REPORT OF

Bro. Thos Elliott, S.G.P.

To the Officers and Members of the Supreme Grand Lodge of the Sons of England.

A REVIEW OF THE WORK.

BROTHERS,-It is with pleasure and gratitude that I am permitted to meet and welcome you to this the nineteenth annual session of our Supreme Grand Lodge. Last year our meeting was held in the metropolis of the Dominion; this year we meet in the metropolis of the Province of Ontario, a city noted for its rapid growth, its commercial, as well as its manufacturing interests, and its well-known public enterprise. I heartily trust that those of you who do not reside here may fully enjoy your visit to the Queen City, and that se who do reside in Toronto may enjoy your visit with the brethre from a distance; and that a good fraternal spirit may prevail, so that the other cities had done, and did all as Englishmen you will greet one another as brothers.

Toronto contains some thirty-four lodges of the Order, and those of you who may feel so disposed, will find no difficulty in making a visit to some one of them, where you will receive, I am sure, a cordial reception.

In submitting for your consideration the following official report, I think I may fairly say that the year has been, considering the financial depression existing everywhere, a peaceful and

From information I have obtained from other Societies, I think we may congratulate ourselves upon being able to show an increase in our membership of some 1,500 new members, when so many of our members have been called upon to curtail their expenditures. Still, we as a people upon the whole are much better situated than many others, and especially our cousins across the line.

Immediately after last Grand Lodge meeting, I had the proper certificates ed to the District Deputies, a list of a warm welcome also. whom will be found in the Supreme Grand Lodge report, These officers have in many cases materially aided me in securing information in connec-tion with the Order in their districts,

have extended to me a cordial support in my endeavors to carry out the duties aining to my office.

ere has been but little disputing in the lodges, and few cases, indeed, of a serious nature have come before your Executive to adjudicate upon. this Supreme Grand Body will come before you for the disposal of same, and all the evidence will be laid before reficiary Department. One is re-It will be for your hon. body to say if the former shall be paid, and the latter granted, the risk being consider-

EXTENSION OF THE ORDER. During the year there have been twenty-five lodges instituted, a list of which is embodied in my report. Nine of these, I am pleased to inform you, are west of Fort William, a majority of which were instituted by the Sup. Grand Secretary and myself, during our trip through the western lodges and territories. Eleven have been instituted in Ontario-a goodly numer, when we consider the condition of the territory; I mean by this that ortunities are not so numerous as nerly; two in the Province of Quebec, and two in the Province of Nova Scotia.

Your honorable body last year granted an appropriation of five hundred dollars for the extension of the Order in the Prov. of Manitoba and the territories. After consulting several times at the Executive meet ings, as to organization, your Executive thought best that if possible an official visit should be made by the Supreme Grand President and the Grand Secretary, in order to obtain a knowledge of the members, and a general information as to the town, city or locality where it was thought a lodge might be started.

of the Order who resided some Executive, during the recess of this distance apart, that the management Grand Body, and by them referred to The number of deaths this year in other Societies.

we could, we left Toronto in September last, and commenced our journey, calling at Owen Sound, Port Arthur, Fort William, and Winnipeg, and all points where a lodge existed between that place and the Pacific coast. We met with the most cordial reception at Fort William, Winnipeg, Brandon, Calgary, Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria, in each of which places joint meetings were held and addresses given by the Sup. Grand Secretary and myself. The reception at these points will never be forgotton by us. I was certainly suprised at the musical talent displayed at Fort William. The hospitality at Winnipeg could not be exceeded. At Calgary we found enthusiastic brothers, a lodge room second to none in Toronto, and a nicely furnished reading-room in the Secretaries. rear, the table covered with the best of English magazines and journals, and open every evening, for the benefit of the members.

