

IOWA, 1884.

Before us we have the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Iowa at a special meeting held at Cedar Rapids May 7th, 1884, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a fire proof building for the Grand Lodge Library; also proceedings of same at its 41st annual communication on 3rd of June, 1884, George B. Van Saun M. W. Grand Master, presiding. The whole contained in a volume gotten up with exquisite taste and style unsurpassed, a model to be copied and followed in similar undertakings. Our representative Past Grand Master, E. A. Guilbert, is reported as being present at the regular communication.

The address of the M. W. the Grand Master gives convincing proof that he has been most assuredly a working, practical Mason. He says, "I have held during the Masonic year two hundred and sixty-one sessions for instruction at seventy-five different lodges, having travelled nearly sixteen thousand miles, and have been absent from home in the discharge of these duties two hundred and two working days, besides giving instruction to many individual brethren at sundry places." Again "during my journeyings from place to place I have called upon many brothers old and infirm whose weary feet have come very near the end of their toilsome pilgrimage," &c., &c. Such a record is most creditable and can scarcely be surpassed; it is quite in place, and fit, and proper for Grand Masters to discourse eloquently on the various questions coming before them, but commend us to one who labors as industriously and zealously as M. W. Bro. Van Saun.

R. Wor.: Bro. Parvin Grand Secretary's report exhibits the work of his office, and contains useful suggestions to facilitate its labors.

The Grand Librarian reports the corner stone of a fire proof building for the library was laid with imposing civic, religious, and Masonic ceremonies, &c., &c.

Oh, brethren of Quebec, when shall we be able to make such an announcement? Is our almost utter indifference to a library ever to continue?

Grand Treasurer gives amount of total receipts for the year at \$28,747.46; and disbursements, \$26,955.65. In the latter is included an item of *twelve thousand dollars paid library building committee.*

The report on Foreign correspondence is from the pen of R. W. Grand Secretary Parvin. It is a lengthy and able production, evidencing much care, thought and ability in its composition, and tending to enlighten. Bro. Parvin has had much experience in such labor, and the Craft benefits thereby. In his introductory remarks he observes "it is just forty-six years since we, a young man of twenty-seven, and a Mason of only six years presented our first report on correspondence" and modestly "took a back seat" among the Gamaliels of that day."