

and 4 who do not exemplify any part of the work. There are 21 lodge rooms leased at rentals varying from \$50 a year to \$200, and 6 lodge rooms owned by the Craft, the latter valued at about \$13,000, and insured for about \$8,000. The value of the furniture in all the lodge rooms is about \$19,000; insured for about \$11,000. The assets of all the lodges are about \$50,000, and the liabilities about \$4,000, and the arrears of dues over one year about \$2,000. The arrears over one year, prior to December last, would be about \$4,000, so that my efforts to reduce the amount during the year have been partially successful. I also urged the necessity of seeing that the lodge buildings, if owned, and the furniture should be insured and an inventory of the furniture kept outside the lodge room.

The Work of Relief.

Although the work of the General Boards of Relief in this district does not come directly under the supervision of the D. D. G. M., I have great pleasure in testifying to the excellent work done by the Toronto Board and the studied care and economy used in the disposal of the funds subscribed by the lodges in Toronto and granted by Grand Lodge. The work of relief has been materially aided by the affiliation of the Toronto Board with the General Board of Relief of the United States and Canada, for by adopting the rules and the rigid means of examination laid down by the general association, assisted by the warning circulars issued monthly from the head office at Baltimore, containing accurate descriptions of Masonic tramps and others unworthy of assistance, hundreds of dollars have been saved to the Craft in this district. Experience has shown that in Toronto eight out of every ten applying for assistance are unworthy. In every case where assistance has been solicited the wires have been used all over the continent, and with good effect, the rule being wire first, where possible, or if not, give limited assistance and use the post. Cases have been cited where a wire has saved an expenditure in relief of many dollars. The cost of affiliation to the General Association is trifling, being one cent *per capita*, so that if Grand Lodge affiliated at a cost of \$191, every lodge in the jurisdiction would receive a warning circular. Toronto Board and the General Association have requested me to suggest the affiliation of Grand Lodge to the General Association. In the United States the results for good have been marvellous, over 200 frauds being detected last year.

In Conclusion.

It is gratifying for me to state that my visit to the lodges seem to have given general satisfaction. This is the first year, with one exception, for twelve years that all the lodges have been visited by a D. D. G. M., and the first oc-

casional since Grand Lodge was rounder that all the lodges have been visited twice. Although in many cases I had to express my opinions on the work and conduct of lodges sharply and freely, my views were accepted in a kindly and fraternal spirit, the W. M.'s feeling that the admonition was necessary, that they had justly deserved the criticism given, and promising that in the future like faithful Craftsmen, they would endeavour to profit by the advice, and co-operate with one another in their respective lodges in rendering the duties of their offices in a manner that would not only be a credit to the district, but to the Craft in this jurisdiction. I trust that my efforts may commend themselves to you, M. W. Sir, the officers and members of Grand Lodge.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON,

D.D.G.M., Eleventh District.

Toronto, 1st July, 1887.

A MEETING of the joint committee appointed by the various Masonic lodges of Hamilton, in response to a request by the managers of the Queen's Jubilee celebration, was held on the 3rd ult. After due consideration it was deemed inexpedient for the Order, as such, to participate in the procession. At the same time the fraternity wished every success to the celebration. Hundreds of their number doubtless took part in it as members of the volunteer force, as school trustees, aldermen and members of other public bodies. This was a wise decision, and the only one open to the meeting.

On the 3rd ult., at Hamilton, the remains of the late Bro. Joseph Hancock were interred at Burlington Cemetery. There was a large turnout of friends and acquaintances of the deceased, and a delegation from St. John's Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was present. Rev. T. Goldsmith officiated and the beautiful service of the fraternity was read by W. Bro. W. R. Job, assisted by R. W. Bro. Bull, V. W. Bro. C. R. Smith and W. Bro. John Hoodless. The pall-bearers were V. W. Bro. C. R. Smith, W. Bro. W. Hancock, Bros. H. Hammill, Wm. Findlay and T. H. Butler.