

REPORT
OF THE
EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF THE



Sons of England Benevolent Society,

CANADA,

HELD AT TORONTO, ONTARIO,

ON

FEBRUARY 13TH, 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH, A.D. 1883.

TORONTO :

MOORE & Co., PRINTERS, COR. ADELAIDE AND VICTORIA STREETS.

1883.

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GRAND LODGE
OF THE
SONS OF ENGLAND
BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

OFFICERS FOR 1883-4.

MOST WORTHY GRAND PRESIDENT:

J. W. HIGGINBOTHAM, Esq., - Oshawa.

RIGHT WORTHY GRAND VICE-PRESIDENT:

JOHN CLAYTON, Esq., - Hamilton.

RIGHT WORTHY DEPUTY GRAND OFFICER:

A. M. SPENCE, Esq., - South Africa.

RIGHT WORTHY GRAND CHAPLAIN:

Rev. W. C. CLARKE, LL.D., - Belleville.

RIGHT WORTHY DEPUTY GRAND CHAPLAIN:

Rev. H. J. NOTT, - Bowmanville.

RIGHT WORTHY DEPUTY GRAND CHAPLAIN:

Rev. Dr. WIRGMAN, - South Africa.

RIGHT WORTHY GRAND TREASURER:

B. HINCHCLIFF, Esq., - Toronto.

RIGHT WORTHY GRAND SECRETARY:

JOHN W. CARTER, - Toronto.

DIRECTORY OF LODGES.

Name of Lodge.	No.	Location.	Night of Meeting.	Place of Meeting.	Name of Secretary.	Address.
Albion.....	1	Toronto	2nd & 3rd Wednesdays	Philharmonic Hall, Adelaide st..	E. L. Barstow ..	39 Bell street, Toronto.
Middlesex	2	Toronto	Alternate Tuesdays....	Cor. Richmond & Bathurst sts...	T. R. Skippon ..	82 Baldwin street, Toronto.
Kent	3	Toronto	2nd & 4th Mondays....	Philharmonic Hall, Adelaide st..	P. Rigby.....	106 Church street, Toronto.
Essex	4	Oshawa	Alternate Fridays.....	Sons of England Hall.....	B. Dingle	P.O., Oshawa.
Sussex.....	5	Whitby	Alternate Fridays.....	Brock Street Hall	T. Dixon	P.O., Whitby.
York	6	Toronto	Alternate Tuesdays....	Cor. Cameron and Queen st....	J. Weeks	36 Markham street, Toronto.
Brighton	7	Toronto	1st and 3rd Fridays....	Cor. Yonge and Albert streets ..	W. Pugh	31 Nelson street, Toronto.
Britannia	8	Hamilton	1st and 3rd Mondays ..	Foresters' Hall.....	J. B. Buckingham	King street, E., Hamilton.
Old England..	9	Port Perry....	Alternate Tuesdays....	Orange Hall	G. S. Miller ..	Port Perry.
Somerset	10	Parkdale	2nd and 4th Thursdays.	Somerset Hall.....	E. Crowhurst ..	P.O., Parkdale.
Surrey	11	Toronto	Alternate Mondays	Hinchcliff's Hall.....	T. Cannon.....	212 College street, Toronto.
Victoria	12	Cornwall	1st and 3rd Thursdays.	Sons of England Hall.....	Hy. Williams ..	Cornwall.
Warwick	13	Toronto	Alternate Thursdays ..	William street, Yorkville	Hy. Amos	88 Scollard st., Toronto N.
Manchester ..	14	Toronto	Alternate Mondays	Winchester Hall	W. Toms	215 Seaton street, Toronto.
Durham	15	Port Hope....	2nd and 4th Wednesdays	Sons of England Hall	W. J. Mason.....	News Office, Port Hope.
Rose of Africa.	16	Uitenhage	Alternate Mondays	Sons of England Hall	M. H. Spence ..	Uitenhage, South Africa.
Oxford	17	Belleville	1st and 3rd Wednesdays	Temperance Hall.....	Hy. Tammadge..	P.O. Belleville.
Chester	18	St. Thomas ..	2nd and 4th Tuesdays.	Foresters' Hall.....	Thos. H. Jones..	P.O. Box 293, St. Thomas.
Wellington	19	Bowmanville..	1st and 3rd Tuesdays ..	Observer Block	P. C. Treblecock.	P.O. Bowmanville.
Westminster ..	20	Lindsay	1st and 3rd Wednesdays	Sons of England Hall.....	Joseph Ingles ..	P.O., Lindsay.
Marlborough ..	21	Woodstock....	Alternate Thursdays ..	Orange Hall	W. H. Gribble..	Woodstock.
Port Elizabeth.	22					

EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF THE
SONS OF ENGLAND
BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

TORONTO, *February 13th*, 1883.

THE Eighth Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of the Sons of England Benevolent Society was opened in Toronto, Ontario, on Tuesday, February 13th, at 2 p.m., when the following Grand Lodge Officers were present:—John H. Venables, M. W. G. P.; J. W. Higginbotham, R. W. G. P.; B. Hinchcliff, R. W. G. T.; John W. Carter, R. W. G. Sec.

The Grand Lodge was duly opened by the Most Worthy Grand President, Bro. A. J. Mills, P. G. P., acting as Grand Chaplain.

The Grand President then appointed the following Committee on Credentials:—Bros. Skippon, Mills, Hastings, Partridge and Turff.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

TORONTO, *Feb. 13th*, 1883.

To the Most Worthy Grand President and Officers of the Grand Lodge:

Your Committee on Credentials beg leave to report the following brethren as legally appointed delegates to this Grand Lodge:

Lodge Albion, Bros. W. Waddington and A. Partridge ;
 Lodge Middlesex, Bros. T. R. Skippon and F. Donovan ;
 Lodge Kent, Bros. R. Caddick and Thos. Turff ; Lodge
 Essex, Bros. R. R. Southcombe and W. T. Dingle ; Lodge
 Sussex, Bros. W. Robson and A. Sarney ; Lodge York, Bros.
 E. Firman and E. J. Burton, senior ; Lodge Brighton,
 Bros. Dr. Pollard and J. Banks ; Lodge Britannia,
 Bros. J. Clayton and J. Rastrick ; Lodge Old England,
 Bros. W. Edmett and G. S. Millar ; Lodge Surrey, Bros.
 A. J. Mills and Thos. Cannon ; Lodge Warwick, Bros. T. A.
 Hastings and J. James ; Lodge Manchester, Bros. C. A. Kelly
 and R. Ivens ; Lodge Oxford, Bros. R. C. Hulme and J. W.
 London ; Lodge Chester, Bro. W. Gay ; Lodge Wellington,
 Bros. M. A. James and H. J. Nott ; Lodge Westminster,
 Bros. C. H. Lloyd and T. McConnell.

The report was received, and the delegates took their
 seats.

Moved by Bro. Caddick, seconded by Bro. Donovan,

“That the sessional hours of the Grand Lodge be from
 9 a.m. to 12 noon ; from 1.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.” Carried.

The minutes of last Grand Lodge meeting were then
 read, and on motion of Bro. Skippon, seconded by Bro.
 Mills, was adopted.

The Most Worthy Grand President then appointed the
 following committees :—

Finance and Audit.—Bros. Edmett, Wright, Clayton,
 Gay and Robson.

Appeals.—Bros. Caddick, Skippon, Hastings, South-
 combe, McConnell and Ivens.

Correspondence.—Bros. Nott, Kelly, Miller, Dingle, Dona-
 van, J. James and C. H. Lloyd.

Constitution and Laws. — Bros. Banks, Waddington,
 Cannon, M. A. James, Mills, Turff, Burton and Dr. Pollard.

