evidenced excellent progress in contradistinction to the very few new members being enrolled under the old. He pointed out the disadvantage Lodges would be under if they exceeded the twelve months' limit for joining, after which time old Lodges joining would be liable to be numbered after the very youngest Lodge which had joined the Grand Lodge. He was perfectly satisfied with the success they had met with, but it was not so great as at the outset they were led to expect. Ninety-two Lodges had signified, at the Wellington Convention, their intention of joining, and on the strength of this the work was undertaken. Now some of these had withdrawn their support. Worse than this, several Lodges had passed resolutions—after six months' discussion—and had appointed delegates under the seal of the Lodge and the hand of the Master. These Lodges could not withdraw without dishonouring their delegates and themselves. Some had done this and had excused themselves that it was because the Governor of the colony was not made Grand Master. But every endeavour had been made to that end. While it was to be regretted, he (Lord Onslow), at any rate, should be absolved from blame, as he acted on advice which he was not in a position to know was not from the best quarter, and he had since used every endeavour towards reconciliation. The speaker then showed that to obtain a Grand Lodge, no other course was open than that they had taken, and stated that it was only after repeated requests and deputations that he had taken the position of Grand Master. Referring with regret to the fact that the Earl of Onslow was not able to take the Grand Mastership as mentioned in the telegrams he had read, he spoke with great warmth of the action of a certain brother in Dunedin who had misled him.—(A Voice: Name.)—Bro T. S. Graham, who now showed such strenuous opposition to the New Zealand Constitution, and this in the face of a letter which he had written to the speaker a few days before the inauguration of the same, an extract from which was as follows : " And now as this is the last occasion I may be writing you before your eventful day arrives, permit me to express the hope that you may be successful in promoting harmony amongst the Brethren under your charge and gaining their best efforts to aid you in obtaining recognition. Those just now not a proving of the movement will, I am satisfied be reduced in numbers to your advantage when they see with you at its head that the Grand Lodge is, as it should be, properly conducted, and an improvement on the old." Commenting on this and the fact that circulars detrimental to Grand Lodge had been scattered over England, Ireland, and America, the speaker resumed his seat after, thanking the company for the hearty reception accorded him.

" Our Sister Constitutions " having been proposed by Bro. Mehaffey, P.M., and replied to by P.M. Bro. Duncan McFarlane and Bro. C. Watson Martin, New South Wales, f0 the Grand Lodge officers were proposed by P.M. Bro. Scanirett, and replied to by

Bro. A. H. Burton, Grand Superintendent Otago District, who said that if it were not for the lateness of the hour he would be inclined to speak at some length. Even now, the reading of that telegram almost compelled him against his better judgment to trespass upon their patience. That word of Lord Onslow's was a very pregnant one where he said "it is through the Southern Masons." He would have preferred it to have read "certain Southern Masons," or even, to have been more restricted, to "certain Masons in and about Princes street, Dunedin." He need not have gone beyond, for Southern Masons did not mean Invercargill Masons, among whom and among the Southern country Lodges existed such a conception of the genuine spirit of Masonry as would put these individuals to whom he alluded to shame, if they were capable of it. He had aforesaid spoken pretty candidly, and if occasion served he would yet again speak the plainest English, despite who stood before him, if their conduct were opposed to the spirit of his beloved Order. All, he believed, desired that the present condition of *quasi* anarchy in New Zealand Masonry should be brought to an end : and such an end could only be reached by one of two courses. There was no room for a middle course. Either the Grand Lo ge of New Zealand must be quashed or the other Lodges—at present outside—must come in and assist in the building up of their Masonic temple. Was any one foolish enough to think that the former of these things was likely to happen ? Then, was not their duty plain? He thought that the signs of the times pointed to great social changes—that there was going to be a great upheaval—that classes were likely to alter their relative positions; and he believed that Freemasonry was eminently calculated to act as a buffer between opposing interests. He thought that that Freemasonry that had refined even the ferocity of war; that had mitigated the rancour of religions differences; that had rebuked the excess of concupiscence and lust, would be able—were such a conflict as he had suggested as possible really to occur—to act as a buffer between antagonistic interests, so as to be again a blessing to humanity. It was because he believed this that he would ask them to put away all their differences and unite in the good work.

The next toast was "Our Sister Lodges and Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. H. Feldwick, Senior Grand Warden, who, in the course of his speech, Incidentally re-marked that the rising national, or "Young New Zealand," spirit should lead all not at present Masons, but desirous of entering the order to select Lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, as their mothers in Masonry, instead of Lodges that at present were practically foreign bodies. He contrasted the conduct of the three Home Grand Lodges with that of the Australian, European, and American Grand bodies, all of which had fraternally recognised the Grand Lodge of New Zealand as the supreme Masonic authority in this colony, and expressed a conviction that the seventy odd Lodges ranged under its banner at present would soon be increased to a hundred.

"Southland Lodges under the N.Z.C." was proposed by the M.W.G.M., and responded to by W.M.'s Smith and G. W. Nichol, and P.M. Bro. Miller.

"The Grand Superintendent of Southland, Bro. W. H. Hall," was proposed by the G. Superintendent of Otago, Bro. A. H. Burton, who expressed the greatest regret that severe illness had prevented his Bro. Grand Superintendent from being present that evening, and replied to by P.M. Bro. A. Cross on behalf of Bro. Hall. "The Host and Hostess" was proposed by the M.W.G.M., who referred in most complimentary terms to the manner in which the company had been entertained. This toast was drunk with enthusiasm, with three cheers for the host, and "one more for Mrs Johnson," Bro. N. Johnson suitably acknowledging the toast. The Tyler's toast, " All poor and distressed Masons," proposed by P.M. Bro. Cross, was drunk in solemn silence.

Between the toasts songs were given by Bros. Patchett, McDonald, H. Feldwick, Bree, and others, and a recitation by Bro. A. Cross, a most enjoyable evening being brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne,"—led by P.M. Bro. McFarlane—and a verse of "God save the Queen."

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#### RECOGNITIONS.

The Grand Orient of Spain and the Grand Lodge "Alphinia" of Switzerland, have recognised the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

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#### ENGLAND.

BRO. SIR ROBERT STOUT.

THE Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge was held on March 4. His Royal Highness the Grand Master, through the Grand Master in the chair, made a communication to the effect that he regretted to

inform Grand Lodge that he had received a report from the District Grand Lodge of Wellington, New Zealand, showing that Bro. Sir Robert Stout, K.C.M.G., Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and Deputy District Grand Master of Otago and Southland, had obtained a warrant from the Grand Orient of France to establish a Lodge under it in New Zealand, and had, under that authority, recently opened a Lodge in the town of Wellington, of which Lodge he was Master. On receipt of this information the Grand Master directed the Grand Secretary to address Bro. Sir Robert Stout on the subject, and to call on him for an explanation of the grounds on which he felt himself justified in thus taking part in an invasion of British territory by a foreign Masonic body, and especially by one many of whose members had been declared by a solemn resolution of the Grand Lodge of England on March 6th, 1878, not to be true and genuine Brethren, in consequence of the French Orient having admitted professors of atheism to the Craft against the recognised principles of antient Freemasonry. The Grand Master submitted the matter to Grand Lodge for its consideration and decision. A long letter from Sir Robert Stout acknowledging the facts of the case and justifying his freedom of action, on the ground that the French Orient was a different body, as much as Oddfellows would be, to the English Grand Lodge. The Grand Registrar (Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C.) said the invasion of the colony by a warrant from a Grand Lodge in all circumstances in accord with antient Freemasonry would not be justified ; but the case was far worse from the fact that the warrant had been obtained from a body with whom, unfortunately, the great body of Freemasons throughout the world could not be in accord. The Grand Registrar, amid general cheers, said that Grand Lodge must support the Grand Master's action in bringing this matter before them, and moved--" That Sir Robert Stout be deprived of his rank under Grand Lodge of England; also, that a communication should be made to the Grand Master of Ireland, of which Lodge Sir Robert Stout was also a member."

