



BRO. CHARLES A. C. HARDY.
(PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.)

THE
NEW ZEALAND CRAFTSMAN
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PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

WERY Worshipful Bro. CHARLES A. C. HARDY, President of the Board of General Purposes, is a merchant residing at Rakaia, Canterbury. He was initiated in 1869 in Lodge Charleston Kilwinning, No. A87, Grand Lodge of Scotland, affiliating to GreymouthhLodge, No. 1233, Grand Lodge of England, in 1870. In that Lodge Bro. HARDY served the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, Junior Warden, and Master.

In 1875 Bro. HARDY established Lodge Rakaia, and filled the office of Master three times.

Bro. HARDY is a Past Director of Ceremonies, Past Deacon, Past Junior and Senior Warden of the District Grand Lodge of Canterbury. He is a Mark Master, a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the Excelsior Chapter 18th Degree, Christchurch. We believe nothing would please the Craft better than his re-election as President of the Board of General Purposes.

ENGLAND AND BRO. STOUTS PRESENT MASONIC POSITION.

THE action of Bro. Sir ROBERT STOUT, Deputy District Grand Master of Otago and Southland, and Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, in inaugurating in Wellington, some twelve months ago, a Lodge holding under the Grand Orient of France, was of course widely canvassed amongst Freemasons, and much wonderment was expressed as to the course that would be taken by the United Grand Lodge of England. Time passed, however, and it seemed as though nothing were about to be done in the matter, when, like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky, came the telegraphic announcement that Sir ROBERT STOUT had been deprived, by the Prince of Wales, of his Masonic rank. In commenting upon this in our March issue, we suggested that the deprivation applied to his Grand rank only, i.e., to the position of Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, conferred upon him in the Jubilee year ; and we expressed our belief that his removal from the Deputy District Grand Mastership would need to be the act of the D.G.M. of Otago and Southland, Bro. T. S. GRAHAM. And so it has proved. We have now the full report of the proceedings of the March Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, as well as Bro. Sir ROBERT STOUT'S letter, in reply to the Grand Secretary's requiring an explanation of his conduct. After reading this letter we are by no means

surprised that our London contemporary, the *Freemason*, should suggest that it will be rendered "impossible for Bro. Sir ROBERT STOUT to insult our Grand Lodge on any future occasion ; "for we dare to say that that communication will have appeared to our exalted home Brethren as pettifogging, flippant, and even as rude. Pettifogging, in the abortive attempt he makes to challenge the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge;: flippant, in the indecorous allusions to " Oddfellows, Foresters, and Buffaloes ; " and rude, when, towards the end, he coolly desires Grand Lodge to mind its own business. Sir ROBERT STOUT'S challenge of jurisdiction—which, however, he afterwards somewhat ostentatiously waives—is at once swept aside by Bro. PHILBRICK, Grand Registrar, who pertinently asks how a District Grand Lodge could possibly interfere between Grand Lodge and a Grand Lodge officer.

In the leader in our March issue, we said :

It will, we opine, be found that the fact that the Grand Orient of France do not require belief in a Supreme Being as a qualification for membership—though foremost in and strongly influencing, it may be, the minds of every member of Grand Lodge—was not the actual reason alleged for Bro. Sir ROBERT'S deprivation. We believe it will be found that such reason has been the invasion of territory by the French Orient. The unpardonable offence of which BRO. Sir ROBERT has been found guilty is the procuring of a warrant from a foreign Masonic body, which enabled him to establish on British soil a subordinate Lodge holding allegiance to the Grand Orient of France.

It will be noted that this is exactly the attitude, both of the M.W, the Grand Master and the other distinguished, Brethren. who spoke on the question.

Regarded as a piece of reasoning, Bro. Sir ROBERT STOUT'S letter is—well, *peculiar* ; but perhaps the strangest passage in it is this : "The very fact that the Grand Orient of France is not recognised makes attending it no Masonic offence. If I had joined in getting up a rival and recognised body, there might be something said to me, but not for what I have done." How the eminent legists in Grand Lodge must have stared when this paragraph was read ! Had Sir ROBERT joined in getting up a rival and recognised body ; " say, for instance, had he started a Lodge in Dunedin holding under the Grand Lodge of California, he admits that he would have committed a Masonic offence. But let us follow this out. Immediately on such an act as we have imagined above being brought to the knowledge of the United Grand Lodge of England, a protest would have issued, and failing prompt reparation of the injury by the suppression of such Lodge, Masonic communion of England with the Grand Lodge of California would cease. At once the Grand Lodge of California would take the position of an unrecognised body ; and *then* membership of an English Mason in a Dunedin Lodge, holding under such a body would—under the above " reasoning "—become no Masonic offence ! Surely the *reductio ad absurdum* is evident and inevitable ! Oh! Sir ROBERT ! Sir ROBERT !

But—more seriously—it is manifestly no palliation of Sir ROBERT'S offence that the Grand Orient of France is not in communion with the Grand Lodge of England ; but decidedly an aggravation of it ; for had it been so in communion, action to resent the intrusion would have been easy ; whereas now it is almost impossible. Hence the intrusion is far more mischievous, and Sir ROBERT'S action the more reprehensible.

We now await the course that the D.G.M., and the Board of General Purposes of Otago and Southland—to whom Grand Lodge has formally remitted the conduct of the rest of this affair—will adopt. It was noticeable that immediately upon the arrival of the British mail bringing the full report of the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, in March, the D.G.M. let it be known that he had accepted, " with regret," the resignation of his Deputy. As to this, and other phases of the question, the R.W. Bro. THOMAS SHERLOCK GRAHAM may have himself to reckon with Grand Lodge, and possibly there yet remains for him *a mauvais quart d'heure*.
Nous verrons.

SCOTLAND—BRO. LORD ONSLOW AND THE FRENCH ORIENT.

THE following correspondence appears in the Proceedings of the District Grand Lodge of Scotland, New Zealand South, under date of April 3rd, 1891 :

[Copy]

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE, S.C., NEW ZEALAND SOUTH,

Dunedin, November 27th, 1890.

D. MURRAY LYON, Esq.,

Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Scotland, Edinburgh. Dear Sir and Brother,

I am directed by the R.W.D.G.M., Bro. James Gore, to bring under your notice the enclosed letters addressed to Masters of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the District Grand Lodge of New Zealand South, holding under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, by His Excellency Lord Onslow, Past Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, and to ask if Lord Onslow has communicated with the Grand Lodge of Scotland on the subject of these letters, and obtained the sanction of Grand Lodge to so address our Lodges, as District Grand Master presumes that had such been the case you would have advised him to that effect in the ordinary course.

District Grand Master further instructs me to say that he distinctly objects to anyone addressing his Lodges on matters of vital importance without proper authority or without observing the usual formalities and courtesies generally recognised in cases of this nature. He has to respectfully point out that His Excellency as Governor of the Colony has no claim whatever to approach the Masonic body on Masonic subjects, and that as Past Grand Junior Warden of England he has no privilege through his Past rank to address Scotch Lodges, without first submitting any communication he may desire to make to our Lodges either to the Grand Lodge of Scotland or to the District Grand Master, and obtaining permission to address the Lodges.

District Grand Master would esteem it a favour if the Grand Lodge of Scotland would communicate with the Grand Lodge of England, and ask if it has in any way empowered Lord Onslow to address English Lodges in New Zealand in the manner contained in these letters, and if so, if it will in future make its instructions specific enough not to embrace other Constitutions without communicating with them first on the subject.

(Signed) HENRY NEILL, *D.G. Secretary.*

[Copy of Cablegram.]

Waka 12.

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HENRY NEILL, (Dunedin, N.Z., Jan. 6, 1891.)

District Grand Secretary Dunedin.

" Publicly repudiate Lord Onslow's intrusion."

MURRAY LYON.

(Edinburgh 5.)

A copy of the letter sent to Grand Lodge and cablegram in reply was forwarded to His Excellency, under date January 6th, 1891.

[Copy.]

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND,

Edinburgh, January 15th, 1891.

HENRY NEILL, Esq.,

District Grand Secretary, Dunedin.

My wire would reach you last week *to repudiate Onslow's interference*. This will shew Grand Lodge will uphold the position and authority of its representatives in New Zealand.

(Signed) D. MURRAY LYON,

Grand Secretary.

[Copy.]

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND,

Edinburgh, February 12th, 1891.

HENRY NEILL, Esq.,

District Grand Secretary, Dunedin.

Dear Sir and Brother,

On receipt of yours of November 27th, I telegraphed *re* Onslow's interference. My telegram was proof that the Governor had no authority whatever to address Scottish-holding Lodges upon any Masonic subject. The Provincial Grand Masters are the medium of communication between Grand Lodge and its daughter Lodges under their jurisdiction.

With reference to the French-holding Lodge or Lodges in New Zealand, there can be no communication or intercourse held with them or their members, and Scottish holding Brethren joining such Lodges forfeit their membership under the Scottish Constitution.

Intercourse between the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Orient of France ceased in 1877.

(Signed) D. MURRAY LYON,
Grand Secretary.

SCOTLAND AND NEW ZEALAND.

EXPULSION AND SUSPENSION OF AUCKLAND BRETHERN.

THE following is an extract from the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, page 155, Nov. 6th, 1890. We refrain from making any comment :

The Committee gave special consideration to the appeals of William Forrest, George Foulds, and Alfred H. Jones, the Master, Secretary, and Treasurer of Lodge No, 708, against the sentence pronounced by the District Grand Lodge of the Northern Island. The first-named Brother had been expelled the Craft, and the two others suspended from Masonic privileges for twelve months, for having moved a majority of their Lodge to transfer their allegiance to the so-called Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and carry along with them the charter, books, monies, and other property belonging to the said Lodge, and in otherwise acting in a rebellious and disrespectful spirit towards Grand Lodge. The Committee recommend that the judgment of the District Grand Lodge be confirmed.