Officers' Reports.—Bros. Skippon, Caddick, Robson and Ivens.

The Grand President then read his Annual Report.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

TORONTO, *February 13th*, 1883.

BRETHREN,—As your presiding officer, I have again the pleasure and happiness to welcome you to this our Eighth Convocation of the Grand Lodge of the Sons of England Benevolent Society.

In cheerful obedience to the mandate of the Constitution, you have left your homes and journeyed to this beautiful Queen City of the West, where I am sure you will receive a true and loyal welcome from those whom you love and esteem; and whilst you are deliberating upon the condition of our beloved Institution, may such measures as you in your judgment deem necessary conduce, with God's blessing, to its welfare.

The year that has passed has also had its sorrows with its joys. Many of our esteemed brethren have passed away, and have gone to meet in our Grand Lodge above. Thus, brethren, one by one, our friends depart. In that dark valley, which we all must travel soon, they disappear. We mourn them, for the ties which united us were sweet and pleasant; but we mourn not for them as they mourn for their dead who "only in this life have hope." We have the unfailing assurance that they still live:

"The dead are like the stars by day—
Withdrawn from mortal eye,
But not extinct—they hold their way
In glory through the sky!"

During the past year, I have granted four Charters—one to Africa, one to Lindsay, one to Bowmanville, one to Winnipeg.

Winnipeg has not been, I am sorry to say, as prosperous as I could have expected, and I am sure as you would desire.

You will find from the Grand Secretary's records and correspondence that we have nothing to guarantee to us the name of a Sons of England Lodge. The question of this Lodge will be brought to your notice, so that it is not necessary for me to dwell any further upon this matter.

The other Lodges, I am happy to state, are in a prosperous condition.

The returns made to the Grand Secretary indicate that our Institution is in a healthy and prosperous condition; but yet I feel that the work which should be done is not being done, namely, that of opening new Lodges in new districts. The field for our labours is great, but I am afraid workers are wanting.

That this Institution's foundation is deep and well laid, I feel assure I. Therefore, our Lodges have multiplied, and the benign and humanizing influence of our Institution diffused throughout this country.

But, brethren, let us not forget that, however gratifying to us may be our connection with this Institution, the history of which is so honourable, that connection can bring to us no honour except we tread in the footsteps of the worthy "who have gone this way before us," striving earnestly and well to maintain its principles unimpaired and its name untarnished, so that in the years to come it may still continue a most potent instrument and minister of good.

During my official term, I have had the pleasure of visiting all our Lodges except Africa, Winnipeg, Lindsay, Port Perry and Belleville, and have made myself acquainted, as far as possible, with their condition. My review of their proceedings, though cursory, has yet been sufficient to satisfy me that, with them as with us, there have been abundant reasons or thankfulness. Peace dwells within their walls and prosperity in their Lodges.

One topic of general interest seems to have engaged the attention of several of our Lodges—that of Insurance, and second degree, founded upon a more solid and worthy principle; the change of our present grip, and a more imposing installation and dedication ceremony. The question of the second degree, which will form the first part of your work, I have endeavoured to facilitate as far as possible, which I shall have the pleasure to lay before you. This degree, I am sorry to say, was the matter, though happily the only matter, that formed a breach in our harmony last Grand Lodge.

I, therefore, hope, brethren, that all our councils here will be characterized by prudence, moderation and harmony.

" When earth's foundation first was laid
By the Almighty Artist's hand;
'Twas then our perfect laws were made.
Established by His strict command."

I ask your pardon for any errors or omissions I may have made. I have, however, to the best of my ability and time at my disposal, endeavoured to keep such watch and ward over the important interests of our order as you expected.

I direct your special attention to the 12th clause on our Motion Paper, recommended by Middlesex Lodge, and ask you to remove the present clause. The balance of our Motion Paper I will leave in your hands, for I am sure you have brought with you a determination and sincere devotion to make and amend the laws of our Institution which will best conduce to its welfare.

I cannot close this imperfect record without thanking the brethren of the different Lodges, through you, for their unfailing kindness manifested towards me during my official term, as also to my associate Grand Officers; and rest assured that for the distinguished courtesy and consideration which I have always received I shall ever feel deeply grateful.

And here my responsibilities diminish, while yours increase. May the God of your fathers be with you, guide and direct you in all your doings!

JOHN H. VENABLES,

Grand President S. C. E. B. S.

Moved by Bro. R. C. Hulme, seconded by Bro. Partridge,
"That the report be received and laid upon the table."
Carried.

The Grand Secretary then read his Annual Report and Financial Statement.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY.

TORONTO, February 13th, 1883.

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

In conformity to the Constitution, and with much pleasure, I beg to submit this my second annual report and financial statement, with statistics compiled from the returns of the various Lodges for the past year, together with receipts from all sources, and a balance sheet to February 1st, 1883, date of closing the books.

Immediately on the close of the last Grand Lodge Session, I gave the alterations and amendments to the Constitution into the hands of the printer, and, with the greatest despatch, got them ready for the Lodges, and I am pleased to say that in less than one month from the Grand Lodge Session our Lodges were fully supplied.

By virtue of a resolution passed at last Grand Lodge Session, that all printers, members of the Order, should be asked to compete for printing; and, in accordance with resolution passed, page 89, Record book, I wrote for tenders for printing the Grand Lodge proceedings, to Belleville, Brother London; Whitby, Bro. Sarney; Bros. Moore and Williams, Toronto; and Hunter, Rose & Co., Toronto. The Grand President awarded the contract to Bro. Moore, his tender being the lowest.

I also wrote for tenders for printing the First Degree Rituals, which the Grand President decided in favour of Bro. Williams, Toronto. I am pleased to report that both the Grand Lodge Reports and Lodge Rituals

were pushed forward expeditiously, and forwarded to the Lodges without any unnecessary delay; and I remark with satisfaction, that, although there is a deficit of about \$6 on the sale of the Grand Lodge Reports, owing to the Lodges not being fully alive to the great advantage of such a report, still a vast amount of good has been accomplished in the circulation of the printed report of the proceedings of our last Grand Lodge Session. As soon as possible after the printing of the new Constitutions, I registered the alterations and amendments to the Constitution with the Provincial Registrar in the Provincial Secretary's Office.

To make uniform, and to carry out that part of the Constitution respecting proposition forms, with the consent of the Grand President, I wrote for tenders to supply the Grand Lodge with the same; and after consulting with several of the City Lodge Secretaries, included other forms. I received tenders from several of the brethren, laid them before the Grand President, who decided in favour of Bro. Sarney's; and we got fifteen thousand forms of different kinds, which we have been able to sell at an exceedingly low rate to the various Lodges desiring them; and though only a third is sold, over one half the amount is already paid back. I may also add that the Grand President, in view of the probable increase of Lodges and members, instructed me to order 500 additional copies of the Constitution. It became necessary also that Constitutions having the amounts properly denominated from our own to that of South Africa, should be printed separately, and at the request of the representative of the South Africa District, Bro. A. M. Spence; and after receiving a copy of their printed by-laws, which was approved of by the Grand Lodge officers, I wrote for tenders to print 500 such copies. We received several tenders, and the Grand President decided in favour of Bro. Mason, of Port Hope.

Copies of all estimates and tenders for printing will be laid upon the table.

As directed by the Report of the Committee on Appeals, page 35, printed proceedings, I wrote to Bro. Hover, Secretary of Britannia Lodge, with a view of purchasing the diplomas which they had. This, however, we could not do, as we were informed that they were prepared especially for Hamilton and the County of Wentworth. For copy of correspondence. see Letter Book, page 15. I then wrote for tenders from Hamilton and Toronto, and received satisfactory replies; but the Grand President has from time to time delayed the order for the Grand Lodge to decide. Estimate prices would have enabled us to sell them with a good profit at or about 45 or 50 cents each.

