

The Grand Marshall P. G. Bro. R. Wigmore, having introduced the Representatives and Past Grands to the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master instructed them in the Grand Lodge Degree, and they then took their seats.

The R. W. the Grand Marshall, Bro. Wigmore moved, seconded by Past Grand Master Bro. Dolson, that the Minutes of the last session of this Grand Lodge, held at St. Mary's be adopted as printed—*Carried*.

The R. W. the Grand Master then appointed the following Committees, viz :

DISTRIBUTION.—G. Rep. Bingham, Barr, Wales and Browne.

CORRESPONDENCE.—G. Rep. Glover, and J. C. Jackson.

RETURNS.—G. Rep. Barr, Beltz and Curle.

STATE OF THE ORDER AND LEGISLATION.—G. Rep. McAffee, Wigmore, James, Dolson and Beltz.

LAWS OF SUBORDINATES.—G. Rep. Powell, R. O. Smith, C. H. Hankinson and Hiram Sheek.

FINANCE.—G. Rep. James, Burns, Iredale and McCormick.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM.—G. Rep. Dolson, O'Connor, Counter and Bristol.

The Lodge then closed in the G. L. Degree, and opened in the Scarlet Degree

The following Report from the M. W. the Grand Master was then submitted :

*To the R. W. Grand Lodge of Canada West, I. O. O. F.*

OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES : Once again we are assembled for the purpose of deliberating upon the affairs of our Order. Let us first from our hearts offer thanksgiving to God, who through another year has vouchsafed to us so much prosperity, harmony and peace. Let us also invoke His divine favor, to aid us in our great work in the future, and while thus met together in friendly conclave, may we cherish the most kindly feelings and sympathies for our whole brotherhood ; remembering those of our Order in the neighboring nation, who are called upon to endure great and sore trial, in the midst of dire turmoil, war and destruction ; and while we deplore the circumstances in which they are placed, we should be truly thankful that these very circumstances are so developing the intrinsic excellence of our beloved Order, as to make plain the fact, that it by far excels all other human institutions. May God of his great mercy soon bring light out of the darkness, and establish that land in peace, good government and perfect liberty to all.

Clause 1. It has not been possible for me to do that which it was my full purpose to accomplish at the beginning of the year, namely, to visit all or nearly all the subordinate Lodges in this Jurisdiction. I fully concur with the Committee, on the State of the Order, of last year, as to the good to be secured by such a course, and assure you that it would have afforded me great pleasure to have made the personal acquaintance of the brothers of the several Lodges, but circumstances altogether beyond my control, prevented the fulfilment of the purpose. Having been debarred this pleasure, it affords me great gratification, to report to you that from what I have been able to learn, our Order was never more prosperous in Canada, than at the present time—the number of initiations and degrees conferred being nearly double that of last year, the funds of the several Lodges are steadily on the increase, the total receipts being about twenty-five per cent more than last year, while the amount expended for relief bears evidence, both of the ability and willingness of the Order to fulfil its duties in this respect, and last, though by no means least, every Lodge has made its semi-annual returns. From a careful perusal of these, and the Reports of D. D. Grand Masters which will be laid before you, I feel sure that you will arrive at the same favorable estimate of the prosperity of the Order.

2. As a consequence of the foregoing, the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge are in a much more healthy state than in former years, so much so that had I been