

of all the monetary and business interest of the country, it is a much more gratifying condition of finance than could reasonably have been expected. I see no way in which this deficiency can be overcome, except by a liberal and magnanimous act of personal sacrifice on the part of the representatives themselves, which doubtless will, under the circumstances in which the Grand Lodge is placed, be promptly made. A reduction in the rate of mileage from five to three cents per mile, will provide for the entire deficiency, and it is believed will not oppress a single individual, however distant his home from the place of meeting.

Your Representative would here mention that the suggestions of the Grand Secretary, which I have just embodied in this report, were acted upon by Grand Lodge. And the mileage and per diem, instead of being \$8,000 as estimated by Grand Secretary, was reduced to \$4,760, thereby leaving the financial affairs in a better condition than they have been for years.

The number of members returned in good standing up to Sept. 1861, is 149,239. The annual receipts from Lodges show a sum of \$900,981. The amount paid during the past year for the relief of Brothers, was \$257,902. The amount paid for the relief of widowed families was \$60,815. The amount paid for educating orphans was \$94,707; and for burying the dead \$56,660.

The report of the R. W. Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary, is finished in the following language, which I perceive is not published in the revised journal of the proceedings, and why it was left out I cannot conceive, for there is nothing in it that could hurt the feelings of any Brother, but on the contrary, the language is beautiful and appropriate. He says:—

“Upon a review of the condition of the order presented by the reports from the various Jurisdictions, the heart is gladdened that amid the terrible scenes which now pervade the land, its glorious mission of mercy blessed and prospered of God, has been unchecked, and its great office of benefaction to man, continues to be exerted with a single eye to its high calling; yet in the midst of our gratulation, and thanksgiving to a beneficent Providence, for the especial favor vouchsafed to our order, we have not escaped the withering influences inseparable in the nature of things, from so all permeating a calamity as that which now afflicts our country.”

The Most Worthy Grand Sire of the order, R. B. Boylston, of South Carolina, whom it was your pleasure by your suffrage, at the last session, to honor for his long, valuable, and eminent services, not less than for his distinguished ability and private virtues, is not here to grace his high chair of office, that seat honored by long list of his predecessors, whose administration has consecrated their names and memory to our best affections, has been occupied by few equal to him, and by none superior in ability, it is

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