In accordance with the decision of the Grand Lodge, sustaining Durham Lodge in their appeal against the amount charged by the executive officers, I, at the earliest opportunity, notified the Secretary of that result. See Letter Book, page 23.

Somerset Lodge appealed to the Executive against certain sums included in the amount charged against them at the last Grand Lodge Session, and expressed their willingness to pay all reasonable demands. The Grand President instructed me to investigate the said accounts; and, after a full investigation, the Executive agreed to strike off a portion of the bill, and charged them with the balance, which they cheerfully acknowledged and paid, the amount allowed being seven dollars and fifty-six cents, a portion of this having been already paid and acknowledged by the late Grand Secretary.

In accordance with resolution, passed at last Grand Lodge Session, appointing brethren to investigate, arrange, and compile a proper endowment fund and, after verifying the same, submit it for the approval of the several Lodges—page 34, printed proceedings—I have, from time to time, requested said Committee to meet and proceed with the matter, but am sorry to report, with no result.

In accordance with recommendation of the Committee on Finance and Audit, page 33, printed proceedings, the executive ordered 25 new Lodge Charters, at a cost of \$1 each.

In accordance with resolution passed in new Constitution, I informed all Lodge Secretaries, that we were prepared to supply them with all necessary books, propositions, forms, and other papers and paraphernalia; and I am very pleased to report that we have been able to supply many of these goods, at a great reduction on ordinary prices; and I desire to impress more and more upon the minds of our officers and members the favourable results of this trading with the Grand Lodge, as, outside the fact that goods are supplied at a much lower rate, the Grand Lodge is receiving a substantial help by the percentage, which goes a long way towards paying the expenses of said Grand Lodge.

On the 2nd day of March, about three weeks after the Grand Lodge closed, I received the official notification of the opening and dedication by the Grand Lodge representative, Brother A. M. Spence, of the Rose of Africa Lodge, in Uitenhage, South Africa, with the balance of account due from them. Too much importance cannot be given to this report, and I desire that the whole of this official report from Brother A. M. Spence shall form part and parcel of this my annual report.

Brother Spence requested that the Grand Lodge would grant a special dispensation, creating Bro. Dr. Wirgman a Deputy Grand Chaplain, as it would tend to give power and influence, and materially assist him in his work. I am pleased to report that the executive officers, after considering the matter, arrived at the conclusion that it would be for the benefit of the Order, and greatly assist brother Spence, and give more dignity to the ceremonies of opening new Lodges; and Bro. Dr. Wirgman being so highly recommended by Bro. Spence, it was unanimously agreed to send a dispensation to Bro. Spence creating Dr. Wirgman Deputy Grand Chaplain

for the South Africa District, and empowering A. M. Spence to confer said honour upon Dr. Wirgman, and duly instal him into said office. On the 6th of June, I received another communication from Brother A. M. Spence, with an account of the progress of the Order in Uitenhage and the prospects of its extension, and asking for supplies for another Lodge, to be named and styled Port Elizabeth Lodge. This communication is also full of interest, and deserves the consideration of this honourable body. Not having regalia and other things on hand, no time was lost in getting them together, and as soon as possible, I despatched them to Bro. Spence. Bills of lading and expenses will be laid upon the table. I regret that I have not received returns from South Africa, but I expect to do so in a few weeks.

By instructions from the Grand President, I went to Bowmanville on the 24th of February, with assistance of Bro J. W. Higginbotham, R. W. G. V. P., who presided, and a goodly number of the brethren from Essex Lodge opened and dedicated Lodge Wellington, No. 19, and duly installed their officers.

By instructions from the Grand President, I went to Lindsay on the 2nd day of March, and, with the assistance of Past Presidents Pearce and Edmett, and a large number of brethren from Lodge Old England, we opened and dedicated Lodge Westminster, No. 20, and duly installed their officers. In both places we were received with becoming respect.

Though these are the only two Lodges that have been legally organized during the past year, efforts have been made, and negotiations are still going on with several parties and localities for the opening of Lodges, viz., Kingston, Brooklin, Little Britain, Ingersoll, London, Peterborough, Windsor, and also an application from the United States. In regard to the latter place, I wrote, stating we could not inaugurate our Order in the United States, but gave them every encouragement, and advised them to join the Sons of St. George. For copy of letter, see Letter Book, fol. 161. Negotiations are still pending with Peterborough. The other places are undecided; but I am persuaded if a proper officer could be sent to those places Lodges could easily be formed.

In reference to Kingston and Windsor, I had personal interviews with gentlemen from those places, and great hopes were expressed that Lodges would be instituted, and we have every reason to believe will at no distant date be verified.

In the early part of May, Past Grand President Caddick intimated to the executive that he intended visiting Manitoba, and expressed his willingness to do all he could towards organizing Lodges in connection with the Order. After due consideration, the executive gave Bro. Caddick full powers under the Seal of the Grand Lodge to act in the premises. Bro. Caddick also received rituals, books, papers, and forms necessary for such

30 years ago

purposes. I am sorry to report that our expectations have not been fully realized in this matter. Bro. Caddick went to Winnipeg, made great efforts to organize a Lodge, and to some extent succeeded. The Winnipeg press referred in favourable terms to the visit of Brother Caddick, and from Bro. Caddick we learn that a Lodge under the name and title of Manitoba Lodge was really opened. That such was the case, is certain, for we have received from Mr. Thomas Robinson, a gentleman of position, a letter containing an account of Mr. Caddick's visit and the organizing of the Lodge, and an order for a full set of regalia for the use of the new Lodge. I immediately procured the necessary articles, and forwarded them by American express, C. O. D., as we were desired by Bro. Caddick. I received a letter from Bro. Robinson, saying the goods had arrived; but as the money was not forwarded, we felt uneasy, and afterwards found that the goods had not been taken out of the express. I had not received the names to make out their legal Charter, and a correspondence has been going on ever since, which will be laid upon the table, and the Grand Lodge will be asked to take some steps in the matter.

On August, the 12th, the executive officers, learning that Past President Waddington intended visiting the Muskoka District, and Brother Waddington having expressed his willingness to try and extend the Order, gave to Brother Waddington full powers, under the Seal of the Grand Lodge, to organize, open and dedicate Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge Sons of England. Bro. Waddington, while not meeting with the success expected, nevertheless laid the foundation for several Lodges. A report from Bro. Waddington will be laid on the table, also a report of the meeting held in the Rossin House by the Representatives of Benevolent Societies during the Grand Lodge Session in Oshawa last year. For copies of commissions given to Bros. Caddick and Waddington, see Letter Book, fol. 294.

On the 2nd of March, the British Empire was thrown into a state of consternation by the attempted assassination of our beloved Sovereign Queen Victoria, which called forth expressions of deep sympathy from every civilized nation. "The attempt upon her life was no doubt the act of a madman. No one in the possession of his senses would be guilty of such a crime as the assassination of a Sovereign who has been so free from all suspicion of unfairness towards any of her subjects; a wife who has been the synonym of fealty; a mother who has been an example for all the world." Fortunately, the murderous missile failed of its purpose, and the Queen yet lives to rule the Empire.

I desire to call the attention of this honourable body to the great variety of opinion expressed upon several articles of our constitution, which causes a considerable amount of speculation, and uncertain ruling on the part of some of our officers.

