

of St. George, to meet our Executive in Toronto. As the notice was so short I could only get a few of our Toronto members together—consisting of the G. V. P. Skippon, P. G. P. Caddick, Dr. Pollard, and Bro. Prior. We received the deputation in Shaftesbury Hall with becoming respect, and discussed the question of amalgamation for over two hours, the result was the following resolution was drawn up and carried unanimously:—"That in the opinion of the meeting it would be for the interest of the two societies that they should become amalgamated." This resolution was passed without prejudice, and it was agreed that a circular based upon the resolution should be drawn up and submitted to the lodges for their consideration. The deputation was highly pleased with our progress, and thanked us for our kind reception. As the question will come legally before this Grand Lodge for discussion through a motion from Surrey Lodge, No. 11, I need not enter more fully into the matter at this stage than to say that the case stands in precisely the same position as it did in the year 1882, when, after a visit to the Grand Lodge Officers at Buffalo by the M. W. G. P. Bro. Venables and myself, a report was presented to the Grand Lodge (see printed proceedings, pages 20, 21, Grand Lodge Records, 1882,) of which the following resolution of Committee on Correspondence was adopted by Grand Lodge:—"That after due and careful consideration of the question of affiliation in all its bearings, so far as presented to them, conclude that, for constitutional and other reasons, it would be inexpedient and impracticable to effect a closer union than that of brotherly regard as Englishmen, and sincere interest in each other's welfare, and therefore recommend that no action be taken, but would suggest that some arrangements might be mutually entered into by the two Grand Bodies by which members of each order could extend to each other to some extent the benevolent benefits and advantages of their respective orders." Signed by the Rev. Dr. Clark, as chairman, and Bros. Caddick, Skippon, C. E. Smith, T. Hastings, Wm. Miles, and B. Lowen. The Executive intrusted me with the drawing up of a circular to the lodges embodying the resolution passed at the meeting of the joint committee in Shaftesbury Hall on the 21st of August, but the difficulties surrounding the question were so peculiar and complex that I asked to be relieved from that duty. The matter was accordingly left over for the consideration of this Grand Body. Copies of correspondence with the Grand Secretary Sons of St. George will be laid upon the table. For official correspondence with Mr. Williams, Grand Secretary, see Letter Book, folios 418, 563, 642, and 756.

In compliance with resolution passed at last Grand Lodge Meeting (see printed proceedings, page 49,) and by request of Executive Council, after several unsuccessful attempts, we succeeded, in company with Bro. Ald. J. C. Swait, who is a representative to this Grand Body, and Bro. J. S. Williams, who also represented the A. O. F., in obtaining an interview with the Rt. Hon. Sir John Macdonald in reference to the passing by the Dominion Government of a Benevolent and Friendly Societies' Act similar to the one in Great Britain. Your deputation was received by Sir John with great cordiality. We explained the object of our interview, the standing of our