The Acting Grand Master remarked that Grand Lodge would look with a lenient eye upon transgressions caused by inadvertence, but this was not an act of that character. It was an act committed by one who should have set an example to others, and had been justified in words which all regretted. The Grand Lodge would adhere to the antient landmarks of the order.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

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*THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE GRAND  
LODGE OF ANTIENT TREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF NEW ZEALAND.*

DECLARATION.

WHEREAS Freemasonry was established in New Zealand in the year 1842, A.D., and has since been perpetuated and practised by numerous Lodges formed from time to time under the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland :

And whereas at a Convention of Delegates duly appointed by such Lodges, held in the city of Wellington on the 11th day of September, in the year 1889, A.D , it was agreed that the formation of a GRAND LODGE OF ANTIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF NEW ZEALAND was desirable in the interests of the Craft, and a solemn declaration was there signed by the said Delegates on behalf of their respective Lodges, forming and constituting the said Grand Lodge of New Zealand :

And whereas the said Grand Lodge of New Zealand was in accordance with such declaration duly opened in the St. Augustine Masonic Hall, in the city of Christchurch, on the 29th day of April, 1890, A.D., when Bro. Henry Thomson was elected Grand. Master, and on the day following regularly installed in that office :

Be it now therefore enacted by the said Grand Lodge that the following shall be the Constitution and Laws for the good government of the Grand Lodge itself, and for that of all subordinate Lodges holding under it :

GRAND LODGE.  
THE PROPOSALS.  
COMPOSITION OF GRAND LODGE.

1. The government of the Fraternity of Freemasons of New Zealand is placed in the hands of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, which is a body composed of—(a) A Most Worshipful Grand Master, elected

annually by the Grand Lodge, or, if the Governor of the Colony, for his term of office ; (b) The Master and Wardens for the time being of all Provincial Grand and Craft Lodges working under the Grand Lodge, or, in their absence, proxies duly appointed as herein-after provided ; (c) Such Grand Officers as may from time to time be appointed or elected ; (d) All Brethren who have been Provincial or District Grand Officers, or Past Masters and are subscribing members of any Lodge holding under Grand Lodge, and who have enrolled themselves as members, and all Brethren who at the time of the constitution of Grand Lodge had enrolled themselves as being duly appointed Delegates to Convention.

OUR REMARKS.

(a.) In all English speaking Grand Lodges, the Grand Master is elected annually. Why should New Zealand make an exception in favour of the Governor of the colony ?

(b.) The Master and Wardens of Provincial Grand Lodges must be Masters or Past Masters, if in good standing they are members of Grand Lodge. Are the Masters and Wardens of Craft and Provincial Grand Lodges only allowed to appoint proxies ? Should not Present and Past Grand Officers and Masters have the privilege as long as they continue subscribing members to Lodges ? Article 5, of the Basis of Union, says, "Members of Grand Lodge may vote personally, or by written proxy, in the election of Grand Officers."

(d.) Past Provincial and District Grand Officers, if in good standing, and enrolled as Past Masters, are members of Grand Lodge. Master Masons who have held District or Provincial Grand rank, such as District Grand Steward, cannot, we think, have membership, and vote in Grand Lodge for life ; neither do we see how Delegates to the Wellington Convention, who are only Master Masons, can be given membership and vote in Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodges in the States are composed of the Grand Master, Grand Officers for the year, the Master and Wardens of all Lodges, Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters, and the Past Grand Wardens. The Grand Lodges in Canada, we believe, follow the English method of allowing all the Past Grand Officers and Past Masters to be Members of Grand Lodge, but all the Grand Officers must be Masters or Past Masters.

Under this regulation (No. 1) were the 150 Lodges in the colony, working under Grand Lodge, the strength of that body would be

Masters	150
Wardens	300
Past Masters, an average of six to each Lodge, including particulars under <i>a b c d</i>	900
Grand Stewards, who would be Master Masons, according to this and Rule No. 6 they take Past Rank and continue members of Grand Lodge	20
Total	1370

YEARLY INCREASE.

Past Masters ...	150
Past Grand Stewards ... ..	<u>20</u>
	170
Say for ten years 170 x 10	1700
Strength of Grand Lodge in its eleventh year	3070

The average of subscribing members to each Lodge, taken from returns in hands of Grand Secretary is thirty nine and a fraction—say 40, which gives a paying membership to the 150 Lodges of 6000 Add a yearly increase of four to each Lodge—600, which in ten years equals 6000; total strength in the eleventh year, 12,000. One Brother out of every four it will be a member of Grand Lodge. Making allowance for deaths, suspensions, two years' Mastership, non-registration, &c., of 25 per cent., and giving 25 per cent. increase to the membership of the Lodges, the result would still be that one in every six would be a member of Grand Lodge.

<p><b>ALL LAWS EMANATE FROM GRAND LODGE.</b></p> <p>2. The Grand Lodge possesses the supreme superintending authority, and alone has the inherent power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the Craft, and of altering, repealing, and abrogating them, always taking care that the Antient Landmarks of the Order be preserved.</p> <p><b>GENERAL POWERS OF ALL SUBSTITUTED AUTHORITIES.</b></p>	<p>This regulation is the same as Rule No. 4, English Book of Constitutions.</p>
<p>3. Every Brother who shall, in accordance with the laws and procedure of Freemasonry, preside or act in the Grand Lodge, or in any Craft Lodge, or on any Board or Committee for or in the place of any Officer or Brother who may be absent, shall, while so presiding or acting, have all the rights, powers, and duties of the Officer or Brother whose substitute he shall be, or in whose place he shall act; he shall enforce all rules and regulations, and his acts shall have the same validity in all respects as those of such Officer or Brother, unless the contrary is expressly provided for in these Regulations.</p> <p><b>POWER OF FINAL DECISION.</b></p>	<p>This regulation is taken from the English Book of Constitutions, Rule No. 3. There is no provision made here for Brethren acting as substitutes in a Provincial Grand Lodge.</p>
<p>4. The Grand Lodge has also the power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relative to the Craft, or to particular Lodges, or to individual Brothers, which it may exercise either of itself or by such delegated authority as, in its wisdom and discretion, it may appoint ; but the Grand Lodge alone has the power of erasing Lodges and expelling Brethren from the Craft, a power it does not delegate to any subordinate authority.</p> <p><b>GRAND MASTER, GRAND WARDENS AND SECRETARY.</b></p>	<p>This regulation is the same as Rule No. 5, English Book of Constitutions.</p>
<p>5. The Grand Master, if the Governor of the Colony, shall have the right to appoint a Pro – Grand Master. The Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens shall be appointed annually by the Grand Master, who may also, with the consent of the Grand Lodge, annually appoint Grand Superintendents of Districts where no Provincial Grand Lodge exists. The other officers shall be elected. The Grand Secretary shall be appointed by the Grand Master, as a vacancy occurs, and shall continue without reappointment during the pleasure of the Grand Lodge. He shall be paid such salary as the Grand Lodge may from time to time determine, and actual travelling expenses approved by the Board of General Purposes.</p>	<p>England elects its Grand Master yearly, who appoints the whole of the Grand Officers, with the exception of the Grand Treasurer. Ireland annually elects all the Grand Officers, with the exception of the Deputy Grand Master. Scotland annually elects the Grand officers, with the exception of the Deputy and Substitute Grand Master and the paid officers.</p> <p>The Grand Lodges of the States, taking Colorado as an example, elect, by ballot, a Grand Master, his Deputy, the two Wardens, the Treasurer, and Secretary. The Senior Warden appoints the Junior Grand Deacon ; the Junior Grand Warden appoints the two Grand Stewards and the Grand Master appoints the remainder of the Grand Officers, Chaplain, Orator, Lecturer, Marshall, Senior Grand Deacon, and Grand Tyler.</p>
	<p>In Canada the Grand Lodges follow the plan of</p>