The first is the 2nd Article on membership, Clause 2, definition of an Englishman. Some of our members and officers going so far as to say that any one born in England, Irish, Scotch, or German, red or black, are eligible to become members under that clause. The first part of the clause, to my mind, settles the whole argument. "This Society shall be composed of Englishmen and their descendants, who must be Protestants;" and, in order to define the location of an Englishman, it is further qualified that "they must have been born in that part of Great Britain south of the Tweed." I respectfully ask the Grand Lodge to give a definite ruling on this matter.

The next is Article 7, and refers to the election of officers, some members and officers claiming that presidents have the right to give the casting vote where there is a tie, on the election of officers, quoting Article 14 as supporting their view. Now Article 7 sets forth, that all officers must be elected by ballot, and that a majority of votes cast shall be necessary to a choice. This clause distinctly lays down, that all elections of officers must be governed by it. Article 14, referring to the votes of a President refers only to motions before the chair; then if there is a tie, the President may give the casting vote.

The next is Article 13, clause 2, referring to the qualifications for the office of President; as this is the subject of an appeal to the Grand Lodge by Past President Waddington, I do not think it prudent for me to give an expression of opinion, as the matter will come before the Committee on Appeals, and will receive the full consideration of the Grand Lodge.

Another question to be decided is, can a member take the second degree without belonging to any degree Lodge. My opinion on this question was overruled by the Grand President, but my explanation is that where there is no degree Lodge, a member with proper certificates may have the degree conferred upon him, without being subjected to any by-laws of the said Lodge. I ask for the opinion of this Grand Lodge on this point.

At the last Grand Lodge Session I suggested the desirability of drawing up a Statement, setting forth the objects and benefits of our Order, and having it published in pamphlet form, for distribution among Englishmen. Nothing has been done in this direction, and as Brighton Lodge, after considering the importance of the question, resolved to issue such pamphlet, I desire again to call your attention to this matter, and suggest the desirability of this Grand Lodge issuing such pamphlet in preference to any subordinate Lodge.

I would also respectfully suggest to this honourable body the desirability of a Monthly Journal or Magazine, which, in my opinion, would greatly assist in spreading the objects and progress of the Order, and would prove a good means of advertising the Institution. I have every reason to believe that the publication of the proceedings of our last Grand Lodge

Session, has done much to strengthen the confidence of our members, and place our order in a favourable light before the public, and I trust that the Grand Lodge will again determine to publish these proceedings.

In September I received a letter from Bro. Henry Williams, the Worthy Secretary of Victoria Lodge, expressing some dissatisfaction at the neglect of Grand Lodge officers, and, to some extent, charging us with having no interest in the Lodge; while sympathizing with the position of Bro. Williams, I must however claim that we have not in any way neglected to encourage and help him, as the correspondence will show. With this exception, no complaint of any kind has come from any other Lodge; and, with the exception of a misunderstanding with Britannia, which forms the subject of an appeal in connection with an order for regalia, the correspondence has been conducted with the best spirit and good feeling. Britannia correspondence, 238, 246, 252, letter book folio.

A casual glance at the number of our Lodges would lead some to suppose that we had not made much progress during the past year, but an examination of the statistics of the various Lodges, will show that, while we have not opened many new Lodges, we have been consolidating those we already have. The returns from the various Lodges show that, both numerically and financially, we have increased in the neighbourhood of 50 per cent. over last year, while the financial standing of each member has increased $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over last year. The number of members on the Lodge roll last year was 1,079, while this year the numbers are 1,506. The total funds of the Lodges last year was \$7,307, while this year the total funds of the Lodges amount to \$10,985, which goes to prove that our Lodges have made good and substantial progress. Some of our Lodges have made more than ordinary progress, notwithstanding heavy liabilities. The financial standing of Albion Lodge at last report was \$1,672; this year it is \$2,151. Middlesex last year was \$1,401; this year it is \$1,700. Kent Lodge last year was \$770; this year it is \$1,087. Essex has increased over a hundred dollars, Sussex not quite a hundred, York over a hundred dollars, Brighton over a hundred dollars, Britannia over four hundred dollars, Old England about eighty dollars, Somerset nearly two hundred and fifty dollars, Surrey over a hundred dollars, Victoria we have no returns from, Warwick over a hundred dollars, Durham Lodge over one hundred and fifty dollars; Oxford Lodge, perhaps, making the greatest progress, having made over \$500 during the year—and this after paying all expenses. The outlay of the several Lodges has also greatly exceeded that of last year. For sick benefits was paid out \$1,150 last year, this year \$1,383, being an increase of over \$200. For funeral benefits last year \$191 was paid out, this year \$299, being an increase of over \$100. For medical attendance last year \$894 was paid, this year \$1,390, increase nearly five hundred dollars. For cap. tax last year \$279 was received, this year \$379, or an increase of \$118 over last

year. The total amount of funds invested in banks last year was \$6,769; dollars; this year there is invested nine thousand eight hundred and thirty-five dollars, or an increase of over \$3,000.

The business of the Grand Lodge has also largely increased; last year the total amount of cash passing through the hands of the Grand Lodge, was only \$410. This year the amount is \$1,322, or an increase of \$912. This is the result of the various Lodges purchasing their supplies through the executive; from this statement it must be apparent, that while the Lodges will get their supplies at a much lower rate than ordinary dealing, the Grand Lodge is receiving a substantial benefit by the transaction. I am pleased to report the growing disposition, and desire of our Lodge Secretaries, to obtain their supplies from us, and I am further inclined to the belief, that an order absolute should be made, to carry out this principle, and in a short time, the capitation tax could be utilised for the extension of the order. Some of our Lodges are more particular than others; for instance, two Lodges purchased an altar for the Lodge room, one orders it through the Grand Lodge and pays a percentage, the other orders it from a private source, pays the same money, but the Grand Lodge loses the percentage. These are matters of great importance to the financial welfare of the Grand Lodge, and I trust our officers and members will not lose sight of this. The cost of regalia is greatly reduced; where it used to cost \$48 for a dozen collars, now they can be obtained for \$33 per dozen, and other articles in proportion. I take pleasure in mentioning here, that I have received valuable assistance from several of our Lodge Secretaries, and it has always been my desire to consult them in reference to the kind of books which I thought was necessary for the uniform working of the Lodges; and I believe that when our Secretaries will agree to use one system of books for their Lodge accounts, it will be cheaper and easier for them; and I desire to especially mention Bro. Skippon, whose improved system for a Lodge roll book, is the best I have seen, and one I would recommend to all our Lodge Secretaries, and which might be had at a cheap rate, if the Grand Lodge would adopt that and no other. With a good and easy system of book-keeping, and an earnest and devoted Secretary, the Lodge will show a good record, and I am sure this Grand Lodge must be satisfied with the statistics I have already quoted.

The Financial position of the Grand Lodge is better to-day than ever before, yea, better than we ever anticipated. At the beginning of the year the executive found it necessary to meet the expenses of printing the new Constitution, Rituals &c., to ask the Grand Treasurer to advance some money, this he readily complied with, but after the first quarter the money was all paid back, as the lodges very kindly and promptly paid their bills, and we were enabled to refund to the Grand Treasurer, but on the receipt of orders from South Africa for a full set of Lodge Regalia and other supplies, and Winnipeg the same, it was found again necessary to ask the

Grand Treasurer to advance \$300, this time with the understanding that he should receive 5 per cent. per annum, from the first of July. Your executive thought they would only be carrying out your wishes in the matter, accordingly the Grand Treasurer placed at our disposal the sum required which enabled us to pay all debts, and from the balance submitted, you will be able to judge how we stand. The assets of the Grand Lodge more than cover the liabilities, and besides having a balance in hand, leaves us with a large stock of papers and books, Charters and other supplies which places the Grand Lodge upon a different basis to what it ever was before. I have worked for this end, and though my object is not quite realised, still my statements made over two years ago are more than verified, and at the end of another year, will prove to a certainty, what I predicted. The balance sheet before you shows the receipts to be \$1,318.68. The expenditure \$1,275.02, leaving a balance of \$47.48 in the hands of the Treasurer. The large expenditure has been in the purchase of supplies. One source of income, that we had last year, we did not get this year; the attempt of the Grand Lodge to make money out of a Concert held in May last, was not successful. For some cause or other, our members did not enter with spirit or energy into the affair, and we made nothing with the exception of \$2.70, which is now due from Warwick Lodge; but the worst loss of the year has been the order for Regalia &c., for Manitoba. It will be necessary for immediate steps to be taken to recover the goods, and endeavour to collect express charges from those people, and make the most of the goods if they are not damaged.

