

received the recommendation from R. W. Bro. Chas. D. Chitty, D.D.G.M., that a regular warrant be granted, should it be decided to act on Bro. Chitty's advice, I venture to suggest that the No. 22 on the roll of Lodges now vacant by the return of the warrant of former Aylmer Lodge be granted to the new body now created in that town, and that No. 61, the number formerly held by Onslow Lodge, now extinct, be given to Portage du Fort Lodge, thus filling up two of the blank numbers on our roll.

I am happy to be enabled to direct your attention to evidence of the continued success of this Grand Lodge in its financial position, notwithstanding the fact that the year just completed has been one of considerable depression in trade; our income from usual resources which under the circumstances might be supposed to be less, is larger than it was for the previous year, whilst our expenditure is about the same.

I am pleased also to be able to state for your information that since my last report our numbers have increased, in January, 1885, we had 58 Lodges on our roll, now we have 60, then we had a total membership of 2,728, our aggregate now is 2822, and this notwithstanding the effect of the change in our Constitution made last year in virtue of which quite a large number of our brethren have been cut off for non-payment of dues.

I desire to announce that a greater degree of promptness has been exhibited by our Lodges this year in their returns and payments of dues, the following named only were in arrears for twelve months at the closing up of the books, Antiquity No. 1, St. Francis No. 15, Frelighsburg No. 33, Doric No. 34, Excelsior No. 46, Mount Orford No. 48, Olive Branch No. 50, Lake Magog No. 55; of these, Antiquity No. 1, and Mount Orford No. 48 have since handed in the required reports and paid dues. Excelsior No. 46 has failed to make returns or pay dues since March 1881.

There has been received during the year just closed, the sum of \$1,937.25, which amount has been by me duly paid over to the R. W. Grand Treasurer, for annual dues of members, initiations, affiliations, Grand Lodge certificates, dispensation, life membership and arrears, a detailed statement of which is hereto annexed.

The lodges being in arrears of dues for one year or upwards, are under the operation of the Constitution, debarred from attending the present meeting of Grand Lodge, or taking part in its proceedings.

The additions to our Library consist only of the annual reports received during the year from sister Grand Lodges.

I ask to be permitted to add to the Library Bro. Rob Morris' recently published book of Masonic poems.

JOHN H. ISAACSON,
Grand Secretary.

MONTREAL, 27th January, 1886.

On the motion of V. W. Bro. W. Simpson Walker, seconded by W. Bro. John Shaw, the Grand Secretary's report was referred to the Committee on the State of Masonry.