Vancouver and New Westminster in their power to make matters Townsend, the Past D. D. at New Westminster, can tell them with a country of magnificent distances. genial western smack. At Victoria that it would be well to leave the name, we got a genuine English wel-We were received with open arms, and many questions were asked which we were called "jolly good when we saw such men as Col. Prior, Capt. Robinson, and others, among whom I must not forget the ever-ready Bro. Critchley, it is easy accounting

I have not attempted to describe in even a small measure the pleasure that seemed to possess the brothers west at seeing us. Brandon, with its of appointment filled out and forward- juvenile lodge, turned out and gave us

I feel satisfied that the money exended, although exceeding the enefit to the Order, in the knowledge Society is now planted firmly in the vest, and I fully anticipate a good that will tend to make Englishmen come together for their mutual benefit office. in that large and vast territory of country, to which so many are now making their way, and whose children will grow up to become the mainstay of our Dominion, in their western homes. The expenditure may to some seem heavy, but when I tell you that one Society, similar to our own, paid you. There are also two from the an organizer for five months, to act for them in that country, and that garding the payment of a beneficiary after an expenditure of upwards of of our late Bro. Hall, and the other one thousand dollars, the Order was on account of refusal to grant a policy only increased by ten lodges, while we ed nine, I think you pursued was in the best interests of our beloved Society.

I might extend this part of my rean outline of the visit after our return, in the "Anglo-Saxon," it might be come wearisome; suffice it to say on this point, that I am satisfied that the aquaintance made with the brothers west, and the fund of knowledge gained, besides the spreading of the name of the Order throughout that country, by the Press-who treated us very kindly, and the new lodges instituted, has fully proved the wisdom of the course taken by your Executive. Many inquiries are now on foot that never would have been heard of by the small sum \$500 being paid to an organizer.

Patriotism is and must be a very arge feature in the extension of this the members of this Grand Lodge are Society, owing to the limited lines we are compelled to draw from, in order in recommending the changes in the to increase our membership.

· I might say that the name of the Sup. Grand Secretary was well known to the members in the west, but many of them were very little acquainted with any other of the Executive Offi-

cers, past or present. There is a small increased expendiprospects of spreading the Order in ture, as shown by the Sup. Grand branches of the institution. If this those districts. Before starting I, Secretary's returns. This is largely lodge decides to allow its name to be with the Sup. Grand Secretary, owing to the amount paid for print- used in connection with any institution shall be independent persons, or with the Sup. Grand Secretary, endeavored to open up communication with the District Deputies, the subordinate lodges, and through them, subordinate lodges, and through the subordinate lodges, and through them, subordinate lodges, and through the subordinate lodges and through the subordinate lodg with any Englishmen living in any Executive was composed of members and certified to, should be made to the provide accordingly and be consistent mecessitate changes, and different ideas

Having gathered all the information during the year has been conducted in and brought before this Supreme the Funeral Department of members as economical a manner as consistent with the interests of the Order.

It has been the practice for some time, in the city of Toronto, for members who were doing business or living adjacent to the Executive office. to call there and pay their dues to the Sun Grand Secretary, thus necessitat ing the money being passed through two or three hands before reaching the treasurer of the lodge. It was thought advisable that this should be stopped, as it entailed extra labor in the office, and disputes might arise, or mistakes be made, which might cause trouble. Your Executive there fore ordered that no money should be received from members at the executive office, and suggested that the same should be paid direct to the lodge

DISTRICT GRAND LODGES.

I found the question of establishing Grand Lodge throughout Manitoba and the Northwest provinces had been agitated in various subordinate lodges. but there was a great difference of opinion as to the advisability of establishing the same. I feel satisfied pleasant and agreeable to us. Big fish that owing to the distance apart of (yarns) abound in these cities, and Bro. the localities in which subordinate lodges may be instituted in that our trip was done. Here, on the island matter to a great extent in the hands and in the noble city with a queenly of the lodges themselves, with the privilege of allowing them to petition likewise. the Supreme Grand Lodge for the establishment of a Provincial Grand about the Order in general, in fact it Lodge or a District Grand Lodge, the would require pages to contain all latter to be composed of any number the queries put to us, for answering of lodges that would be sufficient in strength, whether existing in one fellows," and given a good western province, or conveniently located for vote of thanks. The Order on the the establishment of such District or island, at Victoria, is flourishing, and Grand Lodge, regardless of boundary.

LODGE BY-LAWS.

