

was paid to the Secretary on the 7th of January, 1898, directly after receiving notice. Bro. Williams met with an accident on the 5th of January, and claimed benefits, which the Lodge refused on the grounds that he was out of standing when taken sick.

Finding that the Lodge had complied with the Constitution and By-Laws, and that assessments are counted as dues on the 31st December; that Brother Williams when taken sick was out of standing, and only paid up after he was taken sick, I dismissed the appeal.

From Bro. J. Wriglesworth, P. G. M., against the action of Dominion Lodge, No. 4, in the mergerment with Acme Lodge, No. 14, on the grounds:

1st: That only fifteen members were present at the meeting, July 14th, 1898, when the question of mergerment was brought up, and that four voted against.

2nd: That at a very small meeting in July the Lodge appointed a committee of investigation on the members of Acme Lodge, which without leaving the lodge reported favorably on the said members, and ballotted for them at the same meeting, contrary to Section 8 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

3rd: That Dominion Lodge at a regular meeting, July 28, voted \$20.00 out of the funds of said Lodge to defray the expenses of a banquet, to take place at the time of the mergerment of the Lodges.

I found that the proceedings of the Lodge in the matter had been carried on in a justifiable manner, and dismissed the appeal on that account, but decided that it was illegal to vote the \$20.00 for the banquet.

Re: Brother W. M. Ross, of Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, against the action of the Lodge in refusing to pay him benefits:

This case had been appealed to my predecessor Bro. Morton, during his term as Grand Master, and decided on such evidence as had been produced. Brother Ross not being satisfied procured further evidence of his sickness by certificates from doctors and his own sworn affidavit.

After perusing the whole correspondence thoroughly, I decided that Bro. Ross was entitled to benefits.

From Columbia Lodge, No. 2, against the decision of the D. D. G. M. for District No. 1, on the following question:

Statement: Brother Croft ceased membership for non-payment of dues last year, and now petitions for reinstatement, sends a doctor's certificate, and pays dues. The Lodge declines to receive