

The financial statement of the Grand Lodge of New York shows that the expenditure for "charity" was only \$265! From the same source it is learned that the "representatives to the Grand Lodge" received \$18,475. The New York brethren are evidently firm believers in the maxim that charity begins at home.

MYSTIC SHRINE.—By a circular received, we learn the grand feast of the ninth month of Hejra 1298, Ashshahr Ar-Ramadan, in which the glorious Koran was sent down from Heaven, was held at eight o'clock, p. m., on Thursday, September 29, 1881, at Almasjid Al-Haram, in Masonic Temple, N. Y. A Haj of forty members of Al-Koran Temple of Cleveland were present, and many illustrious Nobles from other temples. The evening devotions were promptly observed.

LONDON MASONIC MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.—This insurance association, organized in 1870, has proved to be one of the most successful societies of the kind established in connection with the craft. It already has a reserve fund of \$34,000. In addition to its being a life insurance company, there is provision made for a member "disabled by accident, loss of sight, hand, arm or leg," whereby he receives "fifty cents from each member of the association, but at death his representatives will only be entitled to the sum of fifty cents from each member." The membership is now fifteen hundred and constantly increasing. Our brethren should avail themselves of the advantages of this society. There were

no death claims last month. Wor. Bro. John Hargreaves, London, Ont., is special agent.

The 'Masonic Chronicle,' Columbus, Ohio, is anxious for the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction to decide "what constitutes a fatal defect in a candidate for initiation." The idea is a good one, but as no two men can ever be found to agree upon the subject, it will be rather difficult to settle. The physical qualification test has never, we believe, been recognised by the Grand Lodges of Europe, and so far as we are concerned, we fail to understand why a man should be rejected because he happens to have one toe off, any more than if he were minus a tooth or an eye.

MASONIC TEMPLE BENEVOLENT GIFT ENTERPRISE.—The London brethren, in order to relieve themselves of the debt upon their magnificent Temple, have determined to get up a Benevolent Gift enterprise; a certain proportion of the proceeds will be devoted to charitable purposes, a certain proportion will be offered to the Benevolent Fund of Grand Lodge, and the balance over and above that and the actual expenses will go towards liquidating the debt upon the Temple. The London brethren have a heavy job upon their hands, and we therefore hope their enterprise will prove successful. The London Temple is the only one worthy of the name in Ontario, and as a large proportion of the proceeds is to be devoted to charitable purposes we trust no efforts will be made to cast cold water on the scheme.