Referring again to the minutes of the Supreme Court, Mr. Shepley found that Dr. Oronhyatekha had been sent in September, 1899, to Australia, Van Dieman's Land, New Zealand, India, and the East Indies generally to introduce the order. He wished to know what had been done in India.

The doctor replied that he had organized a lodge of high caste people, among whom were twenty lawyers.

From India, the doctor continued, he had gone to South Australia, where he had taken out a license. The next move was to send Mr. Marshall, who accompanied him, to Sydney to organize courts in New South Wales. Mr. Marshall, he said, had remained in Australia about a year after he himself came home.

"I see, too," said Mr. Shepley, "that the supreme chief ranger was authorized to take a letter of credit for £25,000."

Mr .Shepley then took up the expenditure of the £25,000 which the doctor had taken with him on his trip, and read a statement showing that £4,931 was credited to India, £2,020 for deposit in Victoria, £5,000 for license in South Australia, £1,000 Supreme Court account in South Australia, and finally a Supreme Court account of £152 at Melbourne, the total being £18,104 18s. 8d.

Mr. Shepley asked whether the Government deposits had been withdrawn, to which the doctor replied: "Certainly not; we are still doing business there." The India deposit of £4,931 had, however, been withdrawn.

"Then," said Mr. Shepley, "there is £4,142 for organization work, as per vouchers, what about that?"

"That," replied the doctor, "is partly mine, partly Mr. Marshall's, and partly Mr. McMann's."

An extra £2,000, the doctor said, had been allowed owing to the fight which was put up against them by the Australian insurance companies. These had made a desperate resistance to the encroachment of the order, and, of course, money was required to fight them.

Mr. Shepley next took up the celebrated bribery case against Dr. Montague, in which he was accused of contributing to an Australian fund.

Dr. Oronhyatekha stated that the Foresters had nothing to do with the payment of the $50. During the trial the Order had a counsel, as did Dr. Montague, but the witness felt that it would have been wiser to maintain the position that the I.O.F. had nothing to do with the matter.

"You have always received a great deal of criticism from the Insurance Department on account of your expenditure?" asked Mr. Shepley.

"Until we began to retrench," was the reply.

A searching enquiry was made into the encroachment of the general expenses on the mortuary fund. Mr. Shepley showing that since 1893 the general fund each year displayed a greater deficit than in the previous year. In 1896 the Insurance Department began to give its attention to the fund. Mr. Shepley quoted from the blue book of 1904, showing that in that year the total receipts were $464,909 and the net expenses $523,543, leaving an excess of expense over receipts of $58,684. In 1903 the deficit was $348,947, making a total deficit of $407,582. The income from the mortuary fund was $8,315,612, and returns from the sick, benefit and funeral fund $218,514, so that when the deficit was deducted, a net balance of $8,126,504 was left. The $407,582 deficit was treated as a loan from the mortuary and sick benefit and funeral funds.

"This year," said Dr. Oronhyatekha, "there will be no deficit, and next year we will begin to wipe out all the deficits that have accumulated."

Mr. Shepley next called attention to the minute by which Mr. Harry Collins, Mr. Stevenson, Dr. Williams and Mr. McGillivray were appointed a special committee to make provision for the deficit before December 31, 1901. Mr. Stevenson a month later submitted a report recommending that half the deficit should be borrowed from the sick and funeral fund at a certain rate of interest, and that they should take the remainder from the contingency fund and that it should be repaid at the rate of $10,000 per month.

"Was not the contingency fun to be held for the benefit of the members of the order?" enquired Mr. Shepley.

Dr. Oronhyatekha admitted that it was.

Mr. Fitzgerald, superintendent of insurance, disapproved of the loans and issued an emphatic order that they should cease.

As a result of the stand taken by Mr. Fitzgerald, the executive decided to cut down expenses. Mr. Stevenson went to Egypt to consult with Dr. Oronhyatekha on the subject, and the consequence of their deliberations was that it was decided that less money should be spent in advertising and other things of a like kind.

The Supreme Court, Dr. Oronhyatekha said, had absolute control over the mortuary fund and could make any disposition of if it wished, independent of any one.

"You believe," remarked Mr. Shepley, "that the act does not require you to have a mortuary fund at all?"

"Yes," replied the witness.

"Your constitution, however, requires that you shall not spend more than 5 p.c. of the mortuary fund."

The doctor would not agree to this, and said that they could have taken 10 p.c. just as well as 5 p.c.

"Do you think," said Mr. Shepley "that any legislature would have made a law permitting you to use your whole mortuary fund?"