

In closing, I desire to call your attention to the ever increasing duties of our R.W.G. Secretary. Owing to the funeral benefits being paid by the Grand Lodge, also to the large additions to our lodges this year, being an increase of nearly one-third of the whole number, I would earnestly recommend that some addition should be made to his salary, however slight, to compensate him for the extra amount of work he so efficiently performs, and in this connection I would also refer to our R. W. G. Treasurer, whose duties have largely increased. I also recommend that he be paid some slight amount to compensate him for his labours in our behalf.

Asking your forbearance and hearty co-operation, trusting that we shall have an harmonious meeting and that our united efforts may redound to the advancement, honour and prosperity of our beloved Order.

I remain, Dear Brethern,

Yours fraternally,

THOS. R. SKIPPON,

M. W. G. P.

On motion, the Report was received and referred to Committee on Officers' Reports.

The Right Worthy Grand Vice-President then read his annual report:

GRAND VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

TORONTO, February 14th, 1888.

To the Most Worthy Grand President, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge Sons of England Benevolent Society:

BRETHREN,—I have much pleasure in again meeting the representatives of our noble Order, from all sections of this country, and hope by God's blessing that it will continue to spread its wings and enroll within its folds all true and loyal Englishmen.

The increase in new lodges and members this past year is unprecedented. The seed has been well sown by our R. W. Grand Secretary, and some of our district deputies have done good work.

In my humble way, I have been instrumental in the formation of three of the new lodges, viz.: Primrose, Montreal, No. 49; Nelson, Almonte, No. 43, and Norfolk, Toronto, No. 57, and honour is due to those who assisted in completing the work I started, viz.: Bro. James Wright, Lodge Primrose, Montreal; Bro. Thoburn of Lodge, Nelson, Almonte, and last, but not least, Bro. John Nunn, of Norfolk, ably assisted by Bro. T. F. Kidd.

I have visited a large number of the lodges during the past year and am rejoiced to find prosperity in all, not only in numbers and financially but in usefulness. Love, peace and harmony prevails with undoubted loyalty to our Mother Country.

There is no uncertain sound amongst our brethren.