Your Executive have exercised onsiderable latitude in the matter of allowing the lodges west of Fort William to make by-laws not altogether consistent with the provisions as laid down in our Constitution. This privilege, I think, was wisely given, as the expense of living and procuring medical attendance, and all other matters required in the proper conducting of the lodges in that portion of our Dominion, is much greater than appropriation a little, has been well in Ontario and the eastern provinces invested, and that the effect will be of This permission was only given after careful enquiry by your Executive, obtained, and also in a better feeling and the conclusion arrived at that it Order, and that circumstances fully warranted the same. A copy of all by and solid growth in that direction, laws in which such privileges referred to were given is on file in the executive

EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

I have endeavoned during the year, to the best of my ability, to try and obtain a knowledge of the standing and working of this Society, and I feel satisfied that it is almost impossible not to say impracticable, for the Sup. Grand President to become much in touch with the lodges and members of the Society in one year. The Order covers a large territory, reaching, as it does, from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans, and numbering whole undivided time to the interests of the Order, and I have in this report port for some length, but, as I gave made suggestions with a view to this change, which I am convinced, after careful consideration, is necessary. This Order is to-day carrying a larger amount of benefits for its members, and has attached to it more financial responsibility than many of our sister ocieties which are much more expens ively managed. The time required from officers of your Executive, in order that they may obtain even a crude idea of the workings of the Order, and to keep in touch and connectedly carry the different facts of interest from one meeting of the Executive to another, and properly understand the requirements of each case, is much greater than many of aware. Knowing this, I feel justified Executive office I have referred to in another part of my report.

USE OF THE SOCIETY'S NAME.

the matter as to whether the name of sanction of the Executive, who should with what may be termed outside and the manner of paying same.

Grand Lodge, at its regular session. this Order to be used in connection with the institutions referred to above is open for considerable discussion. immediate attention and decision.

JUVENILES.

one that does not receive that fostering care which is its due, and that might be bestowed upon it by the senior portion of this Society. I feel satisfied that if properly looked after and encouraged, the Order would be well repaid in the future by the strength it would derive from the membership derived from this source. During the year there have been several members received into senior lodges from the Juveniles. The number would be greatly increased in the future, if them. A report as to their standing will be laid before you by the Supreme Grand Secretary, and I trust that some action will be taken to in some manner provide for a better Ritual and Consti tution, and give such encouragement as the junior branch deserves. I visited a mass meeting held by London Lodge, in Toronto, on their behalf, and too much credit cannot be given to members and especially their ladies, who gave such a treat as the Juveniles there received. Others should do GENERAL NOTES.

GENERAL NOTES.

The Naval Brigade has not furnishTHE BENEFICIARY ed me with any return as to their standing or improvement made during the year, therefore I am unable to make any reference or recommendation in connection therewith.

The Hospital Board, I am informed. is doing good service, and many have members of the Order should give this felt the comfort derived from the action of the brethren who are carrying on this benevolent work. I am legislation in order to make it a continunable to say the number who have ued success. received a benefit from this source, as I have no authentic information to for making assessments, and many of

During this session you will be called upon to consider the petiton of the Daughters of England for recognition, Constitution affords a proposition of which was deferred from last Supreme Grand Lodge meeting.

During the year your Executive has wice received communications from South Africa of a favorable nature. These will be dealt with by the Supreme Grand Secretary in his report.

I have also just received the Report of the Second Annual Meeting of Grand Lodge, South Africa, unfortunately too late for comment.

Your honorable body at last Grand Session nominated the Supreme Grand Secretary, Brother Canter, as lelegate to the Fraternal Association. but did not make any provision for the payment of the membership fee which mounts to the sum of fifty dollars. Upon receiving notice of meeting and equest of payment of this fee your Executive thought it wise to defer the payment of same for the consideration of this Grand body, especially as they were not convinced of a corresponding benefit for the amount claimed.

During the year the lodges Hampthe latter. This was done by Brother John Nettleton, D.D., under instructtions from the Executive.

Owing to the death of P. S. G. P. Brother Caddick the solicitorship became vacant and your Executive appointed Bro. H. L. Drayton, a Past President of St. George's, Society as olicitor for the Order.

There are three appeal cases come before this Grand body, viz.: S. Kippon vs. Moor, and those of Brother Martin and Brother Mitchell of Devon Lodge. The evidence and papers in connection with same have all been filed and will be passed over to the committee. There are also two from the Beneficiary which will require your attention.