WILLIAM OFFICER, *Convener.*

BENEVOLENCE.

THE subject of Masonic Benevolence seems coming again to the front. Lodge Ara, Auckland, has agreed to dispense with the annual banquet, and devote the sum saved to Masonic orphans. The Brethren in Hawkes Bay are discussing the proposal to start a Fund of Benevolence. A modest Brother, writing under the *nom de plume* of " Coromandel," sent us £5 last month to form a nucleus for some permanent charity, providing nineteen more Brethren or Lodges subscribe the like amount within six months. An Oamaru Brother suggests the getting up of bazaars, and devoting the proceeds to the strengthening of the Fund of Benevolence of Grand Lodge ; while the Master of the Lodge of Otago wishes his Lodge to begin putting away one guinea out of every initiation fee.

Following this little note comes a copy of the circular which we have addressed to the Masters of Lodges on the subject of Benevolence. We have several times been requested to give expression to our views on this question, but as no trustworthy information could be got without asking the Lodges for it, we remained silent. The subject is again demanding attention, and we are asked for figures ; as there is no other way of pro-curing them except through the courtesy of Masters of Lodges, we fraternally ask them to render us what assistance they can towards answering the six questions in our circular.

Dunedin, May 16th, 1891.

The W.M., Lodge

WOR. SIR,—We are asked to supply our readers with the annual amount of money granted by Lodges towards the relief of distressed Brethren and widows and children of deceased Brethren. As this information can only be gathered from the balance-sheets and minute books of Lodges, may we ask your fraternal assistance in filling in replies to the six questions which follow.

The replies will be considered private.

- 1 Name of Lodge
2. How many applications for relief have you had during the last 5 years :
- From Brethren
- From Widows
- No. of Children

3. What sums did you vote towards No. 2 in

1886	{ Brethren, £
	{
	{ Widows, £
1887	{ Brethren, £
	{
	{ Widows, £
1888	{ Brethren, £
	{
	{ Widows, £
1889	{ Brethren, £
	{
	{ Widows, £
1890	{ Brethren, £
	{
	{ Widows, £

4. Has your Lode a Benevolent Fund ?
5. What is the amount of No. 4, £
6. What is your membership ?

Copies of your Lodge's balance-sheet for the last five years would be of great use to us if they can be spared.

Kindly forward your replies, as soon as you conveniently can, to

The Editor, N.Z. CRAFTSMAN,
Box 322, P.O., Dunedin.

N.B. —May we point out how necessary it is for *all* Lodges to send us a copy of their monthly circular. Please instruct your secretary to place THE CRAFTSMAN on his list. A copy of your balance-sheet, when published, would be very useful.

THERE are Brethren who have overlooked, or forgotten, our small claims on each of them. Will they kindly assist us by remitting their respective amounts due as quickly as possible, and relieve us from the necessity of having to apply again.

THE evils of sending Masonic news to the secular press has been brought under our notice somewhat forcibly of late. A reporter interviewed some brother in Auckland on Bro. Stout and the French Orient, and the absurd statement was made that " The Grand Lodge of Scotland, whilst it does not acknowledge the French Orient, does not prevent her members joining a French Lodge, so long as they declare their belief in a supreme Being. The whole thing was copied into a Dunedin paper, and it brought forth the remark that Scotland was not so wooden-headed in the matter as England. Those who read the letter sent by Bro. Murray Lyon to the D. G. Secretary of New Zealand South, published in another part of this journal, will find that Scotch Brethren joining a Lodge under the French Orient forfeit their membership in Scotch Lodges.

GRAND LODGES

NEW ZEALAND. ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of Grand Lodge will be held in the St. Augustine Masonic Hall, Uhristchurch, on Tuesday, June 30th. The principal business will be the election of the Grand Master, Grand Officers, Members of the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence, the appointment of Superintendents, and the consideration of the Auditors' Report and Balance-Sheet.

SINCE the above was put into type, the Board of General Purposes have granted the wish of the Wellington Committee, and the annual meeting will take place in Wellington on July 6th.

ENGLAND.

THERE was only one question on the agenda for Wednesday's meeting of United Grand Lodge which was at all calculated to arouse the interest of the Brethren and that related to the communication of the M.W. Grand Master concerning the conduct of Bro. Sir Robert Stout, P.A.G.D.C., Deputy District Grand Master of Otago and Southland, in establishing an irregular Lodge in New Zealand under a warrant obtained from the Grand Orient of France. The circumstances having been virtually admitted by Bro. Sir Robert Stout, and an attempt made by him to justify his conduct, nothing remained but for Grand Lodge to adjudge the penalty which should be inflicted on him for his violation of our laws. Accordingly, the Grand Registrar having laid the facts fully and carefully before Grand Lodge, and having cited the laws bearing on the subject, proposed a resolution, which was adopted by Grand Lodge unanimously, and which we consider will have the effect of rendering it impossible for Bro. Sir Robert Stout to insult our Grand Lodge on any future occasion. By the terms of this resolution, Bro. Sir Robert Stout is firstly deprived of his rank and privileges as a Past Grand Officer of United Grand Lodge ; while in the second clause the attention of the Dist. G.M. of Otago and Southland is formally directed to the conduct to which Bro. Sir Robert Stout, his Deputy District Grand Master, has pleaded guilty, with a view to his (1) removal from the office of Deputy District Grand Master, and (2) the further consideration of that conduct by the District Board of General Purposes. It appears to us that the simple course would have been for Grand Lodge to have expelled Bro. Sir R. Stout from Masonry, but as the facts have been admitted, his expulsion will in all probability be the final result of the proceedings which have yet to be taken, the exact method of procedure in dealing with the case being of comparatively small importance.—*London Freemason*, March 7th.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, March 4th, at Freemasons' Hall, London, when more than 500 brethren were present. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. Grand Master Rants and the Isle of Wight. presided. Bro. Col. Sir Frances Burdett, Bart., Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, acted as Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. rThomas Halsey, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Herts, as Past Grand Master. Bro. Sir Gabriel Goldney occupied the Senior Grand Warden's chair, and Bro. Major-General Somerset J. Calthorpe took the chair of Junior Grand Warden. Communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Master :—

" The Most Worshipful Grand Master regrets to have to inform Grand Lodge that in the month of August last he received a report from the District Grand Lodge of Wellington, New Zealand, that Bro. Sir Robert Stout, K.C.M.G., Past Assitant 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 in that colony, of which Lodge he is the 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 a invasion of British territory by a foreign Masonic boiy, 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.

"A reply has now been received from Bro. Sir Robert Stout on the subject, in which he admits the facts alleged, and seeks to justify his action.

"Under these circumstances, the Grand Master, with much regret, feels that he has no alternative but to make a complaint of the conduct of Bro. Sir Robert Stout, and to submit the matter, with the correspondence relating thereto, to Grand Lodge for its consideration and decision."

The Grand Secretary thereon read the correspondence which had taken place on the subject :

"Dunedin, N.Z., 29th October, 1890.

" Bro. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary United Grand Lodge of England.

" Very Worshipful Sir and Brother,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 4th September, and I have not the slightest objection to inform the Most Worshipful Grand Master through you of the facts regarding the opening of a Lodge under an order from the Grand Orient of France. In doing this, however, I think it right to point out that, according to my reading of the Book of Constitutions, it is the District Grand Lodge of Otago and Southland, of which I am a member, and under whose immediate jurisdiction I am, that should have made the inquiries you have made—that is, should such have been deemed necessary by any Grand Lodge. It is no doubt true that the Grand Lodge has, under Rule 5 of the Constitutions, the power of investigating, regulating and deciding all matters relative to the Craft, or to particular Lodges or to individual brothers. But though the power has, so far as the colonies are concerned, been vested in District Grand Lodges, in Rule 106 of the Constitution it is said: — The Grand Lodge delegates to its District Grand Lodges the power of investigating, regulating, and deciding in all matters relating to Lodges and individual Masons within their respective districts.' The only power left by the Grand Lodge to itself is that of being the appellate tribunal. It could not have been contemplated that two co-ordinate jurisdictions should deal with one subject matter, for their finding might not agree. The Grand Lodge has, I submit, so long as the present Constitution regarding District Grand Lodges exist, delegated its right of initiating a process against individual colonial Masons ; and it only exists so far as they are concerned as an appellate tribunal. To use the words of lawyers, it is not a court of first instance.

"I proceed, however, to state the facts, and under the circumstances I expressly waive any question of jurisdiction, as I have no wish to shelter any action of mine under any legal or technical objection to a mode of procedure.

"Some Masons in the Wellington district (I need not inform you that by sea Wellington is distant about 332 miles from Dunedin) thought of founding a Lodge under the Grand Orient of France. One of their reasons was that they liked the ritual, because it recognised modern progress, but I believe they mainly felt that many were excluded from Masonry by the religious doctrine taught in Lodges holding under the diverse British Constitutions. They believed that Masonry should be a society that was open to men of every shade of belief, and that the French Orient, almost alone among Masonic bodies, fulfilled this condition. A Provisional Lodge was formed, of which I, although not resident in Wellington, was chosen W.M. A Charter was ultimately granted, and I was thereafter elected to the same office, and still am W.M. I don't know what the speculative views of members of Lodge L'Amour de La Verite may be. As you are aware, under the French Orient these are not required to be stated. All members save three were members of Lodges holding under some one of the British or Irish Constitutions, and almost all are still subscribing members of such Lodges. I think those are all the facts I need detail in answer to your inquiry.

