

Upon another matter of reference the same Committee thus reported:

"In response to resolutions requiring every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to contribute towards the erection of a Masonic Temple in the city of Richmond, it is

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the Committee, the Grand Lodge has not the authority to levy a tax upon its subordinates, or its members, for any purposes other than to defray the expenses of an economical administration, in which cannot be included the raising of funds for investment; nor can it determine in what manner Subordinate Lodges shall invest their funds."

Five Lodges in West Virginia were returned, as still holding their charters, and making their returns to Grand Lodge.

M. W. Bro. Thomas F. Owens was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. John Dove re-elected Grand Secretary.

We have also received the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, notice of both of which a want of space compels us to defer to our next number.

THE QUEBEC SECESSION.

The two following extracts are from *The Trowel*, and furnish a very elaborate discussion of the whole question. We defer to next month any further remarks upon the subject, which we are meanwhile pleased to find examined from every point of view:

"In January we gave Quebec a hearing, and in February we gave one to Canada.

In 1855, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Canada, were provinces, with their own parliaments; in each of them there were lodges or provincial grand lodges on the registries of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Canada, previously divided into Upper and Lower, was then, and until 1867, known as Canada East and Canada West. In 1855, the provincial grand lodges in Canada were: Canada West; Montreal and William Henry; Quebec and Three Rivers. On the 10th of October, 1855, forty-one lodges met in convention at Hamilton, threw off their allegiance to said Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, formed the INDEPENDENT GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, adopted a constitution, elected grand officers, and assumed the right to control masonic affairs in Canada. Ireland, and some of our State Grand Lodges, promptly recognized the new body; England, Scotland, and several of our oldest State grand lodges declined, until other things were done. In July, 1857, committees of the Independent Grand Lodge of Canada, and of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, met to arrange articles of union; articles were submitted, but the union was not consummated, and the Grand Lodge of Canada West thereupon threw aside its designation, and assumed that of *The Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada*. This complicated matters still more, and overtures were immediately made to unite the two bodies. In July, 1858, both bodies met at Toronto, and M. W. Bro. Philip C. Tucker, then and long before Grand Master of Vermont, and the ablest Grand Master at the time on this hemisphere,