Although, in a large measure, the Supreme Grand Secretary is held responsible for the proper carrying out of the work in the Executive office, still, I am of the opinion that any change in the staff of that office should not be made without first consulting the Executive, and all names of parties applying or receiving I think the time has arrived when appointment in said office should be this Supreme Grand Body should settle first submitted to and receive the this Order is to be used in connection fix the salary for the persons employed

The Ontario Statutes provide that the Auditors of the Beneficiary accounts

was sixty one, being a decrease of The wisdom of allowing the name of seven from last year. The number of deaths of members' wives this year and forty-nine, being a decrease of three, The number of children's deaths this and demands careful consideration and year is thirty-nine, being an increase of three. There is a slight increase of expenditure this year in this depart ment, but it is owing to the increased The Juvenile branch of this Order is amount paid at the death of a member's wife. The receipts amounted to \$10,968.45, an increase of \$808.75. The amounted expended \$8,377, the increased expenditure was \$468.00, thus leav-

ing a surplus for the year of \$340.75 The only amount paid out during the year from the Guarantee Fund was the sum of \$24, being an old claim that was unsettled in connection with Bristol Lodge. The amount received from this source was \$220.00, or \$41.79 less than last year. We have a credit of proper encouragement were given to one thousand and thirty-one dollars and ten cents to this fund. This shows that the small levy made is sufficient to maintain the same and provide for claims that may be made on this account.

The amount at the credit of Grand Lodge General Fund in 1898 was \$832.92. The amount of the same account this year, 1894, is \$1,190.87, showing an increase of \$357.95. This is a favorable showing for the year, and I think you will agree with me when I say that it denotes a desire on the part of the Executive to keep within the limit of receipts in the matter of ex-

Department seems to be working fairly well, and three calls have been paid from surplus.

There were 18 deaths in all under this department during the year, and all have been promptly paid. The department more attention, and it will require careful consideration and

There are many and varied schemes our members have had experience in other societies. It will be for you to say which you shall adopt. The new one form and the Supreme Grand Secretary, under the able advice and assistance of Bro. P. S. G. P. T. Kippon, produces another, which appeared in the Anglo-Saxon; besides that we have the present system.

My attention has been drawn to the fact that in some instances the ex-amination of candidates has been remarkably lax. This should not be, and any medical examiner known to have been derelict in his duty should be informed at once that such conduct would be rewarded by dismissal from his position.

The present Constitution is very indefinite in the provision made for the appointment of a Chief Medical Examiner, and I think it necessary that you give the matter due consideration. have made a recommendation on this point. I wish it distinctly understood that I am not finding fault with the present physician who is acting in that capacity, but that I think the officer should be chosen by this Supreme ton and Rose of Couchiching were Grand body, and that the fee paid, and malgamated, retaining the name of all matters connected with this, or any other important office, should be here acted upon and fixed.

acted upon and fixed.

I am pleased to state that the use of the Press has not been resorted to by the members to any great extent during the year for the purpose of ventilating grievances. This is commendable, and I trust will be still further discontinued in the future. We have our arbitration committees and lodge rooms, besides this Supreme Grand Lodge, in which to bring any matter of complaint, and I think they are amply sufficient for the purpose.

The Installation of Officers is not fully provided for under the present Constitution, and I have made a recommendation in connection with the same. I think if it is adopted it will result in a saving to the expense fund.

result in a saving to the expense fund, and in no way injure the workings of our Society.

The consideration of the New Constitution has been a burning question throughout the year. The various sudordinate lodges have no doubt fully serviced the second of the New Constitution has been a burning question throughout the year. The various sudordinate lodges have no doubt fully serviced the second of the seco considered the matter, and you as their delegates are in many instances prepared to vote upon its adoption or jection. There are many points com-mendable in the New Constitution, and mendable in the New Constitution, and there are some that require a very guarded examination. The matter of expenses must be carefully watched. I do not wish to try and exercise an undue influence on the minds of the delegates, even if I could, but I am persuaded that by careful management and judicious legislation in the matter of amendments, and a proper indexing, that the Old Constitution will be found to answer a good purpose, if necessary, for a little time yet. There are many who think different, the majority must rule. I care not what Constitution you get it will be awarded from time DAUGH

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