"I now wish to refer to the resolutions of the Grand Lodge on March 6th, 1878, and a copy of which you have forwarded to me. They have not been embodied in the Books of Constitution. I apprehend their object was to prevent Lodges and Brethren under the Grand Lodge of England recognising Masons initiated in Lodges under the Grand Orient of France as ' true and genuine Brethren.' There is not a single word in the resolutions that would indicate that an English Mason would incur any censure by visiting or becoming a member of a French Lodge. Suppose he was resident in France part of the year, and outside the English jurisdiction, could it be a Masonic offence to become a member of a French Lodge ? There is no such debarration in the resolutions. They may be thus summarised :—(1) The first regrets the omission from the French Constitution of those paragraphs which assert a belief of T.G.A.O.T.U. (2) The second declares that the Grand Lodge cannot recognise as true and genuine Brethren those who have been initiated in French

Lodges. (3) The third directs Craft Lodges to refuse admission to Brethren who have been initiated in French Lodges since the change in the Constitution of the Grand Orient. This is all. There is nothing preventing a Freemason, a member of a Craft Lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of England, from joining a French Lodge of Masons, or any other secret society he pleases, such as Oddfellows, or Foresters or Druids. The very fact that French Lodges under the Grand Orient of France are not now recognised as Masonic Lodges, any more than Lodges giving what are termed high degrees — Rosicrucians, &c.—shows that Grand Lodge deems them outside of Masonry; and it might as well direct what other secret society a man may not join, as to declare that he shall not belong to a body unknown to Grand Lodge, such as the Grand Orient of France happily is. And here I might leave the matter. There is, however, an expression about British Masonic territory that I must refer to. Now, there are at least four bodies known as Grand Lodges in New Zealand outside the Grand Orient of France. These are the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, Ireland and New Zealand, in whose territory we have only one political government, that of New Zealand. Can there be four imperia in the one imperium? In fact, can it be said to be British Masonic territory at all? I submit that the various Grand Lodges have no territorial claim. They are only bodies placed over Lodges recognising them—that is, over their own Craft Lodges, and it will be a long time, if ever, before New Zealand is recognised amongst New Zealand Masons as the territory of any one Grand Lodge. I notice from a return of Craft Lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of England, that there are Lodges in foreign countries having English Grand Lodge Charters. There are Lodges in Egypt, Turkey, China, Japan, &c. Obviously it could not be said these countries are British Masonic territory. But how can there be an invasion of Masonic territory by a body not Masonic? We might as well talk of invading Masonic territory by Good Templars or Oddfellows. The very fact that the Grand Orient Lodge of France is not recognised makes attending it no Masonic offence. If I had joined in getting up a rival and recognised body there might be something said to me, but not for what I have done. However, it has not been deemed anything wrong for a District Grand Lodge officer, under the English Constitution, to join a Scotch or Irish Craft Lodge. I respectfully submit that as long as I am a subscribing member of a Craft Lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of England, and faithfully fulfil the duties imposed on me by the laws of the Order, the fact that I belong to an unrecognised secret society is no Masonic offence, and no business of your Grand Lodge. I may belong to a degree of Masonry deemed spurious and unknown to Craft Masonry, and many hundreds of colonial Brethren do, but that has not yet been deemed un-Masonic, and as far as I know no Mason has ever been challenged for joining a society not known or recognised among English Masons, nor am I aware of any decision showing that joining the Grand Orient Lodge merits inquiry. —I am, &c.,

"ROBERT STOUT, D. D. G. M., Otago, E.C."

Bro Philbrick, in laying the matter before Grand Lodge, said the Grand Master regretted to have to make a communication to Grand Lodge, and had asked the Grand Lodge to take into consideration the complaint he had made to it of the conduct of one of the officers of Grand Lodge, and that they should consider and decide upon the circumstances of the case. After the correspondence which had just been read, he thought the fact stood pretty clearly before them. The colony of New Zealand was a colony of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Its Governor was appointed by the Sovereign of this country, and writs went in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and the ultimate appeal was here to Her Majesty in Council. He could not conceive, therefore, apart from Masonic question, a case of a land which was more a colony of this Kingdom. With regard to the Masonic jurisdictions, there were five English District Grand Lodges, the District Grand Masters of which were appointed by the M.W.G.M., the Deputy of one of them being Sir Robert Stout himself. There were also a District Grand Lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and one under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, respectively; besides which, as Sir Robert Stout mentioned, there was a fourth body which, at a very recent Quarterly Communication, Grand Lodge declined to recognise as being the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. Under those circumstances all three jurisdictions, England, Scotland, and Ireland, being lawful within the colony, each having Masons all of whom held allegiance to a Grand Lodge situate within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom, and there having been no invasion of that colony by any other actual or pretended foreign Masonic jurisdiction whatever, he thought he was not going beyond what the good sense of every Mason present would confirm when he said that they had here a clear case—as clear a case as ventured to say that that which had been alleged by Bro. Sir Robert Stout, in his long and elaborate defence in answer to the Grand Secretary, who challenged him on the matter, would hardly carry the opinion of Grand Lodge with it. With regard to Bro. Sir Robert Stout himself, his act was an extremely clear one, as he himself admitted. In a colony such as he (Bro. Philbrick) had described, with Masonic matters in it such as he had also put before this Grand Lodge, Sir Robert Stout had brought a

warrant purporting to establish a Masonic Lodge, of which he was, and is, the first W.M., holding under the Grand Orient of France.

Bro. Sir Robert Stout took an exception to the fact that Grand Lodge of England could be—of a territorial Masonic jurisdiction of the United Kingdom. He had held themselves not to be in full Masonic union with the Grand Orient of France. Unfortunately, at the moment from causes the existence of which they all deplored that was true ; but if any Brother within the sound of his (Bro. Philbrick's) voice would reflect for one moment, he would see it did not matter even where the body was irregular, which he was far from saying the Grand Orient was, although there might be Masons in it professing doctrines to which English Masons never subscribe, but if it were irregular that did not in any way alter the case. If the Lodge was the most regular Lodge in the world, and in amity with the Grand Lodge of England, if it took on itself to establish a Lodge of its own anywhere where the Union Jack flew, it would be guilty of a great Masonic mistake. In all cases he ventured to say the real and true sound doctrine was the general rule, that where the flag flies to take another jurisdiction into that territory was invasion. It was so in common sense, in general and ordinary matters, and according to French law, and he ventured to think the Masonic law in point of principle did not differ. It was hardly worth while to quote principle in such a matter, but that was the accepted doctrine of Grand Lodge in regard to the case of 1863, when a case came before the Grand Master of the Supreme Conseil of France, which was another body, a supreme body in Masonry of France, and which had issued a warrant for Jersey, and a Lodge had been established there under it, and its first Master was a Brother under the English Constitution. He was summoned before Grand Lodge, and the matter was fully gone into. His (Bro. Philbrick's) distinguished predecessor, the Grand Registrar (Bro. McIntyre), in advising the Grand Lodge, very clearly laid down that the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge of England extended over the island of Jersey, and bringing in a warrant under the Grand Conseil of France was an invasion, that the Brother was therefore suspended from all his Masonic privileges till he had made due submission to the Grand Master, and till the Grand Master was pleased to remove his suspension. He (Bro. Philbrick) did not think he need trouble Grand Lodge by dilating further in the matter. Bro. Sir Robert Stout was not an inexperienced Mason; he was one of us, he was initiated under our Constitution, he had occupied the chair in a Lodge holding under the District Grand Lodge of England, and had been appointed and was under the District Grand Lodge of Otago and Southland. Moreover, he had received the honours of Grand Lodge, having been appointed Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. Being, therefore, an experienced Mason, his act had been a deliberate one, and he defended it, and said that the Grand Lodge was a Court of Appeal and not a Court of First Instance. He (Bro. Philbrick) would very much like to know how a *District Grand Lodge in New Zealand* or any other foreign part *would interfere between Grand Lodge and an officer of Grand Lodge*. But apart from that, on principle this Grand Lodge had a jurisdiction, and a direct and absolute jurisdiction over every Brother who was a member of it—certainly over the Grand Officers, and it actually asserted that jurisdiction more than once, and in a very early period of United Grand Lodge of England, after the Union in the year 1816, it did so, and in the case of a Bro. Bonner, the Grand Lodge resolved that he be deprived of his insignia as a Grand Officer and all the privileges arising therefrom. Therefore both principles, Masonic precedent and Masonic law showed that Grand Lodge had a direct and primary jurisdiction over all those who were members of it, certainly over Grand Officers. Bro. Sir Robert Stout says further, and in a matter of this importance Grand Lodge would pardon him (Bro. Philbrick) for referring to what he said in his defence, for the Grand Lodge ought to consider it fully — that Grand Lodge had no more concern with the matter, than if he had joined *the Oddfellows, the Foresters, or the Buffaloes*. Sir Robert Stout said Grand Lodge had no concern in the matter, because the Grand Orient of France was not a recognised Masonic body. Taking the question of invasion, he would put an analogy not entirely exact, but sufficient perhaps to convey his meaning. Suppose the case of the invasion of one country by another ; would it be any answer if the invaders, caught red-handed, after landing were to say they were not invaders, because they were not recognised as a regular enemy ? The answer would be—" We have endeavoured to stop you before your invasion was successful." He thought Grand Lodge would say that the pleas put forward by Sir Robert Stout in the long letter which was read, and which they were able to follow, were all such that they could make up their minds upon them. Personally he felt the present was a case of great weight and extreme gravity with regard to Masonry. The knowledge and position of Sir Robert Stout, who was high in authority on the other part of the globe, where above all, his duty was to set an example of and show loyal obedience to the Craft, rendered it a case of gravity. He considered, therefore, that Grand Lodge must feel that the complaint of the Grand Master was a well founded one, and deal with it as a serious matter, and he had therefore to propose that Grand Lodge, having carefully considered the report and the documents submitted to it by the Most Worehifnl Grand Master relative to the establishment by Bro. Sir Robert Stout, P.A.G.D.C., and Deputy

District Grand Master of Otago and Southland, New Zealand, of a Lodge at Wellington in that colony, under the Grand Orient of France, of which he is Master, resolves that in the opinion of Grand Lodge the complaint against Bro. Sir. Robert Stout is well founded, and his plea in extenuation cannot be accepted, and Grand Lodge therefore adjudges him guilty of a grave Masonic offence, and in accordance with the precedent in the case of Bro. Banner in 1816, hereby deprives Sir Robert Stout of his rank and status of Deputy District Grand Master. Grand Lodge is further of opinion that by his action as herein stated Bro. Sir Robert Stout has placed himself under provision of Article 204 of the Book of Constitutions, and directs that this fact shall be brought under the notice of the District Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Otago and Southland, with the view of being further dealt with by the District Grand Lodge according to Masonic law, and he moved accordingly.

