

those that involve the incurring of debts and payments of moneys, and an interest in the common property.

"There is no more reason why a member cannot be deprived temporarily of these without trial, and *ipso facto* upon default, than there is in the use of any other association or body of men, because the rights are in their nature secular and not Masonic. \* \* \*

"I am not called on to decide of what other rights a person so suspended is temporarily deprived, and need only say that such a suspension, without charges, trial and conviction of unworthiness can deprive the party of no right possessed by a Mason who has never become a member of a Lodge. His individual claim on individual Masons remains unaffected, and does not affect his standing elsewhere."

"The idea involved appears to be settled by the Constitutions of Grand Lodge itself, which applies to its Lodges the same principle as some of the Lodges apply to their members. For instance, section 14, page 24:—

"Should any Lodge have neglected to make its returns and payments to the Grand Lodge for the year previous to the Annual Communication, the Master, Wardens, or other representatives of such lodge shall not be permitted to attend such Annual or any subsequent meeting of Grand Lodge, until such returns and payments shall have been completed."

"The Committee, therefore, are of the opinion that as the by-law does not affect a brother's standing outside of his own Lodge, it may be left entirely to the discretion of Lodges whether or not they make such laws, and they therefore recommend that the Board offer the following amendment to the above resolution:—

"Resolved,—That while, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, a Mason is entitled to all the rights and privileges of the fraternity, until he be suspended, excluded or expelled, after having undergone a regular trial, there is nothing in the general regulations of the Craft to prevent Lodges, if they desire to do so, enacting a by-law, providing that brethren in arrears of dues on the night of the annual election in their Lodge shall not be eligible to vote at such election or to hold office.

"Respectfully submitted,

JOHN V. ELLIS,

T. NISBET ROBERTSON."

The resolution was not adopted but laid over for consideration at next annual communication. No report on Foreign Correspondence.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary both re-elected.

30 Lodges, with a membership of 2148.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE—1874.

The Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was held at Masonic Hall, in Manchester, 30th December, 1873.