With the exception of Winnipeg, we have no doubt of the other. South Africa owes \$227; and Lodges Britannia, Warwick, Somerset, 2nd degree, \$368.75; while our liabilities are only \$300; giving us a balance almost enough to cover the loss on Winnipeg.

From these statements and accounts it will be seen that our Grand Lodge stands financially sound to-day; and if we have not extended our borders so far as we could have wished, we have, nevertheless, strengthened the fortress, and laid in supplies for future necessities.

I desire to bear my testimony to the general order and decorum of our Lodges. Constitutional circumstances prevent me from visiting Lodges, unless required by the Grand President; those I have visited have shown marked respect.

Seeing that it was impossible to visit Lodges at a distance, I suggested to the Grand President the desirability of asking the Grand Vice-President to visit some of the Eastern Lodges; and acting upon that suggestion, he instructed me to request the Grand Vice-President to that effect. The Grand Vice-President very cordially accepted the duty, and reported very satisfactory accounts of his visit to Oxford Lodge, Belleville, and others in that district.

I am pleased to report that there is a desire on the part of all our officers and members to adhere as strictly as possible to the Constitution ; and I am glad to say that, with one exception, all our Lodge moneys are properly invested, according to the rules laid down ; the exception I have reported upon to the Grand President more than once.

I am pleased to report that, not only are our Lodges progressing, but our influence is becoming greater ; and though some of our members fail to realize the importance of the obligations under which they have laid themselves, the majority, I believe, carry out to its true intent and meaning every word of it.

All our Lodges are in advance of last year, except Victoria, which has not sent any returns for three quarters, but we thought we would give encouragement and time.

I cannot close my report without saying, that, while we have been progressing, and living in the enjoyment of good health, some of our brethren have passed away, and are now no more. First among the list to pass away was our beloved Brother Pearce, late President of Lodge Old England, who so earnestly and enthusiastically assisted in opening Lodge Westminster, on the 2nd of March. " Brother Pearce was emphatically a worthy young man, frugal, enterprising and upright ; his voice was never heard on the streets, but his example was salutary and instructive ; he had comparatively few acquaintances, but all who knew him were his friends, and those who knew him best esteemed him most. A warm friend, a kind neighbour, and a true and worthy Son of England."

On the 23rd of June, without a moment's warning, one of our most promising and rising young members met with a sad and melancholy death : Bro. Mark Wright, one of the most zealous members of Durham Lodge, and one who took great delight and pleasure in the opening ceremonies of the Lodge ; and the only time I had the pleasure of seeing him, no words of mine could half convey the interest of feeling produced by his sad and heart-rending death. Bro. Mark Wright was loved by all who ever had anything to do with him ; as a friend and as a man no truer and nobler lived ; beneath a seemingly rough exterior, there was a heart and disposition that even a prince might be proud in possessing. In peace he slumbers !

Others less prominent, but good and true, have passed away, and as we laid them in the solitary grave to rest, we renewed our vows of devotion to our native land, and thanked the Great Grand President above for loving hands and hearts to minister to us in our last hours.

And now, brethren, I desire to close my report. I must acknowledge the uniform kindness shown me on all occasions ; and for the assistance so often given, I desire again to convey to this honourable body and to all our

members my sincere gratitude for the respect always shown me. I have endeavoured to the very best of my ability to perform the duties appertaining to my office. I have encouraged where necessity called for help; I have warned when danger was in the path; I have remonstrated when duty called. I have not had opportunity so often to visit our Lodges, but I have never hesitated when duty called me. I have endeavoured honestly and impartially to perform my duties; and, in giving up my term of office, I do so with a conscientious satisfaction of having done my best. May your deliberations be influenced by a sincere desire to establish in perpetual security our great, glorious and beloved Order!

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN W. CARTER,

Grand Secretary.

Moved by Bro. Clayton, seconded by Bro. Banks,

"That the report be received and laid upon the table."
Carried.

The Grand Treasurer read his Annual Report.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

TORONTO, February 13th, 1883.

To the Most Worthy Grand President, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the S. O. E. B. S.:

BRETHREN,—I have great pleasure in bringing before your notice my receipts from the R. W. G. Secretary for the year ending February 1st, 1883, the sum total of which is \$1,322.45, of which my books will show. During the year, I have received orders for the payment of bills to the amount of \$1,275 42, all of which I have paid, and have great pleasure in stating that, after paying all orders on the Grand Treasurer, I have a balance in hand of \$47.03.

Brethren, I desire to place on record my deep feeling of gratitude for the kind manner in which, on all occasions, I have been received as Grand Treasurer of the S. O. E. B. S., the high position of which I have endeavoured to fill to the best of my ability.

Fraternally submitted,

B. HINCHCLIFF,

Grand Treasurer.

On motion, the report was received and laid on the table.

The Grand Vice-President reported verbally; he had visited several lodges in the eastern district, had been received in a most cordial manner, and would still be glad to do all he could to further the cause.

It being six o'clock, the Grand Lodge adjourned, to meet next day at 9 a.m.

JOHN W. CARTER,
Grand Secretary.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

February 14th, 1883.

Lodge opened in legal form. J. H. Venables, M. W. G. P. in the Chair; J. W. Higginbotham, R. W. G. V. P., in the Vice-Chair.

The Committee on Credentials reported Brother Mason, from Durham Lodge. Report received. Delegate took his seat.

Roll Call of Officers:—Most Worthy Grand President, Right Worthy Grand Vice-President, Right Worthy Grand Treasurer, Right Worthy Grand Secretary. Delegates: Present—1. Albion, Brothers Partridge and Waddington; 2. Middlesex, Brothers Skippon and T. Donovan; 3. Kent, Brothers Caddick and Thos. Turffe; 4. Essex, Brother Southcombe; 5. Sussex, Brothers Robson and Sarney; 6. York, Brothers E. Firman and Burton; 7. Brighton, Brothers Dr. Pollard and Banks; 8. Britannia, Brothers Clayton and Rastrick; 9. Old England, Brothers Millar and Edmett; 11. Surrey, Brothers Cannon and A. J. Mills; 14. Manchester, Brother Ivens; 15. Durham, Brothers Wright and Mason; 16. Oxford, Brothers Hulme and London; 18. Chester, Brother Gay; 19. Wellington, Brother M. A. James; 20. Westminster, Brothers C. H. Lloyd and T. McConnell.

Minutes of previous Session read and adopted.

The first order of business was election of officers.

Nominations for Most Worthy Grand President were Bro. J. W. Higginbotham, Essex Lodge; Bro. W. Waddington, Albion Lodge; Bro. R. Caddick, Kent Lodge; (Bro. Caddick declined). For Right Worthy Grand Vice-President, Bro. J. Clayton, Britannia; Bro. R. C. Hulme, Oxford; Bro. Sarney, Sussex; Bro. Mills, Surrey. (Bro. Mills declined.)

For Grand Treasurer—Brother B. Hincheliff.

“ “ Secretary—Brother John W. Carter.