Bro Thomas Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, said, in seconding the motion, that Bro. Philbrick had in this serious matter very rightly gone into it at some length, but really the matter was comprised in a very small compass, and it would not be necessary for him to detain the Brethren very long. He could conch for the correctness of the precedents which had been quoted by the Grand Registrar. The case of Bro. Bonner was not the only case in which Grand Lodge had dealt with a Masonic offence by a Grand Officer, and deprived him of his rank. This power the Grand Lodge had not delegated to District Grand Lodges or any subordinate authority. All that was proposed to do was to exercise this power, and to leave all other matters to the District Grand Lodges and District Grand Masters. The Masonic offence was clearly laid down in the second precedent which had been put by the Grand Registrar. He distinctly recollected a very painful scene in that Grand Lodge. It was fixed on his mind, because it was the first time he ever saw a Brother introduced into Grand Lodge in the humiliating position in which that Brother was introduced between the two Deacons, deprived of his Masonic clothing, to appeal against his suspension. On that occasion the Grand Master in the chair very clearly laid down what the offence was ; it was precisely the same as that of Bro. Stout, and the Grand Master there said that no foreign jurisdiction—that is, other jurisdictions than that of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland—could be exercised, or any Lodge established in any part of the Queen's dominion. There could be no doubt that New Zealand was part of the Queen's dominions ; and therefore any Lodge established or attempted to be established there under another jurisdiction was an irregular Lodge. Bro. McIntyre on that occasion showed that according to the antient charges, a Master solemnly admitted that no new Lodge could be formed without permission of the Grand Master or his Deputy, and that no countenance ought to be given to any irregular Lodge or to any person initiated therein. Yet the Brother there had proceeded to establish an irregular Lodge by accepting the office of Master. The offence was precisely the same in this and it was clearly laid down to be a Masonic offence which Grand Lodge had the power to deal with in the way proposed. He begged to second the motion of the Grand Registrar.

Bro Beach said before he put this resolution he might remark that Grand Lodge would look with leniency on a Masonic offence if it were not of an important character. No doubt a W.M. might go beyond his authority by inadvertence a Provincial Grand Master might go beyond his authority in thinking he had a power, a dispensing power, which appertained only to the Grand Master; but in such a case it would be an error through inadvertence, and he thought that Grand Lodge would look with great favour upon a fault so committed. But the Brethren were dealing with a much more serious matter than that ; they had a Brother in high authority who should set an example to others, and yet from the clear information of the details they had received, Bro. Stout had no doubt transgressed and gone beyond all his proper authority, and committed a flagrant violation of his Masonic duties. That any one in authority, and entrusted with authority under the Grand Lodge of England, should apply to a foreign jurisdiction to establish a new Lodge, and then should put himself at its head, was indeed a grave dereliction of duty : but that dereliction of duty was intensified and aggravated by the fact that the Masonic authority to which he applied was one with which the Grand Lodge of England had passed a resolution repudiating the association. He need not advert to the causes which led to that ; they were stated by Bro. Sir Robert Stout in his own letter, in which he said they took a view of Masonic progress. Grand Lodge adhered to the antient landmarks of the Order, and admitted no progress which was not based on the antient landmarks. He need say no more than that he heartily concurred with the resolution which he should have the honour now to put to Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge having carefully considered the report and documents submitted) to it by the M.W. Grand Master relative to the establishment by Bro. Sir Robert Stout., K.C.M.G., Past Asst. G.D. of C., Deputy

Grand Master of Otago and Southland, New Zealand, of a Lodge in the town of Wellington in that colony, under a warrant from the Grand Orient of France, and of which Lodge he is Master :

Resolved— "That in the opinion of Grand Lodge the complaint against Bro. Sir Robert Stout is well founded, and his plea of justification cannot be accepted. Grand Lodge therefore adjudges him guilty of a grave Masonic offence, and in accordance with the precedent set in the case of Bro. Bonner in the year 1816, hereby removes Bro. Sir Robert Stout from his rank and status as a Grand Officer of the Grand Lodge of England.

"Grand Lodge is further of opinion that by his action as herein stated Bro. Sir Robert Stout has placed himself under the provisions of Article 204, Book of Constitutions, and directs that this fact shall be brought under the notice of the District Grand Master of Otago and Southland, with a view to the withdrawal of Sir Robert Stout's patent as Deputy Grand Master of that District, and to his being further dealt with by the District Grand Lodge according to Masonic law."

Article 204, referred to in the above resolution is as follows—" Offences Assisting at Irregular Lodges.—A Brother who has been concerned in making Masons clandestinely, or at a Lodge which is not a regular Lodge, or for small and unworthy considerations, or who may assist in forming a new Lodge without the Grand Master's authority, shall not be admitted as a member, or even as a visitor, into any regular Lodge, nor shall he be entitled to relief from the Fund of Benevolence, nor to any other Masonic privilege, till he make due submission and obtain grace."

IT is stated in Dunedin that Bro. Sir Robert Stout intends opening Lodges under the Grand Orient of France in Wanganui and Dunedin.

*THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE GRAND
LODGE OF ANTIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF N.Z.*

GRAND LODGE.

THE PROPOSALS.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

25. The duty of a Grand Superintendent of a District shall be to hear all cases of Masonic irregularity or complaints which may arise in his district, and forward the evidence taken thereon, with his remarks, and an impartial statement of the matter in dispute, to the Grand Master, whose instructions thereon he shall fully carry out. He is to forward all applications for warrants, dispensations, and certificates to the Grand Secretary's office, prior to the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, together with a statement of the condition of Masonry within his district. He shall have the general powers of a Provincial Grand Master.

OUR REMARKS.

This regulation by giving a Superintendent the general powers of a Provincial Grand Master invests him with a rank and power, within his District, similar to those possessed by the Grand Master. He may proceed to admonish, fine, suspend, &c. Is this desirable? Why should a Superintendent be required to act as a kind of Assistant Grand Secretary? Is it not the province of Lodge Secretaries to forward applications for certificates to the Grand Secretary? We submit the following in place of No. 25. It defines the duties and powers of a Superintendent, and is very similar to the regulation adopted by the Grand Lodges in the States and Canada. It has worked, and is working well:—"The duty of a Grand Superintendent of a District shall be to hear all cases of Masonic irregularity or complaint which may arise within his district. The evidence taken thereon he shall place before the District Board of General Purposes, whose decision he shall forward to the Grand Master for confirmation. Should there be no District Board of General Purposes formed within his District he shall forward the evidence and an impartial statement of the matter in dispute to the Board of General Purposes. Applications for Warrants he shall forward to the Grand Secretary's office with a full account of the status of the petitioners, and a recommendation from the nearest Lodge certifying to the truth of the statement contained in the petition, and that the Brother named for Master is qualified to open and close a Lodge and to confer the Three Degrees. His report shall also contain the name of the town, the estimated population, whether in his opinion the material is sufficient to sustain a healthy and reputable Lodge; whether the petitioners reside within the proposed jurisdiction ; if they have at their disposal suitable quarters

for the practise of Masonic rites, and whether the expenses incident to a new Lodge have been donated, or if they are to be paid at a future time by the Lodge. The Superintendent shall visit each Lodge within his district at least once in each year, and at such visitations he shall thoroughly inspect the records, examine the books of account and balance-sheet, inquire as to the attendance of the Officers and Brethren, the status of the candidates and their number ; whether the Lodge room is secure, suitable, and properly furnished ; the amount of insurance, and generally to note the Lodge's condition and the quality of the work. He shall report in writing to the Grand Master on March 31st, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st in each year, the result of his visits and inquiries during the quarter, along with such other matters as in his opinion the good of Masonry may require. The reports of the Superintendent shall be embodied in the quarterly reports of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, after having been submitted to the Board of General Purposes for such remarks as they may think fit to make. The Grand Superintendent of a District must be a Past Master, resident and a subscribing member of a Lodge within his district. The Grand Master may authorise a Superintendent to grant Dispensations to Lodges and Brethren within his district. A list of Dispensations granted must be embodied in the Superintendent's quarterly report to the Grand Master, and be accompanied with the fees received, which shall be placed to the credit of the library fund. The Superintendent of a district shall be a member of the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence, as well as a member of the District Board of General Purposes and Benevolence. A Grand Superintendent shall be assumed and recorded as a member of every Lodge within his district, but in that capacity shall not be liable in payment of any, contributions authorised to be levied by such Lodges.

THE PROPOSALS.

GRAND SECRETARY.

26. The Grand Secretary's duty is to issue summonses for all Communications of the Grand Lodge, its Boards and Committees, and to attend and take minutes of their proceedings ; to receive the returns from the several Lodges, and enter them in the books of the Grand Lodge; to receive the fees and contributions payable by Lodges or Brethren to the Fund of Benevolence, or the Fund of General Purposes, and pay or cause the same to be paid to the account of the Grand Lodge at such bank as he may be directed ; to transmit to all the Lodges the accounts of the proceedings of the Quarterly Communications, and all other papers and documents which may be ordered, either by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge, and receive all petitions, memorials, etc., and to lay them before the Master to attend the Lodge and to receive of him any orders and papers which may be directed ; and generally to do all such things as heretofore have been done or ought to be done by a Grand Secretary. He may, under the authority of the Grand Registrar, affix the Seal of the Grand Lodge to such patents, warrants, certificates, and other documents, as shall be specified in any such authority.