RANK AND PRECEDENCE OF MEMBERS,	Colorado in electing, by ballot, the Grand Officers down to the Grand Secretary, including a Grand Registrar ; the remainder being appointed by the Grand Masters.
<p>6. The Members of the Grand Lodge rank in the following order :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 The Grand Master</li> <li>2 The Pro-Grand Master</li> <li>3 The Grand Pro-Grand Master</li> <li>4 Past Pro-Grand Masters Masters</li> <li>5 Deputy Grand Master</li> <li>6 Past Deputy Grand Masters</li> <li>7 Provincial Grand Masters and Grand Superintendents of Districts</li> <li>8 Past Provincial Grand Masters and Grand Superintendents of Districts.</li> <li>9 Grand Wardens</li> <li>10 Past Grand Wardens</li> <li>11 Grand Chaplains</li> <li>12 Past Grand Chaplains</li> <li>13 Grand Bible Bearer</li> <li>14 Past Grand Bible Bearers</li> <li>15 Grand Treasurer</li> <li>16 Past Grand Treasurers</li> <li>17 Grand Registrar</li> <li>18 Past Grand Registrars</li> <li>19 Presidena of the Board of General Purposes</li> <li>20 Past Presidents of the Board of General Purposes</li> <li>21 President of the Board of Benevolence</li> <li>22 Past Presidents reidenta of the Board of Benevolence</li> <li>23 Grand Super Superent of Works</li> <li>24 Past Grand Superintendents of Works</li> <li>25 Grand Secretary</li> <li>26 Past Grand Secretaries</li> <li>27 Grand Deacons</li> <li>28 Past Grand Deacons</li> <li>29 Grand Director of Ceremonies</li> </ol>	<p>Down to and to and inciuding Past Grand Chaplains, this regulation follows- that of the Grand Lodge of England. Scotland has a Grand Bible Bearer, but know of no other Grand Lodge that has ; he takes rank after the Grand Deacon. Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20t are arranged the same as the English Regulation. No. 21—In New South Wales and Victoria they have made the President of the Board of Benevolence a Grand Lodge Officer. No. 23—In England this officer ranks after the Grand Deacons ; so he does in Ireland, Canada, and Victoria. In Scotland the " Architect " also ranks after the " Deacons," but in New South Wales the " Architect " ranks before the Grand Secretary. The Grand Lodges in the States have no such officer as Superintendent of Works or its equivalent ' Grand Architect.'" No. 27—England, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania have four Grand Deacons:- New Zealand should do the same, so as to make the practice uniform in Australasia. No. 40 — No Grand Lodge allows Past Grand Stewards who are only Master Masons to sit and vote in Grand Lodge. Grand Stewards are Officers for their year of office only.</p> <p>No provision seems to have been made in this regulation for the "rank and precedence " of the Assistant Grand officers —viz : Grand Registrar, Grand Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, Sword. Bearer, and Standard Bearer.</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 Past Grand Directors of Ceremonies</li> <li>31 Grand Sword Bearer</li> <li>32 Past Grand Sword Bearers</li> <li>33 Grand Standard Bearer</li> <li>34 Past Grand Standard Bearers</li> <li>35 Grand Organist</li> <li>36 Past Grand Organists</li> <li>37 Grand Pursuivant</li> <li>38 Past Grand Pursuivants</li> <li>39 The Twenty Grand Stewards of the year</li> </ol>	

<p>40 Past Grand Stewards 41 The Master, Past Masters, and Wardens of every private Lodge.</p> <p>ADDITIONAL MEMBERS MAY BE APPOINTED OR ELECTED.</p>	
<p>7. Brethren of eminence and ability who have rendered service to the Craft may, by appointment of the Grand Master, or by a vote of the Grand Lodge duly confirmed, be constituted members of the Grand Lodge, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper.</p> <p>PAST OFFICERS.</p>	<p>This Regulation is the same as Rule No. 7, English Book of Constitutions.</p>
<p>8. All members of the Craft who were on the 29th day of April, 1890, either actual or Past District or Provincial Grand Officers of the English, Irish, or Scotch Constitutions in New Zealand, and subscribing members of a Lodge of either of these Constitutions at the time in New Zealand, and when they become members of this Grand Lodge, take rank as Past Grand Officers, corresponding with the District or Provincial Grand rank they held at the time of the establishment of the Grand Lodge.</p> <p>DEGREES RECOGNISED.</p>	<p>This Regulation is the same as Rule No. 9, South Australian Book of Constitutions.</p>
<p>9. The Grand Lodge of New Zealand recognises the following degrees, and no more, as being pure antient Masonry, viz.:—Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, and the Holy Royal Arch, in their fullest form.</p>	<p>In the English Book of Constitutions, the following appears as the Degrees recognised by the Grand Lodge of England :—1. By the solemn Act of Union between the two Grand Lodges of FreeMasons of England in December, 1813, it was " declared and pronounced that pure and Antient Masonry consists of degrees and no more, viz., those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch."</p>
	<p>But it is not generally known that at the Union of the two English Grand Lodges (Antient and Modern) on the 14 December, 1813, the Lodge of Reconciliation added this, " But the article is not intended to prevent any Lodge or Chapter from holding a meeting in any of the Degrees of the Orders of Chivalry, according to the Constitutions of the said Orders."</p>
<p>INSTALLED MASTER.</p> <p>10. Grand Lodge recognises the Ceremonial of Installation of Masters of Lodges on their taking the Chair. The Secrets can under no circumstances be conferred upon any except Provincial Grand Masters, Past Provincial Grand Masters, and Masters of Lodges. They can only be communicated when three or more Installed Masters are present, and any Lodge having that number of Installed Masters present at a meeting may communicate them to its Master, or any Past Master.</p>	<p>This is taken from Rule No. 4, Scotch Constitutions. By this proposed regulation the secrets of an Installed Master can only be conferred on Brethren who have been placed in the chair of a Craft Lodge. There seems to be no necessity for introducing " Provincial Grand Masters and Past Provincial Grand Masters" into this Regulation ; they must, of necessity, be Masters or Past Masters before they can attain this rank.</p>

REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED TO RANK IN GRAND LODGE.	
11. The Grand Master may, by warrant, appoint any Brother to represent the Grand Lodge near a sister Grand Lodge, and may constitute him and also any Brother, regularly deputed from a sister Grand Lodge, a Member of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, with such rank as the Grand Master may deem appropriate.	This Regulation is the same as Rule No. 8, English Constitutions. South Australia added in 1886 the following: " That the honorary rank of Past Senior Grand Warden be conferred upon representatives from this Grand Lodge." New South Wales also confers this rank upon her representatives.
VISITORS TO GRAND LODGE.	
12. A visitor can only attend the Grand Lodge by permission of the Grand Master, and if admitted he shall not speak to any question without leave of the Grand Master ; nor shall he, on any occasion, be permitted to vote.	Same as Rule 10, English Constitutions.
REGULAR MEETINGS.	
13. Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge shall, if practicable, be held in the months of January, April, July, and October, in each year, and so far as possible alternately in the four chief centres of the colony.	Is it not advisable to have fixed dates for the Quarterly Communications?
SPECIAL MEETINGS.	
14. The Grand Master, or, in his absence, the Pro-Grand Master, or, in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master, or, in his absence, the two Grand Wardens, may summon special Communications whenever the good of the Craft shall, in their opinion, require it, the particular reason for convening such special Communication shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon at that meeting.	Same as the English regulation, Rule No. 12.
NOMINATION, ELECTION, AND INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.	
15. The elective Grand Officers shall be nominated at the Communication in January in each year, and shall be elected and invested at the Communication in April. The election shall be by ballot, and no Officer shall be elected unless he shall have notified, in writing, his willingness to serve. In the event of there being no nomination for any office, the Grand Lodge may, at the April! Communication, proceed to election without notice.	We would suggest that after the word "nominated " the words " in writing" should be added. Before the words " the election shall," place the following : " Should there be more than one candidate 'deposed for any office the election shall," &c. After the words, " and no officer shall be elected unless," add, " he is in good standing and shall have notified," &c.
NOMINATION OF GRAND STEWARDS.	
16. Each Lodge shall have the right to nominate one of its members (being a Master Mason) for election as a Grand Steward, and the Grand Stewards shall be elected from the Brethren so nominated. Such nomination must be forwarded to the Grand Secretary at least seven days before the date of the April Communication of Grand Lodge in each year.	Each Lodge shall have the right to nominate one of its <i>subscribing</i> members for election as a Grand Steward, and from those nominated twenty shall be elected.

