

From the Field.

Under this head we will be pleased to publish short accounts of the doings of State, District and County Deputies. Short items from any Lodge are solicited.

Notice.—We are always pleased to have communications from our friends, and take pleasure in giving place in our columns; but we cannot publish the list of officers alone. All letters containing simply a list of officers will be omitted.

LODGE NEWS.

Bro. Jno. T. Price, Secretary of Eddystone Lodge, No. 20, says: "We are doing exceedingly well. We now number thirty-five, and I think we will have fifty in a short time."

This Lodge was organized by Bro. Broughton, during his recent visit to Elizabeth City.

—A brother writing from Gold Hill Lodge, Rowan county, gives this encouraging statement:

"Our membership has continued to increase until we now number 33. Our future seems bright and encouraging. Many who, at first, spoke derisively of, and used their influence against us, are now on our side."

Bro. Geo. J. Starr, C. D., organized this Lodge some three months ago, as was thought, under rather unfavorable circumstances; but it seems to have outlived even the doubts of its own members. May it continue to grow is our wish.

—From a letter to the G. W. C. T. from Bro. Thom, Lodge Deputy of Gibsonville Lodge, No. 34, we are permitted to extract the following:

"We are working ahead as best we can; now have a very convenient place of meeting, and plenty of room with our present number of members. Our meeting on last Friday night was a very pleasant one. We had short speeches by Bros. Schener and Neese; most excellent addresses. We invited a few outsiders, who were very much pleased with getting to hear the speaking, and on the same night we initiated three. We have been initiating one or more every night of meeting, and now have a large number of proposals. I believe the day is not far distant when our Lodge will be in a flourishing condition."

—Sister Iola H. Bledsoe, W. V. Templar of Mt. Pleasant No. 225, Wake county, encloses \$2 and adds:

"Look for me to send more soon, for I have the promise of some, and 'we' Good Templars never break a promise."

Always glad to hear from such correspondents; and be glad to have short letter concerning Lodge.

Catawba Springs, 223.

RALEIGH, April 3, 1876.

Editor Spirit of the Age:

By special invitation, I left Saturday afternoon, in company with Brother Gaston Broughton, for his home near Catawby Church. At 4 o'clock I attended a meeting of the Lodge at Brother Frank's residence. This Lodge was organized about six months ago by Brother N. B. Broughton, G. W. C. Templar, with twenty charter members. It now numbers thirty seven, good and true.

A committee of five were appointed at the meeting I attended, to make all necessary arrangement for building a hall.

Many Christian men in this section are standing aloof from this noble institution but it is hoped the day is not far distant when the whole community will be reached. On Sunday, at Catawba Church, Rev. J. N. Ferrall, opened the exercises by preaching a short sermon and then I was introduced to the au-

dience and lectured upwards of an hour. It was a cold disagreeable day but notwithstanding the inclement weather quite a large audience assembled.

I spent the sabbath with Brother Gaston Broughton and returned home in the afternoon in company with Brother Charlie Broughton.

I shall always remember my visit to Catawba and the many kind friends I met there with pleasure.

Yours fraternally,
THEO. N. RAMSAY.

Lumberton Lodge, No. 78.

The Good Templar Lodge of this place is now in a most flourishing condition. There continues to be initiations, and propositions at every meeting. Last Monday night the Lodge had addresses from Capt. W. J. Stanley, and Dr. Jos. F. Harrell. Capt. Stanley, made a very excellent speech, in which the subject of temperance, was treated masterly and uniquely. He was followed by Dr. Harrell, in a speech of considerable force and feeling. He took the pledge of total abstinence in that same hall over 20 years ago, in company with the Rowlands, the Hartmans, the Jones, and others. He stood on the same platform yet, and when he saw in the hall Mr. Jas. Jones, and representatives of all the families who were then members, he felt the principle of total abstinence was being handed down to succeeding generations.

The subject of the District Meeting which will convene in this town on the 4th of May next, was extensively canvassed, and Dist. Dept. Stanley, was requested by the Lodge at this place to extend a pressing invitation to Col. J. J. Hickman, R. W. G. T., of the world, to be present on that occasion. Rev. B. R. Hall, says they'll "take the fort" if Col. Hickman will favor us with his presence. Hope he'll come.

Attention is called to the card of Capt. W. J. Stanley, D. D., of the I. O. G. T., in another column. A letter just received from the G. W. C. T., by the W. C. T., of this County, gives the gratifying intelligence that Messrs. N. B. Broughton, Sam'l J. Fall, and T. N. Ramsay will be here on that occasion. Mr. Broughton, also promises a public lecture during the meeting. This is likely to be one the largest meetings that has ever been in our town. We have already been informed that large delegations will be present from some of the Lodges. —Lumberton Robesonian.

Contributions.

How Interest in the Lodges may be Created and Sustained.

This is a subject that deeply concerns every Lodge in our State.

The world is looking on, surprised at the great good we have already accomplished; astonished at the rapid advance we have made towards morality and sobriety; amazed at the sudden change of public sentiment in our favor. Indeed we feel proud of the brilliant victory we have achieved over that powerful and destructive agent, Alcohol.

But, after inscribing our name in the highest niche of fame, shall we now "lie supinely upon our backs, and hug the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemy shall have bound us hand and foot?" Shall we yield up the rich legacy bequeathed unto us by the pioneers of Good Templarism? Shall we let the blighting frost nip the budding fruit? Shall we be satisfied with the glory of the past? No! a thousand times no! Let us always "be up and doing, with a heart for any fate; still achieving, still pursuing; learn to labor and to wait."