“ “ Chaplain—Brother, Rev. Dr. Clark.

“ Deputy Grand Chaplain—Brother, Rev. H. J. Nott.

“ “ “ “ for South Africa—Brother,
Dr. Wirgman.

Deputy Grand Lodge Officer for South Africa—Brother A. M. Spence.

Balloting for Officers:—Brother J. W. Higginbotham was elected Most Worthy Grand President; Brother J. Clayton, Right Worthy Grand Vice-President; Brother B. Hincheliff, Right Worthy Grand Treasurer; Brother John W. Carter, Right Worthy Grand Secretary; Brother A. M. Spence, Deputy Grand Lodge Officer for South Africa; Brother Rev. Dr. Clark, Right Worthy Grand Chaplain; Brother Rev. H. J. Nott, Deputy Grand Chaplain; Brother Rev. Dr. Wirgman, Deputy Grand Chaplain for South Africa.

A vote of thanks was passed to the scrutineers. The Committee on Credentials reported Brother Thomas Worth and G. S. Booth, from Somerset Lodge. Report was received, and delegates took their seats.

The Grand Secretary read a report, signed by Bros. Waddington and Mills, in reference to a meeting of prominent representatives of benevolent societies, held in the Rossin House.

Report received and laid on the table.

The Grand Secretary read a report, signed by Bro. Waddington, in reference to efforts made to organize Lodges in Muskoka.

Report received and laid on the table.

Bro. Tammadge, Secretary of Oxford Lodge, Belleville, was introduced to the Grand Lodge by the Grand Secretary.

Bro. Tammadge was received with applause.

DEFERED BUSINESS.

First order was Second Degree Ritual.

It was moved and carried that the Grand Lodge go into Committee of the Whole on the Second Degree Ritual. Bro. Higginbotham in the chair.

Bro. Venables then read the new form of ritual which he had prepared. The same proposed an entire change.

After considerable discussion, Bro. Hulme moved that the old ritual be destroyed, and a new one substituted.

Carried.

A long and animated discussion then took place on the proposed change, in which Bros. Hulme, Clayton, Gay, Cannon, Rastrick, Mills and others, took an active part.

Bro. Cannon moved that the Committee rise and report progress. Carried.

The Grand President resumed the chair.

Bro. Cannon moved that the new ritual be referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Bros. Hulme, London, Caddick, Nott, Donovan and Skippon.

Bro. Waddington moved, in amendment, that the Committee consist of one delegate from each Lodge.

Amendment lost.

After some further discussion it being 12 o'clock the Grand Lodge adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

1.30 p.m.

Most Worthy Grand President took the chair.

Roll-call dispensed with.

The Grand Secretary read a communication from Bro. Williams, Victoria Lodge.

Received and handed over to the Committee on Correspondence.

Bro. Rastrick's motion to abolish the 2nd degree declared out of order.

The Committee on Second Degree Ritual reported, the Grand Lodge went into Committee of the Whole on the Second Degree Ritual, and the remainder of the sitting was taken up in discussing the different clauses, and illustrating the same. It was ultimately adopted, and left in the hands of Bros. Hulme and London, to see to the printing. The Committee rose and reported, the Grand President declared the Grand Lodge in session.

Bro. Nott was introduced, and took his seat.

Notice of motion by Bro. Ivens, that he would ask Grand President, to-morrow, his interpretation of Clause 1, Article 7, in reference to the election of officers.

Moved by Bro. Hulme, that this Lodge adjourn till 9 a.m., Thursday, to enable Committees to get to work.

Carried.

Bro. Sarney asked leave of absence. Granted.

Bros. Lloyd and McConnell asked leave of absence.

Notice of motion for Thursday, the appointment of a committee to get up an emblem for the use of the Order.

JOHN W. CARTER,

Grand Secretary.

THURSDAY MORNING.

February 15th, 1883.

Lodge opened in legal form. M. W. G. P. in the Chair.
 Roll Call of Office:—Present—Most Worthy Grand President, Right Worthy Grand Vice-President; absent on leave—Right Worthy Grand Secretary, Right Worthy Grand Treasurer. Delegates—1. Albion, Brothers Waddington and Partridge; 2. Middlesex, Brothers Skippon and Donovan; 3. Kent, Brothers Caddick and Turff; 4. Essex, Brothers Southcombe and Dingle; 5. Sussex, Brother Robson; 6. York, Brother Firman and Burton; 7. Brighton, Brother Banks; 8. Britannia, Brothers Clayton and Rastrick; 9. Old England, Brothers Millar and Edmett; 10. Somerset, Brothers T. Worth and G. S. Booth; 11. Surrey, Brothers Cannon and Mills; 13. Warwick, Brother Hastings; 14. Manchester, Brother Ivens and Kelly; 15. Durham, Brothers W. H. Wright and Mason; 16. Oxford, Brothers Hulme and London; 18. Chester, Brother Gay; 19. Wellington, Brother M. A. James.

The minutes of previous meeting were read by Right Worthy Grand Secretary.

Moved by Bro. Banks, seconded by Bro. Mills,

“That the minutes as read be received and adopted.”

Carried.

REPORT ON FINANCE AND AUDIT.

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of S. O. E. B. S.:

RIGHT WORTHY GRAND PRESIDENT AND BROTHERS,—We, your Committee on Audit and Finance, beg leave to report that we have examined the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Worthy Grand Secretary and Worthy Grand Treasurer, and find them to agree and be correct.

We would also beg to call your attention to the following corrections which require to be made in Grand Lodge balance sheet ending February, 1st, 1883.

Assets, error in amount of sundries, amount should read \$44.52, making total \$369.62.

Balance in Treasurer's hands, \$47.43, in place of \$47.48.

Balance of liabilities, \$69.62, in place of \$68.70.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. EDMETT.

WM. ROBSON.

WM. H. WRIGHT.

JOHN CLAYTON.

WILLIAM GAY.

Moved by Bro. Dr. Pollard, seconded by Bro. Banks,
 "That the report be received and laid upon the table."
 Carried.

REPORT ON CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

TORONTO, February, 1883.

*To the Right Worthy Grand President, Grand Vice-President and Officers,
 Grand Lodge of the S. O. E. B. S. in Session :*

We, the Committee appointed on Constitution and Laws, beg leave to submit to your honourable body our report of same, which is as follows :

That clause 1 be adopted, as amended by striking out word "paraphernalia."

clause 2, covered by other motion.

clause 3 be adopted.

clause 4 be adopted.

clause 5 be adopted, with following alterations: "President," on 4th and 7th lines, to be struck out, and the word "Lodge" substituted.

clause 6 be not adopted.

clause 7 be not adopted.

clause 8 be not adopted.

clause 9 be not adopted.

clause 10 be not adopted.

clause 11 be not adopted.

clause 12 be adopted.

clause 13 be not adopted, but that the words "(he, or)", art. 2

cl. 2, page 8, Constitution, be struck out.

clauses 14, 15, 16, 17 be not adopted.

clause 18 be not adopted.

clauses 19 and 20 be not adopted.

The Committee rose and reported progress.

Lodge *resume*.

On motion, the report as amended was received and adopted.

Moved by Dr. Pollard,

"That the Committee on Constitution and Laws do report on the questions submitted to them."

We also beg to submit the answers by the Committee to the motions submitted to them.

No. 1—By Bro. Ivens—Is it necessary to cast a ballot for a member that has been elected to office by acclamation? No. *

No. 2—By Bro. Ivens—Can a member who has been so elected, if previously nominated for a superior office, be elected to the same? No. *

No. 3—By Grand Secretary, *re* definition of Englishman—His idea sustained.

