

"ing extract from his report, dated October 31, 1884, is interesting, as showing
"how necessary a system of charitable disbursement is:—

"Since the institution of the Masonic Lodge of Relief in this city, the ques-
"tion of dispensing its charity to the worthy, and adopting a means of suppress-
"ing the unworthy, has been a question of much moment. During the term just
"closed, the Lodge of Relief has been in correspondence with all the Grand
"Jurisdictions of the United States, Canada, and parts of Europe, for the pur-
"pose of effecting a more thorough system of dispensing Masonic charity to the
"worthy, and to put a check upon the numerous impostors that are daily pre-
"senting themselves for relief. Our proposed system has been very favorably
"commented upon, with a fair prospect that in the near future it will come into
"general practice.

"The experience of the Lodge of Relief during the past term with those seek-
"ing assistance has been such as to lead to the belief that fully two-thirds of the
"applicants are unworthy. Correspondence with other jurisdictions develop
"the fact that we are not alone in our experience, but that it is evident that a
"number of beats have been tramping the country, working Masonic bodies in
"all directions.

"These facts are produced by our system of exchange, which we hope to
"make more perfect in the future, and by which it is confidently expected that
"an effectual stop will be put to all, or at least a greater portion, of the imposi-
"tions on Masonic charity."

From a statistical table annexed to the report we learn that from Canada there
were five male and three female applicants for relief. Of these, four of the former
sex and two of the latter were assisted to the extent of \$27.54, or an average
of \$4.59.

The Grand Librarian reports that on January 3rd, 1885, at Masonic Hall,
was formally opened by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York its *Free
Reading Room* to the Masonic fraternity, where not only the members of the craft
of that jurisdiction, but all from every land are welcomed. There are on file a
daily paper from every principal city in the United States, and one from London,
England; and Paris, France; besides the illustrated weekly papers, and the
American and foreign monthly magazines, and the Masonic magazines and news-
papers from all nations. Convenient tables and writing materials have been pro-
vided for those who have correspondence. This is indeed putting Masonry to
practical good use.

The Grand Lodge of New York is to be congratulated on possessing so com-
petent a librarian as Bro. Herman C. Carter. No doubt but that he is "the
right man in the right place."

The Finance Committee report the

Total receipts for the past year from all sources.	\$138,069 05
Disbursements for like period	113,036 86
Leaving a balance of.....	\$ 25,032 19
Statistics:—Lodges in good standing.....	624
Number of Master Masons.....	72,376