OUR REMARKS.

Add the following to this regulation : Copies of the Proceedings of Grand Lodge shall be sent by the Grand Secretary to the Grand Secretaries of Sister Grand Lodges who have a recognised representative in the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and sufficient copies for the use of the members of the District Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence, and to any Freemason who wishes to have them, and pays in advance five shillings per annum which shall go to the credit of the library fund. The Grand Secretary shall also forward a copy of the balance-sheet of Grand Lodge, when certified as correct by the Auditors, to every sufficient Grand Officer, subordinate Lodge, and sufficient copies for the use of the District Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence. At the annual meeting of Grand Lodge he shall make a report of the failure or want of punctuality on the part of Subordinate Lodges, in paying dues and making proper returns, and of such other matters as in his judgment may require the action of the Grand Lodge. He shall issue tickets of admission to all members of Grand Lodge annually, on payment of their fees ; such tickets to be presented before admission to the hall, and shall not be transferable under pain of forfeiture. He shall, 30 days prior to each Quarterly Communication, communicate with the proper officials of the Railway and Shipping Co., and endeavour to secure concessions on their usual fares and tickets good for one month from the Saturday prior to each Communication, and notify the different Lodges of the rate secured. The Grand Secretary shall also be *ex officio* Grand Librarian, and in conjunction with the Grand Master shall purchase additional books for the library, as they may think proper, and draw upon the library fund to pay for the same.

DUTIES OF GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES.

27. The Grand Director of Ceremonies or his Deputy, in addition to his other duties, has the care of the regalia, clothing, insignia, and jewels belonging to the Grand Lodge, and is to have the management of all public processions of Grand Lodge, to see that Grand Officers occupy their proper positions in Grand Lodge, to have the direction of all Grand Lodge Installations, to introduce visitors of distinction to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge, and perform all such other duties as have been hitherto discharged by Grand Directors of Ceremonies.

GRAND PURSUIVANT.

28. The Grand Pursuivant, or his Deputy, is to preside over the Brethren nominated to attend within the Porch of the Grand Lodge. He is at every meeting of the Grand Lodge to preserve order in the Porch, and, with the assistance of the Brethren nominated to attend there, to see that none be admitted except those who are qualified, have their proper clothing and jewels, have signed their names to the accustomed papers, and are in all respects entitled to admission.

BUSINESS OF GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATED THROUGH BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

29. All business to be brought under the consideration of the Grand Lodge must be previously communicated in writing through the Grand Secretary to the Board of General Purposes at least fourteen days previous to the Quarterly Communication at which such business is proposed to be considered ; nevertheless it shall be competent for any member of the Board at the meeting immediately preceding the Quarterly Communication to then give notice of any business he may wish to bring under the notice of Grand Lodge, and no motion or other matter shall be discussed in the Grand Lodge, except by permission of the Grand Master, unless it shall have been so communicated, in order that notice thereof may be printed on the summons ; but it shall be competent for any member of the Grand Lodge to move, without previous notice being given, the reception, adoption, or otherwise of any report, or any motion arising therefrom, or recommendation contained in such report of any Board or Committee appointed either by the Grand Lodge, or by the Grand Master.

PRECEDENCE OF MOTIONS.

30. Notices of motion shall be set down for consideration in the order in which they were given, and, if renewed at the Board of General Purposes, shall stand on the paper of business in precedence of all subsequent notices, and shall, so long as renewed, maintain such precedence until they have been considered by the Grand Lodge, or otherwise disposed of.

Would it not be as well to state in Nos. 27 and 28, that if the Grand Director of Ceremonies and Grand Pursuivant cannot make it convenient to attend at each of the Quarterly Communications, that they should arrange for the presence of their Assistants? Why not give these two officers three Assistants each, and make it compulsory that both should be represented at each Communication of Grand Lodge.

Is it possible, within the space of 14 days, to print the Business paper for the ensuing Quarterly Communication, address and post copies to all Lodges, officers and members of Grand Lodge, and allow sufficient time after their receipt for members living at the two ends of the colony—Russell and Bluff—to object or record their votes in favour of any motion on the Business Paper?

LODGES TO BE INFORMED OF THE BUSINESS
TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE GRAND LODGE.

31. In order that all Lodges may be duly informed of the business to come before Grand Lodge, the printed report of the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge, and a printed copy of the notices of motion for the ensuing Communication of the Grand Lodge, shall be sent to all Lodges, and to all Grand Officers, at least seven days before each Quarterly Communication. All Brethren, being members of the Grand Lodge, may have such business papers, and notices of Special Grand Lodge Communications, together with all reports of the Quarterly Communications, forwarded to them by post on registering their addresses, and paying a registration fee of half-a-guinea.

READING OF MINUTES.

32. The Grand Lodge being opened, the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication, and of any intervening Grand Lodge Communications, are to be read and respectively put for confirmation ; but reports, communications, or documents, approved or rejected at any previous Communication, shall not be read in, *extenso*, unless called for by a Brother with a view of founding a motion thereon.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS.

33. All communications from the Grand Master, and reports from the Board of General Purposes and other Boards or Committees, are then to be read and taken into consideration, and other business shall then be regularly proceeded with.

MEMBERS TO KEEP THEIR SEATS.

34. All members shall keep their seats except the Grand Deacons, Grand Director of Ceremonies, his Deputy, and the Grand Stewards, who are allowed to move about in the discharge of their duties.

DISTRIBUTION AND COLLECTION OF
BALLOTING PAPERS.

35. Whenever a ballot is to be taken for a member or members of any Board or Committee, the balloting papers shall be distributed under the superintendence of the Grand Director of Ceremonies, and the Brethren shall keep their seats until the balloting papers are collected.

NO MEMBER TO SPEAK TWICE.

36. The mover of an original resolution shall have the right of reply, but no other Brother shall speak twice to the same question, unless in explanation. This rule does not apply to the Grand Registrar, who is the adviser of the Grand Lodge.

Our objections to No. 29 apply with greater force to this regulation. The Business Paper would not reach parts of the North Island until after the Quarterly Communication. In England, 10 days are allowed. District Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence should have copies without charge. Is the registration fee of half a-guinea an annual payment? Five shillings per annum should be ample, and the library fund should be credited with these amounts. On the tenth line delete the words, "being members of the Grand Lodge."

Should it not be " Grand Director of Ceremonies, his Assistants," &c.

Nos. 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39 are taken from the English Book of Constitutions

TO STAND WHILE SPEAKING.

37. Everyone who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand Master, and he shall not be interrupted unless any Brother shall address the Grand Master on a point of order, or the Grand Master shall him-self think fit to call the speaker to order, but after he has been set right he may proceed if he observe due order and decorum.

MOTIONS FOR ERASURE OR EXPULSION.

38. No motion for the erasure of a Lodge, or the expulsion of a Brother, shall be made, unless the Masters and Wardens of the Lodge, or the Brother incriminated, shall have been first summoned, to answer the complaint in person in the Grand Lodge, or to make answer in writing as they or he may desire.

GRANTS OF MONEY, OR ALTERATION IN THE LAW.

39. No resolution for a grant of money (except sums of £50 or under, recommended by the Board of Benevolence) or for a new Law or Regulation, or for the alteration or repeal of an old one, shall become valid unless confirmed at the next ensuing Quarterly Communication.

VOTING.

40. All matters are to be decided by a majority of votes, each member having one vote, and the Grand Master or Presiding Officer a second or casting vote, unless the Grand Lodge think proper to leave any particular subject to the determination of the Grand Master. Except in elections by ballot, the votes of the members are to be signified by each holding up one hand, and the motion is then to be declared carried or lost ; but if two members demand that the votes be counted, and such demand appears reasonable to the Grand Master, the counting shall be conducted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies.

ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION OR RITUAL.

41. No alteration of Constitution or Ritual shall be adopted by Grand Lodge until six months after full particulars of what is proposed shall have been submitted to every Craft Lodge ; and if any clause or alteration contained in the proposals shall within that period be objected to by one-third of the Lodges on the roll, it shall not be competent for the Grand Lodge to adopt it.

FORMATION OF COMMITTEES ON CONSTITUTIONS OR RITUAL.

42. In all committees of Grand Lodge appointed prior to the 30th day of April, 1893, to consider any question affecting alterations of Constitution or Ritual, each of the three parent Constitutions shall be equally represented.

This Regulation allows the Board of Benevolence to grant sums of £50 ; this no doubt does very well in a rich body like the Grand Lodge of England, but to a new beginner £20 should be the limit of the Board's grants. Grand Lodge can always be appealed to for more, in cases of extraordinary distress.

One member, one vote, was evidently the idea of the framers of this English regulation, but it wont suit New Zealand. A member of Grand Lodge holding, say ten proxies, only has one vote according to this law. In place of the latter part of the regulation we submit the following :—Should a division be demanded, the ayes shall go to the right and the noes to the left. The numbers shall be ascertained by the Grand Director of Ceremonies, and delivered in writing to the Grand Secretary, who shall announce the result.

This regulation will come into force when the proposed laws are adopted. Article 12, of the Basis of Union, however, does apply. By that article, only six months is given for the consideration of this Constitution, and it would be as well for Brethren to remember that the time will be up in September next. Brethren should also bear in mind that our suggestions are meant for their consideration, and if approved of, it rests with them to bring: before Grand Lodge.

Better to leave out the words " prior to the 30th April, 1893."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGES.