No. 4—By Grand Secretary, *re* casting vote—We submit the President has a casting vote on all matters, except in election of officers.

* [The Grand President ruled that a member, being nominated as President, and then as Vice-President, accepting the office of Vice-President, cannot stand for election as President. Also, that election cannot be on same night as nomination, unless to fill vacant offices.]

JAMES BANKS.
THOMAS TURFF.
W. WADDINGTON.
S. B. POLLARD.
THOMAS CANNON.

Moved by Bro. Hulme, seconded by Bro. Dr. Pollard,

"That the report be received and laid upon the table."
Carried.

Notice of Motion.

Moved by Bro. Banks, seconded by Bro. Dr. Pollard,

"That the Grand Lodge do decide at 3 p.m. as to where the Grand Lodge shall meet next year." Carried.

REPORT ON SUSPENSIONS AND APPEALS.

TORONTO, 14th February, 1883.

To the Most Worthy Grand President, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the S. O. E. B. S.:

SIR AND BROTHERS,—Your Committee on Suspensions and Appeals beg to report on the following matters submitted to them, having heard and carefully considered the pleas put forward by both parties, in each case, and recommend as follows:

Re Oxford Lodge for rebate on opening expenses of said Lodge, that the said appeal be disallowed.

Re Britannia Lodge, in reference to purchase of necessary articles, that the appeal be disallowed, but at the same time recommend to the Executive the desirability in all cases of purchasing articles in the cheapest market of best quality.

Re appeal from Surrey Lodge, that the decision of that Lodge should be sustained.

Re Bro. Waddington and President of Albion Lodge, consider that the case is clearly covered by the Constitution, p. 26, art. xii. clause 2, and recommend that the action of the President be sustained, but strongly urged on the Grand Lodge to give the clause their serious consideration, and if necessary to alter the same.

THOS. W. SKIPPON, Chairman.

RICH. CADDICK.

ROBT. R. SOUTHCORBE.

RICH. IVENS.

T. McCONNELL.

THOMAS A. HASTINGS.

Moved by Bro. Clayton, seconded by Bro. Pollard,

“That the report be received.” Carried.

Moved by Bro. Caddick,

"That Grand Lodge resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider appeals." Carried.

Bro. Mason in the Chair.

After a short sitting, the Committee rose and reported progress.

The Most Worthy Grand President resumed the Chair.

It being 12 o'clock, the Grand Lodge adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Lodge opened at 1.30 p.m., in 1st Degree.

Roll call dispensed with.

Brother Skippon moved that the report on Suspensions and Appeals be adopted. Carried.

NEXT MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.

Bro. Dingle, seconded by Bro. Clayton, invited the Grand Lodge to meet at Belleville next year.

Moved by Bro. Mills, seconded by Bro. Miller,

"That the Grand Lodge meet next year at Lindsay."

On the motion for Belleville being put it was declared carried.

Moved by Brother Caddick, seconded by Bro. Clayton,

"That a vote of sympathy and condolence be sent to Bro. Dr. Clarke on account of his recent illness." Carried.

Brother Hulme obtained leave of absence.
The reports of Grand Officers were received.

Notices of Motion.

By Bro. Skippon, for to-morrow,

“That the duties of Grand Secretary be amended, and read as follows:—‘ Shall issue a semi-annual return of the financial and numerical returns of all Lodges of the Order to each Secretary.’”

By Bro. Edmett,

“That, after the rising of the Grand Lodge, the Constitution shall not be altered for four years, and so continue from time to time.”

Grand Lodge then adjourned till Friday morning, 9 a.m.

FRIDAY MORNING.

February 16th, 1883.

The Grand Lodge opened in due form, at 9.30 a.m., the Most Worthy Grand President in the Chair.

Roll call dispensed with.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Moved by Bro. Skippon, seconded by Bro. Donovan,

“That a suitable emblem be obtained for the use of the Order in advertising, and that a Committee be appointed for the purpose.” Carried.

Committee appointed by the Grand President:—Bros. Mills, Clayton, Caddick, Ivens and Skippon.

Moved by Bro. Skippon, seconded by Bro. Donovan,

"That the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue a semi-annual return of the financial and numerical standing of each Lodge in the Order to all Lodge Secretaries." Carried.

Bro. Skippon asked why statistics of Lodges were not received by delegates to take home to their respective Lodges.

After some discussion and an explanation from the Grand Secretary, the matter dropped.

Moved by Bro. Skippon, seconded by Bro. Donovan,

"That the Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish each Lodge with the financial and numerical standing of each Lodge for the year 1882, by placing it in his annual report." Carried.

Bro. Waddington, called the attention of the Grand Lodge to the fact, that the Executive Officers had not the power to grant Charters; it was no doubt overlooked in forming the new Constitution; he would move, seconded by Brother Banks, that the Executive Officers have power to grant Lodge Charters. Carried.

Bro. Dr. Pollard moved that Past Presidents of Sub-Lodges be allowed to sit at Grand Lodges.

After some discussion the motion was lost.

The motion by Bro. Edmett that the Constitution should stand unaltered for four years, was, after a very short discussion, lost.

Moved by Bro. Turff, seconded by Bro. Skippon,

"That the report on Finance and Audit be adopted." Carried.

Moved by Bro. Turff, seconded by Bro. Cannon,

"That a Committee be appointed to investigate the assertions made against the President of Manchester Lodge in admitting Bro. Samuels, the same Committee to consist of the Executive Officers, also Bros. Caddick and Waddington." Carried.

The Grand Secretary then read the report on Correspondence.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

TORONTO, February 16th, 1883. .

To the Most Worthy Grand President, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge, S. O. E. B. S. :

The Committee to whom was referred the correspondence in the matter of Manitoba Lodge, Winnipeg, beg to report that, after careful consideration, they would recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to re-call goods from Winnipeg, and draw on Bro. Thos. Robinson for all expenses that may have been incurred, and damages, if any.

In the matter of Victoria Lodge, we have also read and considered the correspondence between it and the Grand Secretary, but cannot consent to reduction on entrance fees, as requested by them, but would recommend that this Grand Lodge request the President and Secretary to communicate to Bros. Horsman and Williams its desire that they should make another effort to revive the work in their Lodge, and that this Grand Lodge deeply sympathize with them in their efforts to sustain Victoria Lodge against the difficulties they have to contend with, and trust that they and other members of the Lodge will not permit their Charter to be withdrawn while there is any possibility of keeping it together.

We have read with pleasure the correspondence from Bro. Spence, President of Rose of Africa, and believe it would be in the interest of this Order if the correspondence could be made known to the public ; and would recommend that the Grand Lodge Executive Officers be authorized to use their influence with the proprietors of the various newspapers of this city with a view to the publication of the same.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. DONOVAN, Chairman.

WM. J. DINGLE.

GEO. S. MILLER.

C. H. LLOYD.

BRO. SPENCE'S LETTER.

UITENHAGE, 14th January, 1882.

*To the Grand Secretary,**Sons of England B.S., Toronto:*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have to acknowledge receipt of three letters of various dates, with enclosures in order, also parcel per express, in good order, for which severally accept our sincere thanks, and more especially for your private instructions, which indeed were of inestimable value, enabling me to carry out the proceedings at the opening and dedicating of the First Lodge in South Africa, under the Constitution and by Warrant of our noble and worthy Order.

In accordance with instructions, I read the dispensation granted to myself in open Lodge, on 28th November last, and allowing sufficient time for arrival of Lodge Regalia, announced the opening for 19th December, issuing special summonses for that night.

