

The Board find the books of the Grand Secretary and the present Grand Treasurer, accurately and neatly kept.

The Board have been furnished with vouchers proving the correctness of the entries.

At the same time, the Board beg to notice the lavish manner in which the funds of Grand Lodge have been expended for printing, &c., &c., and trust that some means may be adopted to prevent a recurrence of such expenditure, and would recommend that the printing in future should be let out to tender, and that no sum be paid by the Grand Secretary or Grand Treasurer without a specific order for the same.

The Board recommend that the sum of twenty dollars be offered to R. W. Bro. Murray, for his stock of Book of Constitution, numbering 200 copies, provided that they are all of the latest issue printed.

The Board are pleased to notice the system inaugurated by the present Grand Treasurer in securing Grand Lodge from possible loss, by a policy in the Citizens Insurance and Investment Association, and highly recommend the payment of the premium by Grand Lodge.

The Board find a balance on hand belonging to Benevolent Fund of \$142.09, and that this fund has now invested forty shares of City of Montreal Corporation six per cent. bonds, equal to \$4,000.00.

4th. The Board of General Purposes beg to report with reference to the complaint of Zetland Lodge, No. 13,—

That the questions submitted for the decision of the Board in the said complaint, were finally settled by the joint conference of the Committees of the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Lodge of Quebec, held in this City, on the 17th day of February, 1874, and subsequently confirmed by those Grand Lodges, as will appear upon reference being had to the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year 1875, pages 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75.

and the said reports were severally received and adopted.

The Grand Chaplain then delivered the following address :—

*M. W. Sir and Brethren :*

I take it that I shall best fulfil the object of this address, which is imposed upon me by the kindness of the Grand Lodge in electing me to this honorable position, by calling attention to and commending the great practical object for which our order exists in the world.

It is a matter of the last importance to us that this object should be clearly understood. Beyond all gainsaying, Freemasonry is now a great power in society, and that power is rapidly increasing. It is to be found more or less widely diffused in almost every portion of the civilized world ; and it numbers among its members a considerable proportion of the leading and influential men in every community, where its branches have been established. So widespread an organization cannot exist without having on its hands a large measure of power, which it may exercise either for good or for evil. Whether it is to be exercised for good or for evil, will depend to a large extent upon the character of the men who are at its head. According as they are true and upright men or the reverse, so will they give direction to the activity of the Order. Hence it is not at all surprising that in some countries Freemasonry should occupy a much higher place in public esteem than it does in others. Hence too the necessity for the utmost care and watchfulness as to the character of those who are placed in responsible offices. They should ever be men who can be depended on to stand on the right side and set a