<p>RESIDENCE OF THE FOUR NOMINATED OFFICERS.</p>	<p>The name and residence of the brother nominated, together with his written consent to act shall be transmitted by his Lodge to the Grand Secretary, at least fourteen days before the January Communication.</p> <p>Suppose a Lodge in Russell nominated a Grand Steward and posts the papers to the Grand Secretary's address in Christchurch seven days before the Quarterly Communication, would it reach him in time? If the Communication was held in Auckland, seven clear days would have also to be allowed for the journey up, fourteen days, in our opinion, is hardly time enough.</p> <p>There can be no objection to a Grand Steward being only a Master Mason, if he ceases to be a member of Grand Lodge at the end of his year of office. What are the duties of Grand Stewards ?—the Regulations are silent on this point.</p>
<p>17. Of the four nominated Grand Officers, Pro - Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, not more than one shall reside in any one of the following four principal divisions of the colony, viz. :- Auckland, Wellington (to include Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Nelson, and Marlborough), Canterbury (to include Westland), and Otago and Southland.</p> <p>FEEES FOR PATENT OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.</p>	<p>Of the four <i>appointed</i> Grand officers, Otago and Southland are now two districts. Would it not be advisable to say "that for the purpose of this Regulation Otago and Southland shall <i>be</i> considered one district?"</p>
<p>18. Every Brother upon his first election to an office in Grand Lodge shall pay the fees specified for that office in the Schedule of Fees, and shall be entitled to a certificate or Patent of Office, which shall he signed by the Grand Master ; but if he shall neglect to pay his fee within two months of his election, he shall not retain his office or Rank in Grand Lodge, and another Brother shall be elected in his stead at the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge ; and the defaulter shall neither have past rank nor be eligible for election to any office in Grand Lodge upon any future occasion, except it shall be otherwise determined by a special resolution of Grand Lodge,</p> <p>NOT TO HOLD OFFICE FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS, OR MORE TITAN ONE OFFICE.</p>	<p>A copy of the South Australian regulation on the same subject—Rule No. 16.</p>
<p>19. No Grand Officer, the Grand Master and paid Grand Officers excepted, shall hold the same office more than two years consecutively, and no Brother shall hold more than one office in the Grand Lodge at one and the same time.</p> <p>REMOVAL OF GRAND OFFICERS.</p>	<p>No Grand Officer, the Grand Master, Provincial Grand Masters, Grand Superintendents of Districts, and paid Grand Officers excepted, shall, &amp;c.</p>
<p>20. Should the Grand Master be dissatisfied with the conduct of any of his Grand Officers, he may submit the cause of complaint to the Grand Lodge ; and should it be decided by a vote of the Grand Lodge,</p>	<p>Should the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge be dissatisfied, &amp;c., would it not be better to "submit the cause of complaint" to the Board of General Purposes, and let them report to Grand</p>

<p>duly confirmed, that the complaint is well founded, he shall displace such Grand Officer, and another shall be elected But no Grand Officer can be removed without a vote of. The Grand Lodge, duly confirmed.</p> <p>GRAND WARDENS.</p>	<p>Lodge. Add to the sentence " and another shall be elected " the words, or appointed.</p>
<p>21. When the Grand Wardens are in the Grand Lodge no others can supply Lions. their places, but in their absence the Past Grand Wardens present shall act in the order of seniority. If no past Grand Warden be present, the Grand Master may direct any other Past Grand Officer or member of the Grand Lodge to act as Grand Warden for that occasion.</p>	<p>Same as Rule 26, English Constita-</p>
<p>22. The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, shall when required, each give a joint bond, with two sureties, to the Grand Master, and to such other trustees as the Grand Lodge of New Zealand shall nominate, in such penalty and with such conditions as may be deemed expedient for the due performance of their respective trusts.</p> <p>MONEY AND ACCOUNTS OF GRAND LODGE.</p>	<p>The Grand Lodges of the States have each a regulation of this kind.</p>
<p>23. All moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge shall be deposited in a bank, to be named by the Board of General Purposes, in the name of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and shall be operated upon by cheques, drawn by the Grand Treasurer, and countersigned by the Grand Secretary. The accounts shall be annually audited by two Auditors. The Auditors shall be elected annually at the Quarterly Communication in January by tba Grand Lodge, and the accounts when audited shall be presented to the Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication in April. The Financial Year shall terminate on the 31st day of March.</p> <p>GRAND REGISTRAR, CUSTODY OF THE SEAL, CARE OF THE RECORDS, CERTIFICATION OF BY-LAWS.</p>	<p>Much better to let the financial year end on December 31st. The Grand Secretary could not possibly prepare a balance sheet showing receipts and expenditure up to March 31st, have it audited, and presented to Grand Lodge sometime during April.</p>
<p>24. The Grand Registrar shall have the custody of the seal of the Grand Lodge, - and shall affix, or may authorise the Grand Secretary to affix, the same to all patents, warrants, certificates, and other documents issued by the authority of the Grand Lodge, as well as to such as the Grand Master, in conformity with the established Laws and Regulations of the Craft, may direct. He shall superintend the records of the Grand Lodge, and take care that the several documents issued be in due form ; examine the By-laws of Lodges, and certify if in accordance with the Constitutions and Antient Landmarks.</p> <p><i>(To be Continued.)</i></p>	<p>Same as Rule 28, South Australian Constitutions.</p>

## ***CORRESPONDENCE.***

### ***TO CORRESPONDENTS.***

All communications should be addressed to the Editor, CRAFTSMAN, Box 322, P.O., Dunedin• and should be written on one side of the paper only. Correspondents and contributors are requested to be as brief as possible, as the space at our command is limited.



But, Brother " Craftsman," to the purpose of my writing, which is that I forward through you £5 if within six months nineteen individuals or Lodges will subscribe a like amount to form a nucleus for some permanent charity, to be held in trust by Board of General Purposes.

I feel that my offering is miserably small for such a large purpose. I can only add that if every Lodge or Mason under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand equally able to give that amount, do so, then there will be sufficient to commence the object in view—at once.

I am sure you will gladly record any subscription for that purpose.

Yours very fraternally,  
COROMANDEL.

Auckland, April 3rd, 1891.

[Rule No. 25 of the Laws and Constitutions, Grand Lodge of Ireland, to which " Coromandel " refers, is as follows :—" The Grand Lodge shall subscribe annually the sum of £100 to the Masonic Female Orphan School, and £100 to the Orphan Boys' School ; said sums to be payable half-yearly, in June and December. So long as such subscriptions shall be continued the Grand Officers and the W. Master of each of the Dublin Lodges for the time being shall be *ex-officio* governors of each of the schools."—Ed. CRAFTSMAN.]

[Owing to pressure upon our space—due to the Quarterly Communication at Invercargill, and our remarks upon the proposed Constitutions—we have not room to say anything *re* "Coromandel's" proposal. In May we propose de-voting a leader to the subject of Masonic Benevolence ; meanwhile the £5 has been placed in a Trust Account in the Bank of New Zealand.—Ed. CRAFTSMAN.]

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CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested to write only on one side of the paper.

As soon as the Grand Lodge publishes its first balance-sheet, we will reprint it in this journal.

THE Scotch Masons in Wanganui met on the 9th inst. to consider the question of joining the Grand Lodge. The speakers seemed favourable to the idea, and considered the time ripe. P.M. Bro. Nicholas is going south shortly, and will make it his business to get as much information bearing on the question as possible. On his return the question will be finally decided.

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### LODGE REPORTS.

Secretaries of Lodges, and Scribes of chapters, will confer a favour on the Editor of this Journal If they will forward monthly a copy of their Lodge Circulars to Box 322, Post Office, Dunedin. We shall also be glad to receive from the District and Provincial Grand Secretaries the printed proceedings of their Quarterly Communications.

PACIFIC LODGE of Reefton, 1453, E.C., held its meeting on the 24th March. The business was only "routine."

AT the last meeting of the Albion Lodge, Devonport, Bro. J. F. Logan was re-elected Worshipful Master for another year.

