

Present membership 8890; lodges 114. They expended for relief \$35,669.27, and have assets aggregating \$138,189.89. The Grand Lodge balance is \$6,596.35.

The Fraternal Correspondence Committee present a good report, reviewing in fraternal spirit all the journals received. They got the names of our officers slightly mixed. Brother John C. Henry, St. Stephen, N. B., is our Grand Keeper of Records and Seal, not Brother Logan as stated by the committee.

Next convention at Plaquemine the third Monday in May, 1896.

E. H. McCLENDON, G. C., Homer.

JNO. A. MCLEAN, G. K. R. S., Box 394, New Orleans.

WM. F. NORSWORTHY, chairman Fraternal Correspondence Committee, address not given.

MAINE.—Twenty-second annual convention, at Portland, May 16, 1894.

This journal was not issued until March, 1895, because of the difficulty in securing a member willing to undertake the preparation of the Fraternal Correspondence report, Brother Stevens being compelled to give up the work which he has for so many years done for Maine. From the standpoint of the reviewer, the work of Brother Stevens has been complete in every respect, and of especial value has been the statistical portion of his reports. As an humble admirer of Brother Stevens' work, we regret to lose him from the field of reviewers, more especially for the reasons necessitating such retirement. The hope remains, however, that he will long be spared to the Order whose interest and prosperity lie so near his heart. He takes leave of the work in the following personal paragraph:—

"Warned by a prolonged period of ill-health and burdened with increasing business responsibilities, the writer is now compelled to lay aside the pen which for within one of a score of years he has wielded as Chairman of the Maine Correspondence Committee. Not willingly, but sadly and of compulsion he now lays down the honors so long conferred by this Grand Lodge, and severs the ties which have bound him to his readers and confreres. As he writes these words, emotion's tide swells too strongly for expression. It only remains that in most heartfelt appreciation of all these honors, and in tenderest affection for the order in dear old Maine, and wherever the Pythian banner floats, he writes the word "good-bye."

M. L. S.

A special convention was held in February to receive an official visit from Supreme Chancellor Blackwell. A grand reception was given our brother, who "spoke eloquently for one hour and forty minutes" at the session; and in the evening, after an exemplification of the ranks, he again spoke "for two hours," to an audience of 1,500 enthusiastic Pythians.

In his report to the regular convention, in May, Grand Chancellor Elder says the order is still a prosperous and united brotherhood, with ninety-one lodges and a membership of fully ten thousand, with no financial embarrassments, no dissensions in its ranks and with its old timed enthusiasm in no way abated. Brother Elder had a busy term, and seems to have been looking well after the interests of Pythianism during the year.

Brother Smith gives the present membership as 9,741, a net gain of 552; suspended 244; lodges 86, a gain of 7; expended for relief \$27,333.86; assets of lodges, \$274,580.78; balance in Grand Lodge exchequer, \$426.01.

The fraternal correspondence report is from the pen of Past Grand Chancellor