43. The Grand Lodge shall have power to constitute Provincial Grand Lodges, with jurisdiction over given areas, provided that there be not less than ten Lodges working within each such area, and that not less than two-thirds of the total number of Lodges included shall join in the request for the establishment of a Provincial Grand Lodge.

The two-thirds of ten leave a fraction, but two thirds of nine does not.

DISTRICT BOARDS OF GENERAL PURPOSES AND BENEVOLENCE.

44. In order to provide full powers of local administration in Districts where no Provincial Grand Lodge is formed, the Grand Master shall have power to establish within any area in which not less than three Lodges are working, a District Board of General Purposes and Benevolence. Such Board shall consist of the Past Masters, Masters of Lodges, and Grand Officers resident within the District.

Such Board shall consist of the resident Grand Officers and a representative, elected by ballot, from each Lodge within the District. Lodges too far away from the seat of the District Board, shall commission some brother to represent them. Representatives must be either Past Masters or Masters of Lodges and cannot represent more than one Lodge. The members of the Board shall elect a President, who shall be a member of the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence.

POWERS OF DISTRICT BOARDS.

45. Subject to appeal to the Grand Lodge, such District Boards shall, within their respective districts, have all the powers of a Board of General Purposes under a Provincial Grand Lodge, and may establish a Benevolent Fund.

At the end of the words " respective districts "on the third line, read as follows : — Have all the powers of the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence, and shall be governed by the Laws and Reulations herein laid down for the guidance of those Boards. District Boards may establish Benevolent Funds in accordance with Article 20, Basis of Union, which reads as follows :—" Where a District Grand Lodge or a District Board of General Purposes and Benevolence shall be established, there shall not be required a greater proportion than 10 per cent. from Lodge contributions to benevolent purposes, towards any General Fund of Benevolence which may be established." The interpretation of this is, that at the present time a Lodge 50 strong pays £2 10s, or a shilling a year per member, to the Fund of Benevolence. When the District Boards establish Benevolent Funds, the General Fund of Benevolence will take 10 per cent. of the £2 10s, equal to five shillings, and the District Fund will take £2 5s.

(To be continued.)

BRO. SIR FREDERICK WHITAKER, after investing the officers of his Provincial Grand Lodge in Auckland, on May 3rd, relieved his mind on the subject of the Grand Lodge, " and commended the Brethren of the old Constitution for adhering to the old Order, notwithstanding temptation to wander from the fold to the arms of what he termed a clandestine Constitution." Bro. Whitaker's bitterness against Grand Lodge can be understood, when it is remembered that it has left him only three Lodges in the North Island over which to rule, viz. :—Lodges St. Andrew Kilwinning, Wanganui ; Montrose, Gisborne; and Whitanga, Mercury Bay.

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.

[Letters intended for insertion must be accompanied in all cases by the real name and address of the writer, as well as by the name and number of the Lodge to which he belongs, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE GRAND SECRETARYSHIP.

To THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I often chat with old friends belonging to Port Chalmers Marine Lodge. Are the Brethren correct when they state that the Secretaryship of the Grand Lodge was offered to and declined by Bro. Charles de Longueville Graham.—I am, &c., P.M., N.Z.

[The Masonic Unions appointed the first Grand Officers. We have therefore passed on your inquiry to Bro. George Robertson, of Wellington, who acted as Secretary to the Central Executive.—Ed. CRAFTSMAN.]

THE BENEVOLENT FUND—A SUGGESTION.

To THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Taking as I do a great interest in the N.Z. Grand Lodge movement (although the Lodge to which I belong has not yet seen fit to join in), and considering that a strong point would be scored in its favour by its being able to show a substantial Benevolent Fund, it has occurred to me that a good way to add considerably to said Fund would be by holding bazaars in two or three of the chief centres, in connection with which there might be numerous art unions, so that Brethren in other places who could not attend the bazaars might still, by taking tickets, help towards their financial success.

Should the idea be thought worthy of being carried out I shall be only too glad to do all in my power to make the bazaars a success, either by preparing goods or in any other way I can,—I am, &c.,

MASTER MASON.

LODGE ST. GEORGE, LAWRENCE.

TO THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In a late issue of the CRAFTSMAN you gave some statistics re Lodge St. George, 1128, E.C. I have been accused of supplying you with such information. Please state in your next issue, whether I have ever directly or indirectly, held any communication with you on such a subject. For many years I have been a member of Lodge St. George, and shall never forget the very many happy associations with the esteemed Brethren of the Lodge. I would not have one of its members think me guilty of acting towards them but in a truly fraternal manner. You will see by the document herewith, that, until now, I have ever been looked upon as a worthy Mason, and respectfully request that you let the brethren know that I am still worthy of their friendship.—I am,
yours fraternally, E. TITCHENER, I.P.M., Lodge Hiram.

[Bro. Titchener has not, directly or indirectly, held any Communication with us on the subject of Lodge St. George. We were ignorant of his connection with that Lodge until the receipt of his letter.—ED. CRAFTSMAN.]

MISCELLANEOUS

A MASONIC CURRICULUM.

BY G. W. SPETH, SECRETARY.

Transactions of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati.

THE question is often asked, "What books should a young English student read in order to master the rudiments of Masonic history?" It has been formulated in the London *Freemason* and other Craft journals countless times, and has recently been reiterated in the *South Australian Freemason*, May 7th, 1890. Like many other questions, it is easy to ask and difficult to answer. The literature of Masonry is extensive, not to say diffuse, yet of the host of books that owe their inspiration to the history or doctrine of the Craft, there are few indeed from which no profit whatever can be extracted by a discriminating mind. But, with very few exceptions, they all contain grave errors, and necessitate the exhibition of an antidote. Hence the difficulty of advising a course of reading; the proposed list soon swells to a preposterous length, and the young student,

especially if not provided with a super-abundance of loose cash, views the prospect with alarm. Moreover, many of the best hooks are written in German, and the question pre-supposes a knowledge of English only.

THE study of Masonry may be divided into six sections, often concurrent and always overlapping, yet fairly distinct. They are—1st, Preliminary and general information ; 2nd, Masonic tradition ; 3rd, Authentic history; 4th, Symbolism and Ethics ; 5th, Jurisprudence ; 6th, Ritual. These are not capable of being studied separately to any useful purpose ; a bright Mason should be an all-round man, and well grounded in each : without a general acquaintance with the other five, his special knowledge of the sixth will be incomplete and unsatisfactory to himself.

Students may also be divided into three classes :—1st, Masons of scant leisure and small means, who would fain content themselves with a good general idea to be acquired from one book only ; 2nd, Those of more leisure, who would wish to be placed in a position to come to independent conclusions, and yet to accomplish their purpose without too heavy a drag on their resources ; and 3rd, Those to whom neither money nor time is of great consequence, or whose interest in the subject enables them to sacrifice some other pleasures in order to attain the desired end. With the above a further class might be cited—viz : those Brethren who possess a reasonable amount of leisure, and, though not able to purchase a large stock of books, enjoy special facilities of research, such as the entry to good public or private libraries or Masonic collections, from which the great bulk of Masons are necessarily debarred. Practically these are in the same position as class 3, the only difference being that what one buys for himself the other studies without purchase. For neither of these shall I prescribe in the following pages, beyond the advice to follow the course laid down for class 2, and then master as many other of the writings of the Craft as they can gain access to.

To the first class of students, the one-book students, my advice is : "Get R. F. Gould's 'History of Freemasonry.'" As regards the first three sections, a general outline of Freemasonry, Tradition, and History, it will supply the place of a whole library ; and this can be said of no other book. The information between its covers is up to the latest date, it is thoroughly impartial and critical, and it is based upon the best evidence procurable. As time rolls on errors will probably be discovered and corrections become necessary, but it will never be discredited. To the student of small means no book can be mentioned in preference to it, and I will even venture to assert that no dozen books can supply its place. Thus, although the price of the cheapest edition (6 vols. quarto) is £3 15s, it will cost less than a selection of books, which after all, will not answer the purpose to anything like the same extent. But there is no royal road to Masonic knowledge, and "Gould's History " will not fill an empty head : it is not a funnel in the bung-hole through which information can be poured, as it were, out of one cask into another ; it is not by any means abstruse, but neither is it elementary, and should be studied with the brain, not merely skimmed with hasty eye. To those who would learn all about Masonry without mental exertion, I have no advice to offer ; it cannot be done.

(To be Continued.)

NOTES BY THE WAY.

ON May 6th, the Grand Master, Grand Superintendent of Otago, and the Grand Secretary, accompanied by the writer, paid an official visit to Lodge Waikouaiti. Good attendance. W.M. Bro Robert Scott came over 40 miles ; other Brethren rode from 7 to 15 miles to be present. Opened and closed in the three degrees. Work well done. Senior Warden, Bro. Stewart, evidently the coming man. The Lodge has had five initiations since it joined Grand Lodge. Finances are healthy ; £25 on fixed deposit, and £16 in current bank account, and no liability. This satisfactory condition principally due to Junior Past Master Bro. W. Henderson. The Secretary, Bro. Affieck, is somewhat original, but he has a weakness—grapes—so has the Grand Secretary. After the meeting the Brethren invited their visitors to supper, at which a couple of hours passed away very pleasantly.

The following evening Lodge Hiram, Caversham, had a visit from the Grand Master and his officers. A very large attendance, with visitors from all the Lodges in and around Dunedin. Hiram has a membership of over 70, and is in a high state of prosperity. If the older Lodges in Dunedin don't put more life into their proceedings, their younger but more vigorous sister will take first rank both in numbers and wealth. After the meeting a banquet followed. Great credit is due to the Brethren who had charge of the arrangements. We have seldom seen a more tasteful table or such good things provided by non-professionals. The Grand Organist, Bro. Barth, was kept busy by many of his musical friends until nearly two o'clock in the morning.