LODGE UNANIMITY, N.Z.C., LYTTELTON.—This Lodge held its meeting on March 26th. Mr H. S. Elliott, aged twenty-three, s.s. Tekapo, was to be balloted for ; Bro. Russell was to be passed ; and Bros. Eyre and Laurenson were to be raised. We notice that P.M. Bro. Schumaker, of Lodge Port Chalmers Marine, E.C., was affiliated to Lodge of Unanimity.

LODGE ASHLEY, N.Z.C., RANGIORA.—This Lodge met on March 26th. The following was the business : To ballot for and if elected to initiate Mr John Forbes, aged forty-three, carpenter, Rangiora, proposed by Bro. J. Sansom, J.P.M., seconded by Bro. J. Smith, J.W. ; also, Mr Henry Charles Joseph Bailey, aged forty-

one, hotelkeeper, Rangiora, proposed by Bro. Clayton, seconded by Bro. Sansom, J.P.M. ; to consider resolution from Grand Lodge *re* appointment of Bro. Onslow as Grand Master for ensuing year ; and general.

NEW ZEALAND PACIFIC LODGE, N.Z.C.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Wellington, on Monday, 23rd March. The hall was well filled, the W.M., officers, and brethren of the Waterloo Lodge, N.Z.C., being present, besides numerous other visitors. There was no ritual work to do, and the report of the Committee appointed to examine the draft Constitutions was therefore considered. The resolution forwarded by the Grand Secretary was also put to the Lodge and carried.

LODGE HIRAM, N.Z.C., South Dunedin, held its regular monthly meeting on the 24th March. The business was an initiation, a passing, and the following ballots were taken :—To ballot for and, if elected, initiate Mr John Stevenson, age —, Manager Henley Station, proposed by Bro. W. B. Walters, seconded by Bro. R. Titchener, P.M. To ballot for and, if elected, initiate Mr Charles Reeves, age 26 years, bootmaker, proposed by Bro. A. Morrison, seconded by Bro. W. Carr. To ballot for Mr George Pearson Stewart, age 30 years, upholsterer, South Dunedin, proposed by letter by P.M. Bro. J. E. McKelvey, seconded by the W.M.

LODGE ARA, N.Z.C., AUCKLAND.—The monthly meeting of the Ara Lodge, N.Z.C., was held at the Masonic Hall, Auckland, on Tuesday, 24th March, 1891. The W.M., Bro. S. D. Hanna, in the chair. The ballot was taken for the affiliation of a Brother of a Dublin Lodge, which proved successful. Bros. Gentles and Cousins were then passed to Second Degree by the Worshipful Master. The lecture on the Tracing Board being given by Bro. G. H. Powley, P.M. Secretary. On the motion of M.W. Bro. A. S. Russell, D. G.M., seconded by W. Bro. A. Kidd, G. Pursuivast, the Lodge unanimously passed the nomination of the Governor for the position of Grand Master. The Treasurer declared the balance to be £123 to the credit of the Lodge in the bank. The sum of £3 3s was voted to the relief of a widow. A gentleman was nominated for initiation. The A.G. Secretary, V.W. Bro. W. H. Cooper, then informed the Lodge that the dedication of the new Masonic hall at Papakura Lodge would take place on 31st inst. The visiting Brethren (which included the W.M. of Lodge Victoria, Napier, and Brethren of both E., I., S., and New South Wales Constitutions) then gave hearty good wishes.

LODGE BETA WAIKATO, N.Z.C., HAMILTON. — This Lodge has taken unto itself a new name. The business done at the last meeting on March 26th was the initiation of Mr Thos. Nicholson Allright, farmer, Tamahere ; and the passing of Bros. McNicol and Richdale.

ULSTER LODGE, N.Z.C., PETONE, WELLINGTON.—The regular meeting took place on the 15th inst. The business was to ballot for Mr. Arthur Meredith Whitehead, Surgeon and Physician, age 29, from Nottingham, England. Proposed by Bro. Brandon, seconded by W. Bro. Dawes, P.M. This was followed by the nomination of officers.

LODGE ST. ANDREW (LATE No. 418, S.C.), N.Z.C., AUCKLAND.—On the 18th March, the following business was transacted :—To ballot for the affiliation of Bro. John Hubert Hicks, E.A .P., United Service Lodge, No. 24, N.S.W.C. ; to pass Bros. A. E. Tomlin, E. Hodgson, Robert Robertson, and C. B. Thorne ; to raise Bros. C. Zoeller, T. H. Roxburgh, C. R. Massey, and A. C. Atkin.

PAPAKURA LODGE, N.Z.C., AUCKLAND.—The consecration of the hall lately erected at Papakura for the use of this Lodge took place on April 1st, R.W. Brother M. Niccol performing the ceremony, assisted by Brother W. H. Cooper, A. G. Secretary, as Deputy Grand Master, and other Grand Lodge officers. There were about a dozen Past Masters and fifty of the Brethren from nearly all the lodges of the district. The hall is admirably adapted for the purpose, having a Lodge-room upstairs, with ante-room and separate entrance, and a large public hall below. Amongst the Brethren present were Brothers P.M.'s Powley, Hanna, Craig, Hewson, Dr. Walker, McClemans (2), Dunwoodie, Dr. Carolan, &c. Lodge Papakura, with the other New Zealand Lodges of the district, has unanimously passed the resolution asking the Governor to accept nomination for the office of Grand Master and for the sake of the Craft and to put an end to the present strained relations of the Brethren of the different Constitutions, it is hoped he will accede to the request of the brethren.

LODGE OF WAITAKI, N.Z.C., OAMARU.—The monthly meeting of Lodge Waitaki on the evening of 25th March was one of the best and most enthusiastic ever held by the Lodge. We had several visitors, chief

amongst whom was Bro. T. McWhirter, W.M. of Lodge Ngapara, his officers, and several other members of his Lodge. As our sister Lodge, they were specially welcome, this being their first official visit. Some of the officers of our other sister (Oamaru Kilwii g) having thought proper to lower a curtain between us, we have missed the fraternal exchange of mutual courtesies. However, we hope that before long this curtain will be rent in two, and that we may again meet each other face to face, and once more enjoy the happy communion which has been our privilege for many years past. The loss is not altogether ours since we may enjoy the pleasure of visiting, and being visited, by our Brethren of the N.Z.C., Lodge Ngapara, and other Lodges farther away—as, for instance, we were visited in February by Bro. C. L. Russell, W.M. of Lodge Palmerston South, who well knows how gladly he was welcomed, and to whom a word of apology is due for my not recording his visit in the last month's report. After the minutes of the last regular meeting had been dealt with, the ballot was taken for the affiliation of three Brothers, which, proving clear in each case, they were admitted as members of the Lodge. The neophytes were then admitted, and initiated in the E.A. Degree, the ceremony being carried out by the W.M. and his officers in an admirable manner, and without a hitch ; the charge given by our S. W. was especially noteworthy. Correspondence, &c., having been attended to, a resolution was submitted to the Lodge, in substance thanking Lord Onslow for the interest shown by him on behalf of the Craft, and requesting him to allow himself to be nominated for the position of Grand Master at the approaching Communication of the Grand Lodge, to be held at Invercargill on the 10th of April. The resolution was unanimously agreed to. The names of three candidates for initiation having been submitted, the Lodge was closed at about 11 p.m., after which a very pleasant hour was passed in the refreshment room adjoining the Lodge.

NGAMOTU LODGE, N.Z.C., New Plymouth, will hold its regular monthly meeting on the 17th inst., when Mr James Hislop, schoolmaster, New Plymouth, will be initiated, and Bros. Leppert and Atkinson will be passed to the Second Degree. An emergency meeting will be held on Friday, the 24th inst., when Bros. E. T. White and A. D. Gray will be raised to the Third Degree.

