

1870-71, report that they have carefully attended to that duty and find the accounts correct, and the books carefully and systematically kept.

The Grand Treasurer's receipts during 1870-71, were \$1191.96, making with the balance of \$1039.35, on hand from last year, a total of \$2231.31. The payments made during the year were \$1506.78, leaving on hand deposited in the Bank, \$724.53.

The Receipts of the Grand Secretary's Office during 1870-71, were \$1191.96, which correspond with the payments to the Grand Treasurer, for which due credit is given in the accounts of that office.

The expenses of the Grand Lodge for 1870-71, amount to \$1506.78, which exceeds the expenses of the previous year by \$143.72. It should be borne in mind, however, that in the expenditures is included \$827, the amount of loan, with interest, refunded to Albion Lodge. The ordinary expenses of Grand Lodge would, therefore, be less than previous year by \$83.28, even if some expenses for outfits last year be taken into account.

The Sub-Committee note with satisfaction, that the Lodges have paid due attention to the payments of Grand Lodge charges.

The Grand Secretary submits the receipts and the Grand Treasurer the expenditures in detail.

EDWARD WILLIS, } *Audit Committee.*
JOHN D. SHORT, }

THE PROPOSED HALL.

When Grand Lodge met in annual session last year, the Board was in negotiation with the Trustees of the Grammar School for the purchase of the property corner of Germain and Horsfield Streets. Various circumstances prevented the Trustees from giving an early decision, and several months in the present Masonic year had elapsed before they made up their minds not to sell. At last, the Board entered into negotiation with Mr. James U. Thomas, agent of Mr. F. A. Wiggins, for the purchase of a lot on Germain Street, which was said to be 62½ feet wide and 200 feet deep, for the sum of \$8,000, and the terms of purchase were agreed upon. Whilst the papers were being prepared, it was found that the lot was three feet less in width than at first stated. This caused further delay; but the negotiations now proceeding will, the Board believes, end in securing the property at the width named. In the meantime, much has been accomplished in another direction. The Lodges have been appealed to, to subscribe shares in a company to erect a building at a cost of about \$30,000. This appeal has been promptly, liberally and heartily met, and enough available cash has been placed at the disposal of the Board to cover an advance sufficient to secure the lot; and the subject, generally, has received such an impetus that longer delay is impossible. There is an absolute certainty that, at an early day, the Craft in the City of St. John will be in possession of a building to meet all its requirements, and creditable alike to the fraternity and to the city. In view of its early progress, the Board has much pleasure in recommending Grand Lodge, at its present session, to vote such amount as it may deem advisable in aid of the hall.

The committee to whom was referred, at the last annual communication, that part of the Grand Master's address having reference to the Quebec difficulty, submitted the following

REPORT.

That while the whole subject brought before this Grand Lodge in the Grand Master's address at the last Annual Communication, was under the consideration of your Committee, they found that at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, a resolution was adopted by that Grand Lodge with a view to an amicable and fraternal settlement of the question.

That the resolution so adopted by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada is as follows:—

(See Resolution above.)

As a consequence of this resolution, a Committee of Masons representing the lodges in the Province of Quebec adhering to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and a Committee of the Board of General Purposes of the Grand Lodge in Quebec, have met each other, and they are now endeavoring, with every prospect of success, to bring about a settlement that will be satisfactory to both parties.

Finding, therefore, that the hope expressed by the Grand Master in his address referred to us—"that the differences unhappily existing might, within the body of the Grand Lodge of Canada itself, be reconciled and adjusted," is likely to be realized, and believing that satisfactory settlement of all disputed questions will be speedily