

members, 4,258; receipts, \$8,282.00. Annual Convocation, 24th.

The Grand High Priest reports three new Chapters, and on this subject he says:—

"While the list of new Chapters that have been organized under dispensation does not cut a large figure among the numerals, it is not for this reason to be taken for granted that, therefore, there is a lack of interest in or a diminution of the numbers of membership, nor that the increase of former years has been suspended. An examination of the returns from the various subordinates within the jurisdiction demonstrates that in this respect we have not lowered our standard, and also that a healthy increase is not dependent upon the creation of new Chapters.

"Some of the oldest organized have for several years past, hardly kept their roster good, and the work done has not been sufficient to beget or keep alive any enthusiasm or interest, and these in many instances, have received a baptism of new life and renewed activity, resulting in large accessions to the several bodies. This is as it should be. We want strong and well-supported organizations. Nothing will be lost if we cease forming new companies, but keep on recruiting for the old. Let us become solidified and compact, and we may do much. Where the entire resources are necessarily devoted to the defraying of current expenses, but little good can reasonably be looked for. A weakly, sickly Chapter, one that lives dying and dies living, is a sorry Masonic spectacle."

He appointed M. E. Comp. James Seymour as Representative near Canada, and hopes we may be united in closer fraternal relations.

The Grand Secretary reports good progress in their Library. He is very enthusiastic in this matter, and labors diligently in procuring all the Books and Proceedings it is possible to obtain.

A special committee was appointed on the subject of the session of the Council degrades to the control of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary continues his publication of biographical sketches of their eminent members, and other historical matters. These sketches are accompanied by handsome portraits of their distinguished companions; and form a very pleasing and interesting addition to the proceedings. We are always extra glad to receive "Iowa," as these biographical notices give a personal interest in their doings, by bringing us face to face, as it were, with the

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