MANAWATU KILWINNING LODGE, N.Z.C., PALMERSTON NORTH.—The regular meeting of the abut e Lodge was held on Wednesday, March 25th. The business included election of officers for ensuing term, and resulted as follows :—R.W.M., Bro. W. Rutherford ; D.M., Bro. W. Dixon ; S.M., Bro. J. Salmon ; W.S.W., Bro. W. Dawick ; W.J.W., Bro. H. B. Harvey ; S.D., Bro. J. Hocking ; J.D., Bro. G. Buchan ; I.G., Bro. W. H. Taylor ; Secy., Bro. F. E. White ; Treas., P.M. Bro. J. P. Leary ; Tyler, Bro. T. Schlager. The following were appointed as auditors, P.M. Bro. W. H. Smith, Bros. Rutherford and Victor. *Re* Grand Lodge nominations, which then took place, the following brothers were duly nominated by the Lodge :—P.M. Bro. J. H. Hankins, as Assistant Grand Registrar ; R.W.M. Bro. J. Walkley, as Grand Steward. The Standing Committee were then advised to bring up a report *re* celebration of installation ceremony. The Lodge was then closed in peace, love, and harmony.—An emergency meeting was held on April 1st, when the Lodge was opened in due form by the R.W.M., Bro. J. Walkley, at 8.30 p.m., to a large attendance of the Brethren and visitors. Mr J. R. Montague was then initiated into the First, or E.A. Degree by the R.W.M. The charges being very effectively given by P.M. Bro. Franklin, of Ara Lodge, Auckland, and the W. Tools by P.M. Meyrick and lecture by J.W. Bro. W. Dawick. The Standing Committee's report was then adopted, *re* Installation, which is to take place on Wednesday, April 29th, followed by a banquet, and, on the following day, a social gathering of the wives and families of the members of the Craft, which will no doubt be appreciated by the children. This being the whole of the business, the Lodge was then closed in due form by the R.W.M. at 11 p.m.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE, No. 735, E.C., NELSON—DEATH ON BRO. WILLIAM HEALY.—Another has departed and left this lower Lodge for the Grand Lodge above. Such an expression might have been heard from many lips on Friday, 27th February, 1891. Bro. William Healy, when on a visit to his son at Blenheim, was called suddenly away on Wednesday the 25th. He had very nearly reached the allotted age of three score years and ten, as he was at the time in his 69th year. His son, a Bro. of the "Wairau" Lodge, No. 633 (D.M.), being anxious, or rather desirous, his father should have a Masonic funeral, conferred with the W.M. and members of the " Southern Star," to which Lodge the deceased belonged, and it was at once accorded. Bro. Healy joined No. 735 on February 15th, 1876 ; he passed to Fellow Craft on the 16th May, and took the Sublime Degree on July 4th of the same year. From the time of his entrance till he was summoned he was a pattern Mason. Not that he sought and held office, but that when he was able he was always to be found in his place at the Lodge meetings. He was a member of the Standing Committee during the last two or three years of his life, and took an active part and interest in the Lodge's doings, not sparing

time nor money when called upon or when necessary. Bro. P. M. Bolton, speaking of him at the Lodge of Sorrow, said : "No Brother, since his initiation in 1876, was more regular in his attendance nor more prompt in his assistance in the duties or necessities of his Lodge." Some thirty Brethren attended the funeral, at which the Revs. Isitt and Calder officiated, and at the close our W.M., Bros. Baigent, assisted by P.M. W. Brown, read the funeral ceremony appointed by our Lodge. The hymn, " There is a land of pure delight," was sung at the grave, the Brethren deposited the white apron and their sprigs of acacia, and returned to the Lodge room, where much sympathy was shown and expressed towards our " Wairau" Brother and his family in their bereavement, and the Lodge was ordered to be draped in black for three months in respect for the departed.

LODGE CALEDONIAN, N.Z.C., Timaru, held its meeting on the 9th inst. Bro. R. H. Smith was passed to the Second Degree, after which the nomination of officers took place.

LODGE ST. AUGUSTINE, N.Z.C., CHRISTCHURCH.—On the 14th inst. the business of the evening was to ballot for Mr James Rantin, timber merchant, age 45 (proposed by W. Bro. J. H. Sharpe, seconded by W. Bro. A. H. Hancock, P.M. ), to initiate Mr James Troup, and to raise Bro. J. C. Maddison.

LODGE KUMARA, N.Z.C., Kumara, held its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 1st; Bro. Thomas B. Wilson, R.W.M., in the chair. The ballot was taken for Mr James Metcalfe and Mr Thomas Torrence. The ballot proving unanimous, both candidates were initiated in the First Degree. After the initiation ceremony Bro. Past Master A. B. Wilby delivered a charge appertaining to this degree in a most able and impressive manner, the officers working well. After the ordinary business was gone through, the Lodge closed in peace and harmony.

TARARUA LODGE, N.Z.C., PAHIATUA.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge room at Pahiatua on Wednesday, March 11th. There was a capital attendance of members, and among the visitors were V. W. Bro. Geo. Robertson, Past Grand Secretary N.Z.C. ; Bro. James Patterson, P.11., 469, N.Z.C., and another Past Master from Palmerston North, whose name we have unfortunately forgotten. The business of the evening consisted in initiating a candidate into the mysteries and privileges of Antient Freemasonry, and the ceremony was performed in a most able manner by the W.M., Bro. A. Black, assisted by Bros. W. Souness and T. W. Warren, S.W. and J.W. respectively. The Working reels were presented by the W.M., and the charge was delivered in an impressive manner by the J.W. Bro. Warren. Before the Lodge was closed the visitors tendered hearty good wishes, and V. W. Bro. G. Robertson expressed the pleasure he felt at being present, and congratulated the W.M. and his officers on their admirable working.

LODGE MOKORETA, N.Z.C.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on 26th March, W.M., Bro. Crosbie presiding. A long list of correspondence was read and dealt with, and arrangements for the pending visit of the M.W., the Grand Master, Bro. Thomson, and other Grand Lodge officers, on April 14th, were also completed. A motion expressing regret for the existing Masonic dissensions, and requesting Bro. the Earl of Onslow to permit himself to be nominated for the Grand Mastership was submitted and carried unanimously. A Committee, consisting of W.M. Wardens, Deacons, and Secretary were appointed to consider Draft Book of Constitution, and report at May meeting. The proposal of two candidates for admission brought a long business meeting to a close at 10 p.m. —A special meeting of this Lodge, to which the Brethren had looked forward to with no little pleasurable anticipations, was held on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst. There was a satisfactory attendance of Brethren, and after some little routine business the Lodge was passed and raised in order to receive the M.W. the Grand Master, and the following Grand Lodge officers :—Bro. Henry Feldwick, Senior Grand Warden ; Bro. Alfred H. Burton, Grand Superintendent of the Otago District ; Bro. the Rev. W. Ronaldson, Grand Secretary ; Bro. T. G. De Renzy, Acting Grand Sword-bearer ; and Bro. M. R. Bree, Grand Steward. The reception of the Grand Master was most cordial, and on his reaching the dais, the following address was presented to him by the W.M., Bro. George Crosbie:—HENRY THOMSON, ESQ., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Antient, Free, and Accepted Masons of New Zealand. Most Worshipful Sir,—The members of Lodge Mokoreta offer you their hearty good wishes and a sincere welcome on this your first visit to Wyndham. We duly appreciate the honour you have conferred upon the Lodge and its members by this official visit, and we shall always have a grateful remembrance of the first visit of the first Grand Master of our own Grand Lodge. Lodge Mokoreta, Most Worshipful Sir, up to the present time, has not had the privilege of entertaining a Grand Lodge officer. With great pleasure we heard of your intended visit, and your visit will be the means of infusing new life into

