

reer. Once, in the South, membership to many was but a social and fraternal tie without regard to the peaceful features of the Order, but now it is mostly sought for all its advantages, including the help it affords the sick and the widow and the protection extended to the fatherless. Our brethren in these jurisdictions in the midst of all these calamities have been silent, and have suffered without a murmur of complaint. They come among us strong in the faith of the resurrection and prosperity of their Lodges, and with noble energy have put their hands to the work of a thorough revival of the Order. They have appealed to our sympathies only by their silent sufferings, borne with manly fortitude, and have so far asked from us no material or pecuniary assistance. But this does not satisfy the brotherhood of the North, which escaped the ravages of the civil war. We feel assured that we but feebly utter their sentiments when we say that, if the true condition of their unfortunate brethren was made known to them, they would gladly and speedily, out of their rich abundance, cause "the wilderness and the solitary places to be glad" and the desert "to blossom as the rose."

We therefore propose to devise a general plan for the relief of our Southern brethren, and by enlisting all the Grand Bodies of the North, East and West, to draw from each and all the voluntary help which will restore to the Order the wide territory and great resources of this vital portion of our country.

We firmly believe, and so assert, that it only needs the information we have given and the call about to be made to induce generous Odd Fellows of prosperous jurisdictions to rally as one man to the rescue, and to restore these bright jewels to the crown of the Order.—We would further state that, although Texas has been a great sufferer and is much in need, especially as regards its Grand Encampment, yet its generous representatives have requested to be excepted from any relief which we may propose, as they are confident that other jurisdictions of the South have much greater necessity for such relief at this time than has the Order in their State. To secure the great objects herein set forth and meet this pressing exigency, we recommend the following, to wit:

Resolved, That so soon as this body shall adjourn, the M. W. Grand Sire shall forthwith issue a circular, directed to the Grand Lodges and Encampments under the jurisdiction of this R. W. Grand Lodge, which have not been subjected to the ravages of the late civil war, setting forth the misfortunes and necessities of our brethren who have greatly suffered from said cause, recommending the Grand Bodies of each of said jurisdictions to cause a circular to be issued to each of their subordinates, calling their attention to the premises and soliciting contributions for the aid of the Order in the South, and requiring them to pay the same to the R. W. Grand Secretary of each of said Grand Bodies.

Resolved. That the R. W. Grand Secretary of each Grand Body shall, as soon as may be, forward and pay all monny received by them for said purpose to the R. W. Corresponding and Recording Secretary of this body, who shall at once proceed to distribute the same *pro rata* among the several State Jurisdictions of the States, respectively, of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas, and pay the same to the Grand Masters thereof.