

which may be thus explained : then appears to be on the books of the Grand Scribe charges for property of the Grand Division, furnished by him to several Deputies, for the use of the Divisions under their jurisdiction ; in some instances the receipt of this property has been denied. and in other instances the Deputies, when applied to for payment, have asserted that payment for the articles had been forwarded with the order. Your Committee are of opinion, that the articles in question may have been forwarded as directed, but that miscarriages may have occurred in consequence of sending by private conveyance, instead of by mail or express, and there is no means of tracing the property in consequence of the absence of any regular record of the correspondence of the late Grand Scribes. Your Committee would recommend that in all cases, property of the Grand Division, ordered by Subordinate Divisions, should be sent by public conveyance, unless other directions are given, and that the understanding should be, that the risk of transit is incurred by the Divisions ordering.

Another cause of dissatisfaction has been the want of accuracy and system, in keeping the accounts of the Grand Division with the subordinate Divisions, and Deputies. Your committee are pleased to learn, that the present Grand Scribe has taken measures for securing greater efficiency in these matters for the future ; and they would impress upon the Grand Division the necessity of the strictest attention being given to the examination of the Books and Accounts of their Grand Officers during the interim between the several Sessions ; the present financial embarrassment may be attributed to neglect in this particular. This advice is not given in reference to present officers, but as a general caution respecting all such transactions.

It has been the practice, to a considerable extent, for the subordinate Divisions, or the Deputies under whose jurisdiction they were placed, to retain the percentages and other remittances for the Grand Division in their hands, to be forwarded to the Grand Scribe by the representatives at or after the opening of the Session ; in some cases this perhaps cannot well be avoided, but your Committee think that greater accuracy would be secured if these remittances were in the hands of the Grand Scribe at least a week before the meeting of the Session, as it would enable him to have his accounts in a state of greater forwardness, and a more perfect report as to the condition and prospects of the Order, than would under other circumstances be possible.

The following is an exhibit of the liabilities and assets of the Grand Division :

Balance of debt due National Division	£40	18	3
Due to ditto for Travelling Cards	1	0	0
“ Athenæum Office	4	19	9
“ J. Bowes & Son (July Session)	7	0	0
“ R. Nugent	0	6	0
“ B. N. American Office	0	5	0
“ J. Bowes & Son, printing Journals } annual Session	5	15	0