Much has been accomplished, but greater deeds remain to be done.

We need speakers to proclaim the advantages of our order to the world; and our cause can be benefited in various and sundry ways. I shall attempt, in my feeble manner to say something under the above head which I hope will not be inappropriate.

In the first place: We should en-

deavor to make our Lodge rooms as beautiful, attractive and comfortable as possible. This can be done with but very little labor and expense. There is no necessity to decorate a hall like a king's palace; but we can adorn it with neat and elegant furniture, and embellish it with beautiful pictures and other ornaments, and, with a little care, we can always keep it neat and clean: The idea is to make the hall as much like "home, sweet home" as possible; so that when a member enters it, he will be constrained to say within himself: what a lovely place! How pleasant and delightful it is to be here! How cheerful and contented every one seems! Who has ever witnessed such a happy sight? The destroyer surely cannot enter here! Thank heaven this is to be my future home!

Music assists no little in creating and sustaining the interest in the Lodges. Many persons attend church as much to listen at the soft and mellifluous strains of music as to hear able and eloquent sermons. Music exerts a similar influence over the members of the Lodges. It is an agent we cannot well dispense with, nevertheless very little attention is given to it—at least this is the case in many of the Lodges. If music has charms to soothe the savage breast, it must surely possess charms to attract and delight fair women and brave men. But we do not sufficiently appreciate its power. Every Lodge should have a good organ, and a full, active working choir. There is scarcely a Lodge too poor to purchase an organ, and there is no Lodge so small but that it contains material in it to constitute a choir. Every Lodge has a Sankey in it, who should superintend the music. We have one in ours.

Debates assist materially towards bringing out the members; add considerably to the attractions of the evenings; create a thirst for knowledge, and aid in educating the members. Queries set apart for certain nights, should never be postponed, lest the debaters, who have probably spent hours and days poring over them, should grow weary, and lose the interest they at first manifested in them. It is always bad policy to procrastinate. I have frequently seen its injurious effects. Occasional speeches have a happy effect, and, when well delivered, are not the least among the many attractive features. Now and then the reading of extracts, essays, etc., etc., please and interest. Dialogues divert and amuse. Entertainments, such as concerts, tableaux and the like, probably create more interest, at least for a short while, than anything else. But, to insure success, they should always meet the demands of the public, otherwise they will prove injurious. Entertainments, while they assist in creating and sustaining the interest, also increase the finances,—and it is the duty of every Lodge to keep its finances in a healthy condition, else it will inevitably go down. Money is health to a Lodge, while debt is a malignant cancer which the scalpel can not cure.

As much dispatch as possible should be used in getting through with the general business. Long sessions tend to weary and fatigue, short ones buoy and animate.

Discipline has a secret but a telling influence upon each individual member,—and it should always be enforced. Every Worthy Chief Templar should be a man of character, judgment, firmness and decision, and should also be popular with his Lodge. Especially should he be acquainted with the Lodge government. He should not hesitate to correct any breach of etiquette that might occur; and with a little tact, he could do so without giving offense. In preserving the decorum, much depends upon the Worthy Vice Templar and Marshal. When a Lodge is ably officered, how smoothly and rapidly the business is transacted.

Much more could be said upon this subject, but I forbear for the present.

W. C. GALLOWAY.
Company Shops.

Official Notices.

THIRD DISTRICT.

The Convention of the Third District is called to meet at Rocky Mount on Tuesday and Wednesday May 2d and 3d, and I earnestly request every Lodge in the District to send delegates.

Each Lodge is entitled to double its representation in the Gr. Lodge. Lodge Deputies are ex-officio members.

Bros. Broughton and Fall have promised to visit us, and addresses may be expected from them.

No programme has been arranged but it is proposed to make the occasion one of pleasure and profit.

Do not forget, brethren that there are but few Lodges in the District, and unless all are represented the meeting may be small. Let none fail in this matter; and inform the Lodge at Rocky Mount who will go, so that homes may be provided for all.

JNO. K. WHEELER.
District Dep.

DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The Convention for the Eighth District, I. O. G. T., composed of the counties of Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Richmond and Robeson, will convene in the town of Lumberton, Robeson, co., on Thursday the 4th day of May, 1876, at 10 o'clock, a. m., and continue two days (three if necessary.)

Each Lodge is entitled to double its representation in the Grand Lodge.

Every Lodge is earnestly requested to send a full delegation, and to ascertain at once the number of delegates and members expected to be present, and inform Bro. S. E. Ward, Lodge Deputy, Lumberton, so that homes may be secured.

The propriety of having a Grand Rally in Philadelphia, sometime in July, in the Centennial year of our Nation's Independence, will be discussed, and it is suggested that every District Deputy in the State correspond with our G. W. C. T. on the subject, suggestive of making the National Centennial, the successful beginning of a Nation's Temperance.

W. J. STANLEY, Dis. Dep.

Temperance Lectures.

As District Deputy for the Good Templar mountain district, I will address the people on the subject of Temperance at the following places and times, viz:

- Jack's Creek, Saturday, April 2.
- Burnesville, Sunday, April, 3.
- Weaverville, Monday night, April, 4.
- Asheville, Tuesday night, April, 5.
- Old Fort, Thursday night, April, 7.
- Marion, Friday night, April, 8.
- Nebo, Saturday night, April, 9.
- Morganton, Sunday night, April, 10.
- Grassy Creek, Tuesday night, April, 12.

W. C. BOWMAN.

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Jan. 6, 1876.

G. D. RAND. L. R. WYATT.

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