

of our formation, have been approved by the Grand Lodges of the world so far as heard from, including the Grand Lodge from which we sprang. Our numbers have been very much increased by initiations from amongst ourselves as well as by affiliation of brethren from abroad, who have been and still are coming in large numbers amongst us, so that since our organization we have more than doubled in numbers. Peace and harmony prevail, and as a rule the brethren are anxious to improve themselves in a knowledge of the work. The attendance at the Lodges, I believe, has generally been good. But is this all that is required? We must remember that numbers is not always strength—that, as I have already said, a knowledge of the work is not always a test of true Masonry.

"I would strongly impress upon you, brethren, the necessity of the greatest caution in the admission of candidates. Although I believe we have no more to reproach ourselves for in this matter than in other places, I fear that we are not altogether without fault. Be careful to guard the ballot box.

"And then, has our own conduct as Masons been above reproach? Have we lived up to the standard we admit we should aim at? It is not enough that a Mason should be as good as other men; he ought to be better. With the teaching we receive night after night in our Lodges, and the high examples before us, as well as in the study of those liberal arts and sciences which as Masons we ought to cultivate, we ought certainly to be better.

"As our Grand Lodge grows, let us grow in the true spirit of Masonry. On the foundation which has been so well laid, let us raise a superstructure perfect in all its parts and honorable to the builders.

"Into the consideration of the business which will be brought before us at this meeting let us enter with hearts inspired with our obligations, and minds illumined from above, setting aside all personal ambitions, and everything that would in the slightest degree militate against the harmony of our meeting, and the best interests of the Craft.

With humility and reverence let us render thanks to the G. A. O. T. U. for the many mercies vouchsafed to us personally, as well as a Grand Lodge, during the past year. Let us invoke His blessing and assistance at this our present communication, that whatever we may say or do may be said and done for the good of Masonry and the advancement of His Glory.

(Signed)

W. N. KENNEDY,  
Grand Master.

The report of the Grand Secretary was presented. In it the Grand Secretary urges upon the Grand Lodge the propriety of organizing a Masonic Library for the benefit of the

Craft in the jurisdiction. He also refers to his action last year, in calling the attention of the brethren to the urgent necessity of subscribing for one or more Masonic magazines, but he is sorry to know that so few have done so. The Craftsman, and other Masonic publications, have been regularly received at his office, and the best thanks of the Grand Secretary are tendered to the proprietors and publishers for their courtesy.

"Thirty-four Grand Lodges have recognized the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, and there are good grounds for believing that ere long all the Grand Lodges of this continent, as well as those of the old world, will have extended the right hand of fellowship to this Grand Lodge, and welcomed her into the sisterhood of Grand Lodges."

The financial statement shews: Total receipts, \$608.40; payments, \$520.10; balance, \$88.30.

The Committees appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master at the last meeting of Grand Lodge exemplified the work respectively in the three degrees. Considerable discussion took place as to which rite should be adopted, and after several amendments the following report of the Exemplification Committee was carried:

"Your Committee appointed by the Grand Master, in accordance with instructions passed at the last annual communication, beg leave to report that they have exemplified before the Grand Lodge the three degrees of the work known as the Ancient York Rite, and inasmuch as your Committee are of the opinion as expressed by the Board of General Purposes in their report on the Grand Master's address last evening regarding the advisability of adopting uniformity of work, and which report was unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge, and inasmuch as it is the custom of Grand Lodges to require such uniformity, and inasmuch as your committee are of the opinion that this Grand Lodge and the best interests of the Craft in this Province would be conserved by the immediate settlement of this question, therefore your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

"That all Lodges which may be hereafter constituted under this Grand Lodge be required to conform, as near as possible, to the work as exemplified by your committee."