

of the five lodges composing it gave in their adhesion to the new Grand Lodge; and the Supreme Council, having surrendered all control over Symbolic Lodges in Peru, approved of the formation of the Grand Lodge. I recommend the application for recognition to your consideration.

Spain.—On the 4th of May, 1881, the Grand Lodge of Spain was formed by the representatives of a number of Symbolic Lodges, and elected Juan Antonio Perez, G. M. As there appears to be considerable confusion regarding the several Supreme Masonic Bodies in Spain, it will be as well to allow this application for recognition to remain in abeyance until we can make further enquiries, and are in possession of such information as will warrant us in recognizing the Grand Lodge.

Mexico.—A communication has been received asking for the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Mexico, but we have nothing to show that this body has been legally constituted.

BENEVOLENCE.

I regret to observe that some of our brethren are in the habit of finding fault with Grand Lodge for accumulating a large amount of money, evidently under the impression that proper regard is not given to applications for assistance. As this is an entire misapprehension, it may be well to state for their information that every proper application for relief is promptly responded to, and that Grand Lodge expended in benevolence from 1867 to 1875, \$32,886, and from 1876 to 1882, both years inclusive, \$71,396.5¢, or nearly \$10,200 a year has been expended in aiding those requiring assistance, during the past seven years. As the receipts of Grand Lodge are less than \$15,000 a year, omitting interest on investments, and the expenditure over \$15,000, it can easily be seen that had the "spend-as-you-go" policy been followed in the past, it would have been fatal to the financial standing of Grand Lodge at the present time.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The Receipts of Grand Lodge for year ended 31st May, 1883, were.....	\$18,014 90
The Expenditure.....	15,524 52

Excess of Receipts over Expenditure	\$2,520 38
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Cash on hand the same date....	\$67,719 63
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FIRE IN KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

In December last a circular was received making appeal for aid for our brethren who were suffering by the calamitous fire which occurred at Kingston, Jamaica, in December last. After consulting with the President of the Board of General Purposes, and the President of the Committee on Benevolence, it was deemed advisable to aid our distressed brethren promptly. A draft for £100 stg., or \$488.33, was sent to Jamaica on the 31st January last, and it has been thankfully acknowledged.

IMPOSTORS.

My attention has been called to the necessity which exists for exercising greater caution in admitting visitors to our lodges, and as the complaints of too much laxity appear to be well founded, I am of opinion that it would be advisable to require every visitor, who is not intimately known to the members of the lodge he is about to visit, to produce his Grand Lodge certificate, or a properly authenticated certificate from the lodge from which he is or was last a member.

INFRINGEMENT OF JURISDICTION.

Trenton Lodge, No. 8, Trenton, Michigan, complains that Thistle Lodge, No. 34, Amherstburg, of our jurisdiction, has conferred the degrees of Masonry upon a resident of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Michigan. The particulars of this case are not known to me. I directed the Grand Secretary to ask for information, and to assure the Grand Master of Michigan that I trust nothing may arise in connection with this matter to disturb the harmony existing between the Grand Bodies,