the Lodge ; it will bring backsliders into the fold again, raise our enthusiasm, and introduce a healthy rivalry amongst the members,. so that on your next visit, if we have that pleasure again, you will find a larger attendance, work better performed, and duties more faithfully carried out, and a still heartier welcome, if such is possible. On the roll of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand you will not find a more devoted or more loyal Lodge than Mokoreta : it is with pride that we mention the fact that from the beginning of the agitation for a National Grand Lodge, the members of this Lodge to a man went heart and soul into the movement. The result is a Grand Lodge, firmly established, to which we feel proud to belong, and a Grand Master whom we respect, and to whom we have the strongest feelings of attachment. We hear with regret that at the end of your year of office you contemplate retiring ; if such be the case, we trust that your services will not be lost to the Craft. Your successor, Worshipful Sir, will reap, the advantages of your labour, and we hope he will continue to carry out your policy of visiting as many Lodges as possible during his term of office.—Signed by the Master, Wardens, officers and members of Lodge Mokoreta, this 14th day of April, A.L. 5591, A.D. 1891."—The M.W. the Grand Master suitably responded. Two candidates—Messrs Alexander Craustray and John Eades—were then installed by the W.M., the I.P.M., Bro. Bree, giving the Charity Charge ; Bro. I. W. Raymond, J. W., the Working Tools, and the Grand Master the Antient Charge. The Brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent supper prepared by Bro. J. B. Crawford. The W.M. proposed the toast of the evening, "the M.W. Grand Master," to which Bro. Thomson replied, thanking the Brethren for his kind reception, and briefly sketching the successful progress of the Grand Lodge up to date, and he thought that the future would show a still more rapid advance. The other toasts were "th Grand Lodge Officers," proposed by the Junior Warden, and responded to on their behalf by Bros. Burton and Feldwick ; the W.M.," proposed by the Grand Master ; " the Editor of the CRAFTSMAN," proposed by P.M. Bro. Bree and responded to, in what the writer of this report characterises in "your own " well-known humorous and eloquent manner ; " the I. Past Master Bro. Bree and officers of Lodge Mokoreta," responded to by Past Master Bree ; the Senior Warden, Bro. Montieth ; and the Junior Warden, Bro. Raymond ; and the Tyler's toast, proposed by the Grand Secretary. During the evening songs were sung by Bros. Shields, Montieth, and Feldwick, and God Save the Queen brought a most pleasant evening to a close, the recollection of which will long be a bright spot in the memory of the Brethren who took part. Great regret was expressed at the absence of Bro. W. H. Hall, Grand Superintendent of the Southland District, who was just recovering from a serious illness.

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TAKING 3000 as the membership of the Lodges working under Grand Lodge—this, we think, is very close to the mark,—the annual income of the Fund of Benevolence is £275 10s. Were the whole of the Lodges united, this fund would have a yearly income of nearly £400.

THE yearly income of the Board of General Purposes from contributions of 3s per member, Past Masters' certificates, and an increase of 300 in the membership of Lodges, is £804 7s 6d. Were the Masons of New Zealand united in one body, the income would be £1608 15s. This does not include fees for new Lodge"warrants, dispensations, or joining fees. Two thousand pounds per annum would, we think, be about the revenue of this Board were the whole 150 Lodges under one rule.

THE 150 Lodges have a paying membership of 6000. They receive in yearly dues, £8,000. The yearly initiations amount to £3,360 ; total, £11,360. And they return to Grand, Provincial and District Grand Lodges for fees and certificates. £1,660, leaving a balance of £9,700. We have often wondered what becomes of this money. Can anybody tell us?

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## INSTALLATIONS

LODGE OF CONCORD, N.Z.C., Papanui, Christchurch.—The ceremony of the installation of Bro. J. W. Horner as W.M. of the Lodge of Concord, N.Z.C., was performed on Monday, March 16th, in the Lodge-room at Papanui. There was a large gathering of members of the Craft. The Grand Lodge officers present were the M. W.G.M. Bro. H. Thomson, V.W.G.T. Bro. A. Kaye, V.W.G.S. Bro. the Rev. W. Ronaldson, assisted by Bro. V. W. A. ,R. Kirk, President of the Board of Benevolence, and others. The installation was followed by the investiture of Bro. S. P. Parker as Senior Warden ; Bro. W. J. Jackson, Junior Warden ; Bro. W. Long, Treasurer ; Bro. R. B. Wilkinson Secretary ; Bro. T. B. Strange, S. D.; Bro. C. Samuels, J.D. ; Bro. Hayes, D.C. ; Bro. W. T. Horsley, Organist; Bro. W. Gifkins, 1 G . ; Bro. G. May, Tyler ; and Bros. Cox and Stevens, Stewards. After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where supper was laid. A pleasant hour was spent, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being honoured and some capital songs being

interspersed. The success of Lodge Concord was a theme of general congratulation. Bro. C. Amyes, the retiring W.M., was heartily thanked for the energetic manner in which he has filled the office for two years in succession.

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## ARCH CHAPTERS

THE time has arrived when it is absolutely necessary for the various Royal Arch Chapters throughout New Zealand to appoint delegates to hold a convention and consider the advisableness of forming a Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter. This step is evidently required, because if what we hear is correct, Comp. Neill, of Dunedin, Provincial Grand Scribe E, is taking it upon himself to distribute offices in all directions before approaching the Chapters in reference to the vacancies which it is found necessary to fill. This is especially noticed in the Waterloo Chapter, No. 66, S.C., which has been for some considerable time treated with scant courtesy by the Provincial Grand Scribe E, and has therefore just cause to complain of being left in the dark about a good many things. Some four years ago when the late Provincial Grand Superintendent Comp. Court visited Wellington he conferred the office of First Provincial Grand Principal on M.E. Comp. C.P. Powles in recognition of his sterling qualities and of the zeal and assiduity he had shown in connection with the Waterloo Chapter and its affairs. M.E. Comp. Powles has held the office ever since, and we therefore take it that on the death of Comp. Court the office of Provincial Grand Superintendent should have been assumed by Comp. Powles by virtue of the office which he held in the Provincial Grand Chapter.

To our astonishment we now hear that the office of Provincial Grand Superintendent has been offered by Comp. Neill to a Comp. in Auckland, who has accepted the position. We should like the Provincial Grand Scribe E to tell us what authority he has for doling out honours, and whether he really thinks that the Chapters now under the S.C. will approve of his recommendations. It is also very curious that those Companions whom the Provincial Grand Scribe E desires to honour are not members of Lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, about the progress of which Comp. Neill and another distinguished brother issued a *reliable* circular "compiled from official sources," which did not, as expected, annihilate the New Zealand Constitution. We hope that before long a Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter will be established in New Zealand, and that its first duty will be to appoint a Grand Scribe E of progressive views, who will be in touch with all the Chapters forming the supreme body.—*N. Z. Mail.*

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## MARK MASONRY.

LODGE HAMILTON, M.M.M., OAMARU.—An emergency meeting was held on April 10th. Officers and Brethren of the above Lodge were summoned for the purpose of balloting for, and advancing four candidates. All were elected and advanced by W.M. Bro. Hamilton. Our regular meeting will be held on Friday, April 24th, at which several members will be advanced in antient form. We are making good progress in our Lodge.

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### NOTES OF TRAVEL.

BY BRO. THOMAS WILLIAM KITT, P.M., ETC.

(Continued.)

GLASGOW, which is in size and commercial importance the premier city of Scotland, did not strike me as being much of a pleasure resort, for, with the exception of the far-famed Clyde and its ship-building, and the lovely scenery to which the river gives access, there is little else to attract the visitor. As somewhat of an anti-quarian, I was, however, much interested in the Cathedral, and also visited the parks and Necropolis, my stay in Glasgow extending over several days, during which time I met with much kindness from Brethren of the "mystic tie." Of my impressions of Scotland, and Scotch Brethren, and Scotch people generally—from the "laird" down to the humble "crofter"—I cannot speak too highly, and it was with genuine regret that I bade farewell to that truly favoured land and hospitable people, and again crossed the Border.

Once more in England, an accumulation of business awaited me, which kept me fully occupied for many days, it being my object to see all that I could and start on my return to the colony before the English winter fairly set in. As soon as possible, therefore, I started for the Continent, and crossing from Harwich to Rotterdam, in Holland, the principal places visited, going or returning, were—Antwerp and Brussels (including the battle-field of Waterloo), in Belgium; Paris, Dijon, Rouen, and Dieppe, in France; Strasburg

and Baden, in Germany; and Berne, Geneva, and Lausanne, in Switzerland. I found that, owing to the non-recognition of the Grand Orient of France by the Grand Lodge of England, there was an impediment to my visiting French Lodges, much as I wished to do so ; but, under the most favourable circumstances, opportunities for so doing would have been exceedingly limited, as my time was almost wholly taken up sight seeing. At several of the continental hotels it was my good fortune to meet with English or foreign brethren, so that I had no difficulty in getting information —nor, indeed, was I often without a companion in my rambles. Re-crossing the English Channel by the short sea-route—Dieppe to Newhaven—I found myself again in London in about seven hours, after a very pleasant tour.

