

I continue the statement presented last year on page 6817, Journal, to the close of the year 1876:

*From 1830 to December 31st, 1876.*

Initiations.....	1,022,800
Members relieved.....	773,191
Widowed families relieved.....	102,754
Members deceased.....	69,867
Total relief.....	\$23,982,887.62
Total receipts.....	64,633,783.90
Present membership.....	461,888

#### CONCLUSION.

The condition of the Order is a just subject of congratulation to its friends. There is nothing to excite its fears, or to create anxiety for its future. On the contrary its career is auspicious in the highest degree. Ranking among the strongest organizations of the kind in the world, it maintains its prestige triumphantly, and beyond a satisfactory examination of its system of "Dues and Benefits" and their proper reconstruction, needs no organic legislation. This, although a pressing and vital subject, with a view to its permanent existence, is rather a question of calm and considerate reform than of controversy, addressing itself to the practical sense and wisdom of its rulers, involving as it does the life and death of Odd Fellowship, which is inseparably blended with sound finances and a stable system of "dues and benefits."

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. L. RIDGELY,

September, 1877.

Cor. and Rec. Sec.

#### CONCLUSION OF HISTORIOGRAPHER'S REPORT.

I am sensible of the rapid approach of infirmities, and that the time I could best have spent in this direction has passed. I, therefore, with sincere sorrow, and with keen regret that I could do no more in so grand a cause, hereby resign my place as Historiographer, with my best wishes for the future and final completion of a work so important to Odd Fellowship. I have caused the entire completed manuscript, as detailed in my report of last year, together with a mass of valuable papers accumulated by me during many years, to be deposited in the fire-proof as the property of the Grand Lodge, among which is the original manuscript of the Past Grand's Charge, as first presented, in 1845, to my colleagues on the Revision Committee, Bros. E. H. Chapin and John A. Kennedy. There is no debt owing by the Grand Lodge on account of the History. The whole sum expended has amounted to \$1500; \$1000 to the widow of the lamented Kennedy for his manuscript, and \$500 to the present Historiographer.

Fraternally submitted,

JAS. L. RIDGELY,

Sept. 17, 1877.

Historiographer.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The proposed amendment of Bro. Perry, of Ontario, to change the name of the Grand Lodge of the U. S., to the *Supreme Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows* was lost, 73 voting for the change and 61 against, a two-third vote being necessary for any change in the Constitution.