Balclutha.—In the teeth of a storm of wind and rain we found our way, at 8 30 p.m. on the 8th April, from the station to the hotel. Having refreshed and dressed, we visited Lodge Clutha. The attendance was poor, due to the weather and the harvest. The Master, Bro. T. Hay McKenzie, had a touch of *la grippe*, and sent an apology for staying at home. The Wardens were also absent. Bro. Rev. Frank Dodd, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, took the chair, and with the assistance of P.M. Bro. Hargood, we were made as comfortable as possible, but the cold and the poor attendance did have a depressing effect. A stove would be an improvement in winter time. Lodge Clutha has a large membership, with £180 outstanding dues. The pruning knife is now being applied. With careful management and a little more enthusiasm it should overcome its difficulties. Lodge Clutha formerly belonged to Scotland. The Masonic Hall is shared with the Oddfellows.

We reached Tapanui at 3 o'clock on the following day, and were met on the railway station by the Master of Lodge Hercules, Bro. Crawford ; the Senior Warden, Bro. Wrensted; the Secretary, P.M. Bro. Fargher, the Tyler, and other Brethren. Having dined, we were taken to the hall, the church, and over the township, and admired the three. During our walk we learned much. Since 1886 one visit has been paid by a District Grand Lodge Officer. He came from, Dunedin to install, and charged £5 5s for his expenses. The difficulties of this Lodge have been many; they are now things of the past, and the future looks bright.

(To be Continued.)

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.

THE VICTORY LODGE, N.Z.C., NELSON, held its regular monthly meeting on April 28th. A candidate was balloted for, and elected. As this was the meeting prior to May 24th, the Lodge anniversary, the election for W.M. Treasurer and Tyler took place. The choice of W.M. fell on Bro. A. W. Bain, S. W. Bro. H. Baigent, V.M., of the Southern Star, was present, and congratulated the Lodge on their choice. P.M. Bro. Dr. Boor, S.G.D., was elected Treasurer, and Bro. C. J. Bartlett was re-elected Tyler. The proposed Constitutions were referred to the Standing Committee. The Installation will take place on the 27th May.

LODGE ST. ANDREW'S, N.Z.C., AUCKLAND.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, April 21st, at the Masonic Hall. There was a fair attendance of Brethren and visitors, amongst the latter being Past Masters. T. Bracken (Dunedin), Vosper, Ellison &c.,. The business consisted of the balloting for two candidates, affiliating a Brother of the N. S. Wales Constitution, whose certificate had been also sent for presentation, and the passing of Brothers. Bro. H. C. Tewsley R.W.M., performed the ceremony in a very impressive manner. The charges being given by D.Master Bro. Symon, and Bro. W. H. Cooper, A.G. Secretary and the Working Tools by P.M. Vosper and Page.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF CANTERBURY, E.C.—We have to thank W. Bro. W. R. Mitchell D.G. Secretary, for copies of the proceedings. At the quarterly communication held on April 16th, five Lodges were represented. The Treasurer stated the balance at credit to be £591 4s 2d. Great regret was expressed at the removal to Oamaru of the D.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. J Luxford. The revised bye-laws were ordered to be forwarded to London for the sanction of the M. W.G.M. The Board of General Purposes expressed their regret that no reply had been received from the G.L. of England to the correspondence of October last ; they think, however, that this may be accounted for by the absence of the G.R., W. Bro. Philbrick, from London.

LODGE EDEN, 1530, E.C., AUCKLAND.—At the last meeting of this Lodge, Past Master Bro. T. W. Kitt, the W.M., and other Brothers spoke feelingly of the loss sustained by the death of Bro. James Carlaw, who was one of its founders. The following resolution was carried unanimously :—" The Lodge Eden desires to place on record its deep sense of the loss it has sustained by the lamented death of Bro. James Carlaw, P.M., and hereby transmits to the relatives of the deceased Brother a vote of sincere condolence in their bereavement." At the funeral there was a thoroughly representative attendance of the Masonic Brethren of all Constitutions, who took this opportunity of testifying their esteem for their deceased Brother. Bro. Carlaw was an office-bearer in the D.G. Lodge of Mark Master Masons, and both these Lodges (Eden and the Mark), as well as Lodge Ponsonby, S.C., attended in regalia. The D.G. Lodge, E.G., was represented by Bro.

G. S. Graham, D.G.M., Bro. W. Lodder, D.D G. M., Bro. H. G. Wade, D.G. Treasurer, and Bros. C. LaRoche, Newton, and a number of other members, but not in regalia. All the sister Lodges of the English, Irish, and Scotch Constitutions were well represented, and the Lodges holding under the New Zealand Constitutions also mustered in strength, the Grand Lodge being represented by Bro. A. S. Russell Deputy G.M., Bro. Cooper, A.G.S., and Bro. A. Kidd, G.P. The Ara, United Service and St. Andrew's Lodges, N.Z.C., attended under their officers, but not in regalia. The Masonic funeral oration was read by Bro. W. McCullough, D.P.G.M., S.C.

LODGE OF CONCORD, N.Z.C., PAPANUI, passed Bros. Penfold, Eccles, Schofield, and Benson at its meeting on the April 23rd.

FOR some reason three issues of the " N. Z. Mail " have failed to reach us, hence the absence of " Lodge Reports " from Wellington.

LODGE CALEDONIAN, N.Z.G., at its meeting on the 14th inst., elected Bro. S. Anderson as R.W.M., and our old friend, W. Bro. Anthony Mills, Grand Steward, was re-elected Secretary.

LODGE OF UNANIMITY, N.Z.C., LYTTELTON, met on April 23rd, to ballot for Mr W. H. Wreath, to pass, Bros. Laurenson and Russell, and to affiliate Bro. C. Smith of Lodge Heretaunga, No. 1812, E.G., Hastings, Hawkes Bay.

LODGE WAITAKI, NZ.C., OAMARU. — This Lodge held their regular meeting on the evening of 22nd April, We had a good attendance of members and several visitors from Lodges in Dunedin and elsewhere. The minutes being confirmed, and Bro. Treasurer's report received, a Brother was affiliated and took his seat as a member of the Lodge, after which two candidates were admitted and duly initiated. The election of officers for the ensuing twelvemonths then took place, Bro. O. H .Pinel S.W. being unanimously voted the W.M. to Chair ; Bro. C. Probert, Treasurer, was re-elected to that office, and Bro. H. Ridsdale elected tyler. Two candidates for initiation were then proposed and with " Good Wishes " from our visitors, the Lodge was closed.

THE SOUTHERN STAR LODGE, No 635, E.C., NELSON, met on the 21st April. Three candidates were bailotted for and elected; and two were initiated by the W.M. Bro. H. Baigent, ably assisted by P.M.'s Brown, Hall, and Bolton. The ceremony was greatly enhanced by the music and singing under the conductorship of Bro. Morrish, organist of Christ Church, Nelson. The election of a Brother on the Standing Committee, in place of our late deceased Bro. W. Healy, also transpired, and a very agreeable report by the Treasurer, Bro. S. Bolton, on the reduction of the debt on the hall of £100, which he had been able to accomplish since last meeting. Bro. W. Brown, P.M., of Lodge No. 467, Westland Kilwinning, was also received as an affiliating Brother; and another application for membership announced.

LODGE CHARLESTON KILWINNING, 487, S.C., held its regular meeting on the 23rd April Rev. Bro. W. S. Lucas in the chair. The business of the evening consisted in raising Bros. Geo. Hurburgh and R. Walker to the sublime degree of M M. The ceremony being conducted in a very earnest and able manner by the W.M. The W.M. having sent in his resignation, he having accepted a cure at Waikouaiti, it was resolved to accept his resignation with deep regret. Before the Lodge was closed P.M. Bro. Gardner on behalf of the Brethren presented the W.M. with a handsome P.M. jewel as a token of his service to the Lodge, and wished him God speed in his new sphere. The W.M. suitably and briefly responded. The ordinary business being concluded the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 10.30.

LODGE ARA, N.Z.C., AUCKLAND.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on April 28th. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. The business of the evening was raising two Brethren. The following nominations were received:—W.M , Bro. W. M. Chapman ; S.W., Bro. James Boskill ; J.W., Bro. H. B. Dexter ; Treasurer, Bro. A. S. Russell, D.G.M. (re-elected) ; Secretary, Bro. George. H. Powley, P.M. ; D.C., Bro. Alfred Kidd, G.P. ; S.D., Bro. Alfred Barlett ; J.D., Bro. W. R. Cook ; Organist, Bro. T. H. Webbe ; LG., Bro. S. E. Hughes ; S.S., Bro H. L. Posseniskie ; J.S., Bro. W, I. Cousins ; Tyler, Bro. E. Tonge. It is the intention of the Brethren of Lodge Ara, N.Z.C., to dispense with the usual banquet held after the installation ceremony, and to vote the money thus saved towards founding a General Masonic Fund, to be vested in trustees and to be used for establishing homes for the orphan boys and girls of Masons. It is hoped

that once a beginning is made in this direction, Lodge Ara will find many followers in the Lodges working under the N.Z.C.

INSTALLATIONS

LODGE ALBION, N.Z.C., DEVONPORT, AUCKLAND.—We hear that this Lodge had a very successful installation in April. Among the visitors was P.M. Bro. Thomas Bracken, of Lodge Celtic, Dunedin, and Bro. the Rev. James Hill, Past District Grand Master of Canterbury, S.C. Our usual report has not come to hand.