In consequence of the summer months being the " close season " for London Masonry, and the comparatively short duration of my stay in the metropolis, my Masonic engagements were, much to my disappointment, entirely confined to the provinces, the Lodges referred to in these " Notes " having been selected for description as fairly representative of the generality of those working in the English country districts. As the result of my own personal experience, I can fully endorse the statement recently made in the *New Zealand Mail*, to the effect that "Class Masonry is increasing to an alarming extent in England, and will fast break up that feeling of equality which constitutes the charm of Freemasonry." In London alone there is already a considerable number of these " Class Lodges," among which may be mentioned the Savage Club, No. 2190 ; Anglo-American, No. 2191; Scots, No. 2319 ; Warrant Officers, No. 2346 ; and Cornish, No. 2369.

I had hoped, and indeed had promised, to attend the installation at Reading, by the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, as Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire, but the ceremony having been postponed from the original date, did not take place until after my departure. As it was one of those most brilliant and successful Masonic celebrations which but rarely take place even in England, and never in the colonies, and had in anticipation excited no little interest in Craft circles, the disappointment to me was great.

I could not make it convenient to attend meetings of any of the higher degrees, but a visit to the headquarters of the Antient and Accepted Rite, 33 Golden Square, London, well repaid me for my trouble. Golden Square is one of the quiet and retired " breathing spaces " at the West End of the world's metropolis, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the fashionable thoroughfare, Regent street. The " Grand East " of the Supreme Council, A. and A.R., is a building of very unpretending exterior, and but for being kept well painted and bearing a brass plate on the door, would possess no characteristics to distinguish it from either of its dingy neighbours. On making myself known, I was received with great cordiality by the Assistant Secretary, Bro. E. P. Pullen, who courteously showed me all over the building. On the first or ground floor is the Supreme Council Chamber and two ante-rooms, this suite of apartments being also used for meetings of Craft Lodges. The Council Chamber is small, but substantially furnished and tastefully decorated, the seats being covered with crimson plush, and the roof ornamented with the emblazoned coats-of-arms of sixteen members of the Supreme Council (eight on either side), only nine of the illustrious Brethren referred to being now living. The second floor consists of the handsomely appointed Board Room and Grand Secretary General's room, the latter containing a very extensive and valuable Masonic and general museum, well worthy of a careful inspection. On the third floor is the Assistant-Secretary's room, and some ante-rooms, the splendid Masonic library valued at about £3000, being arranged throughout these and other principal apartments. While in his office, Bro. Pullen with very pardonable pride showed me his books, and those of his predecessor (his late father, the well known and much respected Bro. Hyde Pullen), all being kept with exceeding accuracy and neatness. As at many other Masonic places of meeting throughout England there are at Golden Square several tiers of regalia lockers for the several degrees, and which are let to members at an annual rental of 5s. each, or for life on payment of £1. This is a convenience which Brethren in New Zealand much need, and which moreover there should be no difficulty in introducing.

For many years—in fact, ever since my initiation—it had been with me an ardent desire to see and know something of the working of the three great English Masonic charities—viz. the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged. Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, Croydon ; the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Wood Green; and the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Clapham Junction. To pay either of these institutions a visit, is to be brought face to face with organised charity on a grand scale, and to realise more fully the dignity and importance of Freemasonry. It is in itself a sight to be remembered to view the magnificent piles of buildings, fitted up regardless of expense, with every modern convenience and appliance

to ensure the comfort of the inmates ; but with what joy and pride does the visitor see the old people amply cared for during their declining years, and the youth of both sexes (a large proportion of whom are orphans) to all appearances perfectly " at home," while being prepared for the battle of life. A lady friend who accompanied me during my visit to the Institution for Girls, was very much delighted and impressed with what she saw there — the noble dining hall then in course of erection, with stained glass windows donated by various Lodges, the numerous class-rooms (nearly every one of which contained a piano), the comfortable, well-ventilated dormitories, with their long rows of clean, white beds ; the kitchen, with its immense range, at which a party of girls were receiving a lesson in the culinary art ; the long stone corridor, warmed in winter—like the rooms—by the hot-water process ; and the infirmary and church, standing apart from the main buildings, in the well-kept grounds. All these things pleased us much, but to see the happy girls all dressed in blue frocks and white pinafores, amusing themselves so artlessly and unrestrainedly in various ways—and apparently on the very best of terms with their lady teachers, —was, to say the least, gratifying beyond capability of expression. Commending themselves alike to the initiated and the profane, it has been truly said of these admirable institutions, by an anti-Masonic writer : " The Masonic charities are eminently useful and superior, and as a charitable organisation Freemasonry may fairly claim the respect and support of the world at large."

It is generally recognised that *travel* is a most valuable educating medium, and certainly to the intelligent and observant Mason it should be particularly so. So far as my own experience goes, Freemasonry is a very different thing in the old countries to what it is in New Zealand, for, while unalterably the same in precept, it is altogether dissimilar in practice and results. In the United Kingdom the portals of the Lodge are guarded very zealously, and to become a Mason there the candidate must be at least *a gentleman* ; but recent events in this colony have proved most conclusively that few brethren, even of those highest in office, can justly claim to have been either the one or the other. While it would be impossible to over-estimate the importance and excellence of the general and many of the local Masonic charities in the United Kingdom —for *this is Masonry*,—the practical and permanently beneficial results of nearly fifty years work in this colony are simply—*nil*.

Having settled my business, and once more bade farewell to my friends, I left London by the H. M.S. Kaikoura on November 13th, on my return to the colony. A day on shore, *en route*, at Santa Cruz de Tenerife (Canary Islands), and half a day respectively at Cape Town and Hobart, made very pleasant breaks in the journey—the Kaikoura reaching Wellington on December 30th, after a fine weather passage throughout. At Wellington I had to wait four days for a connecting boat to Auckland, getting home again on January 6th, after a most enjoyable trip, and an absence of nine months.

[ERRATA.—In the February number, page 541, line 28, should read—" was got through in a little more than an hour ; " and on page 542, line 5, for "1797," read 1787.]

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## BRIEF MENTION

Two new Lodges in the Southland District are talked about.

THE Grand Lodge of Victoria has a credit in the Benevolent Fund of £737 12s 4d.

Two new Lodges petitioned for in the Auckland District ; Grand Lodge, of course.

ANOTHER Lodge is likely to be opened in North Otago shortly ; also Grand Lodge.

THE average paying membership of those Lodges which have joined Grand Lodge is a fraction within 40.

THE revenue of the Grand Lodge of Victoria for three months was £623 6s 4d to General Fund, and £383 18s 6d to Fund of Benevolence.

At daylight installations in England, the correct dress is black morning coat, trousers, and ties. Such were ordered to be worn at the installation of Prince Victor as Pro G.M. of Berks.

IT is said in Dunedin that the Grand Lodge pays the expense of the Grand Master when tripping about, and gives each of the Grand Superintendents £100 a year salary. Would it not be nice if it were only true ?

FIVE days late ; wanted to publish proceedings at Invercargill.

ONE of the new Lodges in the Auckland goldfields will start 40 strong.

THE Lodges will be numbered immediately after the annual meeting of Grand . Lodge.

LITERARY attainments are highly esteemed in North America, and secure high Masonic rank.

WANT of space necessitates the holding over of our remarks upon the Lodges visited by the Grand Master and his officers on their road to and from the Quarterly Commuication at Invercargill.

THE Australasian *Keystone* heartily commends the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of America to the careful study of those Brethren who aim at exalting Masonry in Australia. We say, Australasia.

WE have to thank W. Bro. C. P. Powles, D.G. Secretary of Wellington, for a copy of the Proceedings of the Quarterly Communication of his District Grand Lodge, held on January 8th. There were nine Brethren present, beside the Tyler. Thirty pounds was granted by England to relief of widow of late Brother of Tongariro Lodge, 705. D.G. Lodge closed at 8.35 p.m. Receipts for quarter : General Fund, £46 5s ; expenditure, £48 8s.

**<Pages 648 to 665 not scanned>**