

—, at Aylmer, were respectively destroyed by fire in the month of March last; duplicate warrants were at once prepared and forwarded to them free of charge. I believe that neither of these Lodges had effected insurance upon their Lodge property, and I would now earnestly advise all our Lodges to avail themselves of the protection afforded by a policy in a good insurance company.

FINANCES.

On examining the accounts submitted by R. W. Bro. Groff, our most efficient and trustworthy Grand Treasurer, I am much pleased to be able to report that our finances are in a most satisfactory condition. In advance of the report of the Auditors, I submit the following extracts of grand totals:—

Investments—Stocks.....	\$38 800 00
“ Bank of Toronto.....	1 681 66
“ Bank of Commerce.....	15 653 58
Total.....	\$56 135 24
Carried to credit of General Fund.....	\$22 969 98
“ “ Asylum Fund.....	6 481 66
“ “ Investment Benevolence.....	15 979 20
“ “ Benevolence Account.....	1 604 20
	\$56 135 24

FORMS, ETC.

During the present session I hope to be able to submit, first for the consideration of the Board of General Purposes, and afterwards for your approval, with a view to secure greater uniformity:—Forms of procedure to be used in Masonic trials. The ceremonies and forms to be used at installation of officers of a Lodge, and at the dedications of Masonic Halls. These have been prepared since our last annual communication, and, when approved, will, I hope, be ordered to be made known to those having to act on the same in a due Masonic manner. I have here to acknowledge the valuable services of my learned and R. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, in preparing the first of these, and for the latter I am much indebted to the labours of that most zealous, intelligent, and hard-working brother, R. W. Bro. Klotz.

CORNER STONE DEDICATIONS, 1873.

July 18th. At Port Hope, assisted by the brethren of that beautiful and thriving town, and by large numbers from Peterboro', Cobourg, and elsewhere, I laid the corner stone of a chapel and dining-hall in connection with Trinity College School. The interest in the proceedings was much enhanced by the attendance of a large number of the clergy, and by the presence of the boys attending the College. A banquet, given by the Masons of Port Hope, formed a pleasing termination in my very pleasant visit.

Aug. 20th. I laid with Masonic ceremonies on this day the corner stone of an Episcopal Church at Parkill, on which occasion I was assisted by the D. G. M., and a large attendance of our western brethren. R. W. Bro. Innes, the present Grand Chaplain, also took part in the proceedings. Our reverend brother is now slowly recovering from a dangerous illness, which, I regret to say, will prevent his attendance at this meeting.

Aug. 21st. I visited Doric Lodge, No. 289, Lobo, and dedicated their new hall. Past D. D. G. M. Westlake, and a number of brethren from London were present and assisted me in the ceremonies.

Sept. 5th. The corner stone of a Methodist Episcopal Church was laid at Teeswater, on which occasion I was ably represented by R. W. Bro. Harding, D. D. G. M., of the Huron District.

Sept. 20th. A similar ceremony took place at New Boyne. The work was most efficiently performed by R. W. Bro. Reynolds, D. D. G. M. of the St. Lawrence District, who kindly acted for me on that occasion.

Sept. 24th. The foundation stone of a public school was laid with Masonic ceremonies at Trenton, when R. W. Bro. Dr. H. W. Day, P. D. D. G. M. of Prince Edward District, officiated in my absence.

Oct. 2nd. Having received an invitation from the Governor of the State to be present at the laying of the foundation stone of a new capitol about to be erected at Lansing, I gladly availed myself of the opportunity of witnessing a ceremony which I felt assured would be most correctly and ably performed. As a full account of the proceedings on this very interesting occasion were published in the *Craftsman*, I will only say that the kind reception accorded, and the honors paid me as your representative, were most gratifying.

Jan. 3rd, 1874. The corner stone of a Methodist Episcopal Church was laid with