MANAWATU KILWINNING LODGE, N.Z.C., PALMERSTON NORTH.—One of the most largely attended gatherings of the Craft ever held in this district assembled in the Lodgeroom on April 20th, when the installation of Worshipful Master and investiture of officers of this Lodge took place. The United Manawatu, 1721, E.C., was numerously represented, and a fraternal visit was also paid by Feilding Lodge, while Lodges in Wellington, Auckland, Hawera, and various parts of both Islands were represented. The gathering was noteworthy as being the first occasion on which the Lodge has assembled to install a Master under the New Zealand Constitution, and to Bro. Walter Rutherford belongs the honor of being the first to be installed under it, the Lodge having during Bro. Walkley's Mastership decided to join the national movement. After a very satisfactory report and balance sheet had been read and adopted, the installation was proceeded with, the following constituting the Board of Installed Masters :—Bros. W. Forrest, A. Jack, J. C. Nathan, J. E. Perrin, W. Carthew, T. Sutton, F. Meyrick, J. P. Leary, J. Walkley, and W. H. Smith, the last named acting as Installing Master. Apologies for non-attendance were received from P.M.'s Bros. J. Herbert Hankins and W. B. Franklin. Bro. F. Meyrick P.M. acted as D.C. The musical portion of the ceremony was under the direction of Bros. Norberg (organ), A. Drew (flute) and G. Kendall (cello), and was excellently performed, their contributions adding greatly to the success of the proceedings. The following officers were invested :— I.P.M., Bro. J. Walkley ; D.M., Bro. W. Dixon ; S. M., Bro. W. Dawick ; J. W., Bro. H. B. Harvey ; Treasurer, Bro. J. P. Leary ; Secretary, Bro. F. E. White ; Organist, Bro. Norberg ; S. D., Bro. J. Hocking ; J.D., Bro. Buchan ; I G., Bro. W. H. Taylor ; Tyler. Bro. T. Schlager. Hearty good wishes were tendered to the new Master by the following Brethren : Bros. W. Forrest (Lodge Ponsonhy), J. E. Perrin (United Manawatu), J. C. Young (1521, E.C.), A. Jack (St. Anil s), C. Grubb (St. John's, 1858, E.C.); W. Carthew (Fending), S. M. Wilson (United Service), A. Hill (25, S.A.), and T. Lloyd (Hawera). At the banquet the following toasts were duly honoured— "The Grand Master," proposed by the W. M., and responded to by Bro. Walkley, Grand Steward ; "Sister Constitutions," proposed by Bro. Sutton, and responded to by Bro. Perrin ; " The newly-installed Master," proposed by Bro. Forrest, and responded to by Bro. Rutherford ; " The Deputy Grand Master," proposed by Bro. S. M. Wilson ; " Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. Walkley, and responded to by Bro. Jack ; " The I.P. M.," proposed by Bro. Rutherford and responded to by Bro. Walkley ; " The Installing Master," proposed by Bro. Rutherford and responded to by Bro. W. H. Smith, who also proposed the toast of the Organist, Bro. Norberg, who suitably responded. The toast of " Robert Burns" by Bro. Forrest, and the "Tyler's toast," given by the I.P.M. concluded the list, and the proceedings terminated with " Auld Lang Syne." The usual collection for benevolent purposes was taken up on the Tyler's toast being given and realised a substantial sum which will be devoted to relief of a case of distress at Kaikoura, which was brought under notice of the Lodge. In his reply to the toast of "Sister Constitutions" Bro. Perrin expressed his entire sympathy with the New Zealand Constitution and trusted to see that only working in the colony before next installation. In responding to " Visiting Brethren " Bro. Jack referred to the working of the Mark Degree in connection. With Craft Masonry, and gave some useful information which will probably be acted on. The evening was altogether one of the most enjoyable spent by the Brethren for some time. During the evening songs were contributed by Bros. Taylor, Montague, Kendall, Rutherford, Dixon, Perrin, and Grubb. Next evening a social for the wives, friends, and children of the Brethren took place. Over 100 children sat down to tea at 5 p.m. Bro. Grubb gave great satisfaction to the children, and they did full justice to the good things he provided. Bros. Dixon, Hocking, Walkley, Rutherford, Salmon, Drew, Schlager, Taylor, Jack and White doing their utmost to keep the gathering amused. At 10 o'clock the children went home thoroughly tired out.

BRIEF MENTION

ANNUAL meeting of Grand Lodge on July 6th, in Wellington.

COMPLAINTS have reached us from Lodges of the non-receipt of copies of the Proposed Constitutions.

THE railway companies in New Mexico grant the Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge a free pass whilst on duty.

THE following sentence was found upon an ancient Greek tomb : " I was not, and I became—I am not, and I shall be."

THE Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia proposes to compel all Masters-elect to pass a qualifying examination before being installed.

LODGE AMBERLEY'S balance-sheet, showing receipts, &c., on behalf of Widow and Children, reached us when going to press. In June it will appear.

THE W.M. of a Lodge in Nova Scotia lately laid the foundation stone of a bank with Masonic honours. This is a most extraordinary proceeding.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *South Australian Freemason* is opposed to military dress in Lodge, which he thinks is opposed to the teachings of the Sacred Law.

LODGE MANAWATU KILWINNING, N.Z.C., Palmerston North, made a new departure on April 30th, by entertaining one hundred children, their mothers and friends.

THE "coloured" Masons in the United States run 36 Grand Lodges, with a total of 1086 Lodges and 23,832 members. The colour line is very sharply defined in some States.

OAMARU, according to the census returns, has 1111 houses, 1111 acres inside the town boundary, and Lodge Waitaki's old number on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England is No. 1111.

THE extraordinary series of edicts issued by the District Grand Masters of the E.C. and S.G., and scattered broadcast throughout the territory, have evoked much amusement and disgust. What sad reading *they* will be in a year or two. —*Freemason*, Sydney.

THE *Catholic Times*, of May 8th, says : — Bros. Stout and Ballance have been guilty of an offence against good citizenship in introducing French Masonry into this colony, and the *Times* asks this pertinent question—" Does the Wanganui Lodge, of which Bro. Ballance is Master, own or disown him?"

ONE word of advice to Brethren who contemplate making their homes in New South Wales and Victoria. Don't, when you get across the water, abuse and vilify the promoters and members of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. If you do, they might take a leaf out of your book, and begin to "*boycott*" the "*boycotters*."

NOMINATIONS which did not reach Invercargill in time for the last Quarterly Communication :—Lodge St. Andrew, Auckland—R. B. Symon, D.M. ; Lodge Manukau, Onehunga—Rev. W. E. Mtugan, P.M., as Grand Chaplain ; Lodge Coromandel, Thames—James Brown Gatland, as Grand Steward ; Lodge St. Andrew, Wellington — Andrew Jack, P.M., as Grand Steward ; Lodge St. Augustine, Christchurch—J. L. Fenerty, P.M.

OUT of 504 members of the Italian Parliament, 300 are Freemasons.

THERE is some talk of opening a Lodge at Ashurst, Wellington District.

THE members of a Scotch Lodge in Otago the other day voted two to one to join Grand Lodge. They are coming.

THE Official Report shows that five Scotch Lodges in New Zealand South have joined Grand Lodge. Another is coming.

A MICHIGAN Lodge has had to apply to its Grand Lodge to annual life membership. It had 95 life and only 55 contributng members.

IT has been ruled in England that Masonic services should only be held in churches ministered to by a Past or Present Provincial Grand Chaplain.

THE *S.A. Freemason* says : " There is a Masonic Lodge in Belfast for police-men, conducted on temperance principles." This is class Masonry with a vengeance.

SCOTCH LODGES in the South Island are now getting regular visits from the D.G. Lodges. Credit should be given to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand for this new state of things.

CIRCULARS have now been issued, calling a Convention of Delegates in Christchurch next June, to form a Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons and a Supreme Grand Chapter.

THE phonograph is being used in the States by Grand Lecturers. A correct version of the Ritual is spoken into the machine and afterwards " turned " out in far distant Lodges of Instruction.

THE mallet with which King Charles the Second laid the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral is still in possession of the old Lodge of Antiquity, London. It was made use of by the, Prince of Wales in laying the foundation stone of Truro Cathedral.

THE Grand Lodge of Nebraska rules that the full title of the Chief Officer of a Lodge is " Worshipful Master," and he should be addressed as such, but he should sign himself as " Master," and not as " Worshipful Master." We agree. A brother should, not himself prefix to his title the adjective expressive of respect used by his fellows in addressing him.—*South Australian Freemason*.

THE opponents of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand have lately circulated a story to the effect that the Executive of the Grand Lodge, despairing of their obtaining recognition from England, Ireland, and Scotland, had made overtures to the District and Provincial Grand Lodges for a settlement on the basis that the New Zealand Grand Lodge was to accept the position of a fourth and junior constitution. The officers of the Grand Lodge resident in Auckland simply laughed at the fabrication as being too puerile to require denial; but as the story continued current, with various embellishments, authority to deny it was asked for, and the reply from Christchurch is most emphatic and conclusive. There never was the slightest foundation for the statement ; and under no circumstances would the Grand Lodge accept a position inferior to the supreme authorities of England, Ireland, and Scotland in their respective home jurisdictions. The District and Provincial Lodges now existing may be tolerated, but must and will always be kept in the subordinate position they occupy in relation to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, which claims and exercises supreme authority in the Colony. —*N. Z. Herald*, April 24th, 1891.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND OTHERS.

Subscriptions paid since April 16th :—R. Allan, Austin, Allport, Bergh, R. Brown, Baker, Bulford, Carnell, Donald, Derbridge, Dimant, Dawson 15s, Fenerty, Grace, Hays, Heller, Hansen 28e, How (Jackson) 15s, Jull (James) 15s, Kerr, Klinginstein, Lyne, Lodge Bedford 20s, Lodge Coromandel 20s, Mason (Amberley), Lodge Charleston Kil winning 7s 6d, Mullaney 9s, Moyes, Mercer, Mason 15s, Male, Millar, Mangin, McBride, Parker, Rintoul, Salmon, Scott 17s 6d, Tatton, Toomey, Frank White 15s, Wright, Williams.

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