

The means taken by this R. W. Grand Lodge, at its last annual assembly, of assessing 10 cents *per capita* on Lodges over 25 members, will, I hope, bring in sufficient to make the receipts equal to the expenditure.

The only difficulty occurring with which my office has anything to do is the case of Bro. James Houston. In the Reports of the Grand Lodge, 1881, page 56, this brother is reported as appealing against the action of L. O. L. 859. This was an error, as the document sent was a petition which according to instructions of this Grand Lodge, I sent to L. O. L. 859; this Lodge recommended the petition—11 for, 4 against; it was then forwarded to the District, which refused to recommend the petition—1 for, 17 against, and there it was left; I was very much astonished to find the case had been taken to the M. W. Grand Lodge at its last session, and acted on in that body, by the case being misrepresented to them. I would recommend that the correspondence and papers relating thereto be referred to a special committee, to see where the error lies in this case, as I cannot see why the District Lodge, the County Lodge, and the R. W. Grand Lodge should be entirely ignored and treated with contempt. The report of the case will be found in Report of Proceedings, 1882, pages 38 and 39. ♣

The Insurance and Endowment Scheme adopted by this R. W. Grand Lodge, Sept. 1881, progresses very slowly, there having only been about 100 members joined during the year, which leaves the membership yet under 200. There has only been one death reported to me as yet, although there may have been others not reported, as no claims were to have been assessed for until 400 members belong to the society. Most of those joining came in during the fall after I had issued a circular urging the claims of the Society. There is one thing I would draw the attention of the members of this R. W. Grand Lodge to with regard to this Society, and that is, that so few of the leaders of the Association join, which, if they did, would give an impetus thereto. I would ask the Grand Lodge to take into consideration whether it would not be well to do away with the restriction of 400 members being in the Society before a death claim is paid, also whether it would not be advisable to allow a small commission of, say 50 cents, to Lodges or members procuring candidates, for each one procured and certificate granted.

The Cash Book and Register of Members will be laid before the Auditors.