

position is "subversive of that well known principle that a man is presumed to be innocent until proved guilty; the only effect of undecided charges is to deprive the member of the right to take a travelling or visiting card, and, where the charges bear upon the right to benefits, to suspend the payment thereof until a final decision," (see Journal 2132, 2174), and "that the same be re-affirmed."

GENERAL DECISIONS BY RESOLUTION.

Decisions were also made by the Grand Lodge upon Reports from the examining committees and resolutions, as follows:

1st.—That printed copies of appeals made in conformity to the law, be received.

2nd.—That the necessity of submitting for approval all amendments to Constitutions of State Grand Bodies, whether of a purely local or general character, is imperative.

3d.—That after a visiting brother has been once regularly examined and introduced, the examination and introduction in form, *may* be subsequently dispensed with, if the Lodge is so minded, "provided the presiding officer shall find the card of the visiting brother to be in date."

4th.—That in Grand Lodges, Past Grands *may* be deprived of their right to vote (unless they be special Representatives) except in the election of Grand officers: and that in the case of such elections, after the opportunity of voting has been once allowed, the Grand Lodge may limit the privilege to special Representatives, or in any other manner define its exercise. Also, that in no case can any one be allowed to vote for the officers of any Grand Body but those properly qualified for membership therein.

5th.—That, as the term "in good standing" embraces those brothers "holding unexpired withdrawal cards," and as, after the expiration of twelve months from date "the card becomes null and void, and of no value," and "the holders of them are beyond the jurisdiction of the Order," being already adjudged by the Grand Lodge of the United States; a brother holding a final card over one year in date, cannot legally be an applicant for a dispensation to open a new Lodge. This decision, although correct, was deemed to bear hardly on some remote and sparsely settled jurisdictions; and the legislative committee have now in charge the subject of the expediency of legislating for their relief.

6th.—"That whenever a Lodge, Encampment, or member of the Order, authorized by existing laws to introduce testimony in any proceeding, may desire the testimony of a non-resident witness, such Lodge, Encampment or member may take the deposition of such witness in the mode described by the resolution of this R. W. Grand Lodge, passed at the session of 1857, and to be found on page 2738 of the Journal." This was adopted to extend equal facilities in this important subject to all parties interested in a judicial proceeding.