

cases these annual payments are of considerable amount. It is proposed to raise the funds required for the objects referred to by a similar method, but confining the annual payments to a sum so trifling as to be hardly felt by individual brethren. It is believed a sum of *twopence per month*, or 2s. per annum, contributed by each brother, will enable the Grand Lodge to proceed to carry into effect the objects proposed.

There are at present on the Grand Lodge Roll, in good working order, 387 lodges.

It has been found on a careful estimate, that of these lodges there are members on their respective Rolls, who are interested in Freemasonry, as follows, viz. :—

6	having	200	Members	.....	1,200
121	"	100	"	.....	12,100
167	"	50	"	.....	8,350
73	"	30	"	.....	2,190
20	"	15	"	.....	300
<hr/>					<hr/>
387					24,140

From this it will be observed that a contribution of 2d. per month from each brother would yield an annual revenue of £2,414.

This amount may be raised through the ordinary masonic organization of lodges, and to a certain extent may be considered compulsory, but I should indeed be disappointed if a very considerable sum could not be added to it by the voluntary subscription and annual donations of individual members of the Craft who are interested in the welfare of the Order.

The allocation of the income to be thus obtained, to the different objects above referred to, it is intended to leave to the disposal and discretion, from time to time, of the Grand Lodge.

It has further occurred to me that something might be done towards improving the financial position of the Grand Lodge by reducing the expenditure incurred in the management of its affairs.

It is impossible for any one at all conversant with these affairs not to perceive that the duties might be performed by fewer officials at considerably less cost. At present the business is managed by a Grand Secretary at a salary of £315, and a Grand Clerk at a salary of £210— together, £525.

Now the labor, although no doubt considerable, is not of such a character as to require the services of both of these officials, and therefore, with every regard to the claims of these gentlemen, I propose to consolidate these offices, and to assign £325 to a Grand Secretary, in full for his own services and those of any clerk he may require in the management of the business, by which a saving of £200 per annum would be effected, and I am convinced the efficiency of the office would be in no degree impaired.

I trust that the Masters of lodges, as well as individual brethren, will take this matter into consideration, and lend their zealous support towards carrying the scheme into practical effect.

I remain, R. W. Sir, yours fraternally,

ROSSLYN,

Grand Master.