

statistics and general information. I am not aware of any complaint having been lodged, in contravention of the general harmony so vitally necessary to the comfort and prosperity of the bodies and members of our obedience, since our last meeting, and I have not been called upon to exercise my prerogative as your presiding officer otherwise than in the most pleasant way. I hope that Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island will be heard from. Your Finance matters I leave to your proper officers, the Ill.^l. Treasurer and Secretary General, who, I have no doubt, will afford you satisfactory information. To each and all of the above mentioned officers I offer my thanks for their kind and willing help. The duties of your Secretary General occupy his time more and more every passing year; but he never wearies in well doing—in all things making my own high and honored office nearly a sinecure.

Before, however, proceeding to other matters, I have the great pleasure of officially making known to the Supreme Council that bodies of our Rite have been established in Manitoba and British Columbia, and they are working, I have every reason to believe, harmoniously and satisfactorily. As regards Manitoba, a reference to our last Proceedings will show that a petition was presented from that Province for a "Lodge of Perfection," the granting of which was approved by the Supreme Council, who thought proper to leave the execution and details in the hands of the Sov.^l. Grand Commander and Secretary General. I may mention here, that for several reasons—as well to avoid unnecessary expense and a second journey—and considering the great distance of both Manitoba and British Columbia, and the understood wishes of the Brethren, "Chapters of Rose Croix" were likewise organized.

Acting upon my conferred authority, I arranged with Ill.^l. Brother MURTON, for him to proceed to Winnipeg as your deputy, which he did in April last, at great personal inconvenience and to the detriment of his business affairs, but he cheerfully undertook the long, fatiguing journey of some 2,800 miles of railway travel, for the love he feels for our Rite, his anxiety for its spread and prosperity, and a brotherly desire to meet and further the wants and wishes of your petitioners, residing in a far distant part of your jurisdiction. Full details are of course ready to be furnished. If I understood aright the feeling of the Supreme Council as to remuneration, &c., you will not disapprove my action thereon. Our Illustrious Brother MURTON felt very shy about making a specific charge, and therefore I authorized him, after returning to the Manitoba Brethren one moiety of the fees received from them, to retain the balance, to secure him from actual loss, and I trust that this course will result in your confirmation, and all the more so, because the bodies of the Rite established were fully organized free from outlay from the Supreme Council funds, while those funds were credited with the Warrant and Certificate Fees, Rituals, &c., as a direct result.

Ill.^l. Brother MURTON reports that we have among our members the Grand Master and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, and others who are Masters and Pastmasters, and men of means and position.

I have not, however, done with Manitoba yet. Subsequent to Ill.^l. Brother MURTON's visit, I learned that the Brethren there desired to possess, as soon as