

Moved by Bro. Caddick, seconded by Bro. J. M. Williams, that the hours of sitting of the Grand Lodge be from 9 a.m. till 12 noon, and from 2 o'clock p.m. till 6 p.m.—Carried.

Moved by Bro. Higginbotham, seconded by Bro. Hinchcliffe—*Resolved*, that this Grad Lodge of the S. O. E. B. S. in session assembled, do take the earliest opportunity of conveying to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, our sincere and hearty congratulations on this the 50th year of her illustrious reign, and do express our devout wish that she may long be spared to rule as she does in the fear of God over a grateful people.

That the message be cabled forthwith, and that Bros. Caddick, Clayton, Hulme, Miles and the mover be a Special Committee to draft and transmit the same.

Carried by a standing vote, the members singing "God Save the Queen," and giving three cheers for Her Majesty.

The Grand Secretary then proceeded to read the minutes of last meeting, when it was moved and seconded that the minutes be adopted as printed, with the amendment that the latter clause of amendments be referred to Committee on Constitution and Laws.

The Grand President then read his address.

ADDRESS OF GRAND PRESIDENT.

BARRIE, February 8th, 1887.

*To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge Sons of England Benevolent Society here assembled :*

BRETHREN,—It gives me much pleasure at this our Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge of our Order to bid you welcome and to give a report of my stewardship during the past year. I give it without dividence because I have confidence in you, that any mistakes or shortcomings on my part will have arisen from the head and not from the heart which beats in unison with yours for the welfare of our beloved order.

It seems but a short time since we last met in annual convention, and yet a year has passed and gone, a useful one if wisely spent, but worse than wasted if given to folly. Here we are met as representative men from nearly