

by Initiation, setting forth in their petition for membership, that they have never been suspended or expelled from any Lodge, and that they are unable to obtain evidence of their former connection with the Order.

The Grand Sire in his address, speaking of Father Wildey says, who could have anticipated such results, that the one Lodge founded by him on the 26th of April 1819, composed of only five members, should gather a nucleus of four thousand Lodges, with over two hundred thousand members, and the Order should have so prospered that in this latter year of its existence it would expend \$300,000 for the relief of its members, \$70,000 for the relief of widowed families, \$100,000 for the education of orphans, and \$60,000 for burying the dead; nearly half a million in one year for this great cause of human benefaction, and this by Lodges representing the Northern and Western States; and still there is a reserve fund of more than one million of dollars for continued usefulness. Who can estimate the good to the world at large resulting from the dissemination of the principles upon which Odd Fellowship is based. By their fruits ye shall know them, and the noble deeds of Father Wildey bespeak the usefulness of his life. His name and remembrance of his deeds will live while Friendship, Love, and Truth endures; it is but for me to announce his death—it is for you to prepare a more deserving tribute to his memory.

In view of the high estimation in which Father Wildey was held by the Grand Lodge, a Committee was appointed consisting of one from each Jurisdiction, to report upon some suitable action to be taken by the Grand Lodge, when they submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted.

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, instructing its representation to bring before the Grand Lodge of the United States, the fitness, propriety and justice of the erection of such a monument to the memory of Past Grand Sire Wildey, as shall be alike worthy of his eminent character, as the Father and Founder of American Odd Fellowship, and becoming the supreme Legislative Head of the Order, over whose deliberations he so long and so ably presided, and in furtherance of this object that the co-operation of all sister Jurisdictions be invited, to the end that the offering may be the spontaneous and united tribute of the brotherhood at large, beg leave to report that the Committee regard it as eminently proper that the proposed monument should be erected under the auspices and direction of the Grand Lodge of the United States, representing as it does, the Order of Odd Fellows on this Continent, to which the lifetime of the deceased has been devoted, and to which belong his memory and fame. The Committee submit the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the United States most cordially reciprocate the sentiments expressed in the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of the State of Maryland, touching the fitness and justice of an appropriate memorial in commemoration of the services of the late Past Grand Sire, Thomas Wildey; and regarding the erection of a suitable tablet or monument to his memory, as properly an offering in which the whole brotherhood should have an opportunity to unite, in view of the obligations which the Order at large owe to his long and valued and successful efforts in the cause of Odd Fellowship, do hereby commend the subject to the several Grand Bodies for their respectful consideration and earnest co-operation.

Resolved, further, That for the purpose of bringing this subject intelligibly before the Order, the Corresponding Secretary be, and is hereby directed to address a circular letter to each Grand Body, respectively requesting them to submit the subject to their several Subordinates, and that such sums as may be contributed by individual brothers, or Lodges, or Encampments, may be received by the Grand Secretaries or Grand Scribes of such Jurisdictions, by them to be forwarded to the Grand Corresponding Secretary; to be placed by him in the Treasury of the

Grand
the W

Res
receiv
be rep

Res
is not
ment
apply

Res
no de
volun
ment
under
amou

Fro
Order
vail,
conse

Th
the R
millea
Treas
Gran

Th
Gran
instal

I
I
I
I

I
I
I
I

Th
Ord
Sessi

Th
not to
Alaba
mont

A
from
consi

D
open