And now it is my pleasing duty to announce that, according to summons, the Rose of Africa, No. 16, S. O. E. B. S., was opened and dedicated by myself, in my official capacity, as Deputy-Grand Officer, and in accordance with the Constitution and Ritual of the Order, on which occasion twenty-five worthy Englishmen were initiated, and became members of the Order. After the above ceremonies were concluded, the new Lodge was opened in due form and an election of officers for the ensuing year took place, and a resolution was passed unanimously that, "The hearty and sincere thanks of the Lodge are due to the Grand Lodge for the honour conferred on it, by their adoption of its title as the pass-word for the current quarter." The proceedings terminated at this stage, as the time, 2 a.m., did not allow us to finish as anticipated by a series of Readings and Recitations.

By next post a complete list of officers and members will be furnished you. Our Secretary being at present up country on Government duty, and I am unable from memory to furnish particulars.

Enclosed draft on Standard Bank, London, for £10 7s. 8d., being balance due Grand Lodge, as per statement.

I am happy to say that the ceremonies of the Order have, as far as I can judge, left a deep and lasting impression on the various members, and I foresee, with good management, a grand future for the Order in South Africa. My prognostications are based on two certainties: Firstly. On the existence of a Society lately formed in South Africa, called the South African Bond, which is entirely of a political nature, and was started by influential Dutchmen in *Paarl*, which is universally known here as the hotbed of treason and rebellion against British authority, and has at its head Chief-Justice Reitz, of the neighbouring Republic, the Orange Free State, who is well known for his antipathy to the English, and has for its primary object, the ostensible one of protecting the interests of the farmers; but as the farming population here is composed almost entirely of Dutchmen, its real and fully apparent one is the protection of Dutch interests, and, this means, if paramount, a Republic, similar to the O. F. State or Transvaal; it has been the means of making British residents look pretty close after their political interests, as has been shown by the severe contests at a few recent elections, where the cry has not been as before, East against West, but Dutch against English; the above lessons will, I imagine, be the means of making colonists take an interest in a Society which has for its primary object the protection of British interests, and the interest being exerted the rest naturally follows, they become members. Secondly, the principles of the Order being of such good and sound character, tending as it does to bring out that in a man which is good, and sup-

pressing or eradicating that which is evil, will naturally commend itself to its members, and once joining, I have no fear as to their continuing good and faithful brethren ; when I speak of evil, I mean selfishness, which is the root of all evil ; and to be a conscientious member of the Order, it is necessary to put away selfishness from oneself, and by so doing, all the good and benevolent traits of one's character, being left untrammelled will flourish.

We had the honour of enrolling among our members the Rev. Dr. Wirgman, who is likely to prove a valuable member of the Order ; he is at present the District Grand Chaplain of the Masonic Order in South Africa, and is accounted one of the best of our colonial extempore preachers ; he is also of a purely martial spirit, and I think his greatest pleasure is when preaching to the various detachments of our regiment, of which he is Chaplain, on their departure and return from active service. I have thought, but have not mentioned it to him, that if your Grand Lodge could grant him a dispensation as Deputy-Grand Chaplain, he would be of great service to the Order in that prominent capacity, both on account of his personal and social influence and also for his energy and ready eloquence.

In conclusion, I must beg of you to render to your Grand Lodge, both for myself and the Lodge I represent, our ready and willing allegiance to them, hoping we may be found worthy of the trust placed in us by them, by regulating both our public and private lives in accordance with the tenets of the Order.

Believe me to be,

Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

A. M. SPENCE,

PRESIDENT.

ROSE OF AFRICA LODGE,)

No. 16, S.O.E.B.S. }

Moved by Bro. Robson, seconded by Bro. Gay,

"That the report be adopted."

After some discussion, the motion was carried.

Moved by Bro. Clayton, seconded by Bro. Gay,

"That we sit at this present Session until the business of the Grand Lodge is finished." Carried.

Moved by Bro. Clayton, seconded by Bro. Turff,

"That the re-consideration of the Committee on Bro. Waddington's appeal be adopted." Carried.

Moved that the report of Bro. Waddington on the Muskoka District be received. Carried.

Moved that the report of the meeting of Delegates of Benevolent Societies' Representatives at Rossin House be adopted. Carried.

Moved by Bro. Turff, seconded by Bro. Wright,

"That a vote of thanks be tendered to Bro. Waddington for his efforts on behalf of the Order." Carried.

At 12 o'clock noon, the Grand Lodge adjourned for half an hour.

Moved by Bro. Caddick, seconded by Bro. Cannon,

"That Bro. Venables be presented by the Delegates of the Grand Lodge with a Past Grand Lodge Jewel, said jewel to cost about \$30, not to exceed \$35." Carried.

Resolved that Bros. Higginbotham, Caddick and Skippon be a Committee to provide the jewel.

Bro. Caddick then read the report of the Committee on Grand Lodge Officers' reports.

REPORTS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

TORONTO, 16th February, 1883.

To the Right Worthy Grand President, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the S. O. E. B. S. :

DEAR SIR AND BRETHREN,—Having carefully perused the Annual Address and Report of the Right Worthy Grand President to this Grand Lodge now assembled, we recommend that the same be adopted and printed in the Annual Report.

Also, that the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the present year be printed.

Also, that having read the report made by the Grand Treasurer, and his financial statement for the year, we commend the admirable way in which the accounts are kept, and recommend the same for adoption.

Also, the report of the Grand Secretary we recommend for adoption as amended.

We do not recommend the publication of a magazine at the expense of the Order at present.

THOS. R. SKIPPON, Chairman.
RICH. CADDICK.
WM. ROBSON.
R. IVENS.

Moved by Bro. Ivens, seconded by Bro. Turff,
"That the reports be received and adopted." Carried.

Moved by Bro. Waddington, seconded by Brother Higginbotham,

"That a vote of thanks be given to the Press." Carried.
Bro. Venell returned thanks for same.

On statements made by Bro. Skippon that sick pay had been paid for fractional parts of a week, it was ordered that such should not be done under one week, but might be after a week's illness of member.

There being no other business, the Grand President, assisted by Past Grand Presidents Caddick and Mills, then duly installed the Grand Lodge Officers Elect into their respective offices.

After short speeches from the newly installed officers, the Most Worthy Grand President closed, in due form, the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge Sons of England Benevolent Society, at 2.30 p.m.

God save the Queen!

JOHN W. CARTER,
R. W. Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge Balance Sheet for Year Ending February 1st, 1883.

1882.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance in hands of Treasurer	\$3 82
" from Somerset Lodge	12 75
Proceeds from Concert	60 20
Cash for Lodge Supplies	548 13
" " Capitation Tax	397 60
Loan from Grand Treasurer	300 00

\$1,322 50

ASSETS.

South Africa	\$227 20
Winnipeg	77 90
Oxford	20 00
Sundries	44 52
	<u>\$369 62</u>

Grand Secretary's Office, February 1st, 1883.

1882.

EXPENDITURE.

By Printing	\$341 65
Stationery	6 70
Regalia, Seals, etc.	549 20
Grand Lodge Expenses at Oshawa	57 00
Grand Lodge General Expenses	67 05
Concert Expenses	60 20
Grand Secretary's Salary	150 00
General Postage	13 00
Half-Year's Interest on Loan	7 50
Incidental Expenses	22 72
Balance in hands of Treasurer	47 48

\$1,322 50

LIABILITIES.

By Loan from Grand Treasurer	\$300 00
Balance	69 62
	<u>\$369 62</u>

JOHN W. CARTER, GRAND SECRETARY.

APPENDIX (B.)

ANNUAL STATISTICS

Showing the Numerical and Financial Standing of each Lodge.

No.	Lodge.	Number of Last Report.	No. in Good Stand- ing.	No. 6 months in Arrears.	No. over 6 months.	Honorary.	No. Initiated dur- ing year.	No. Suspended, Withdrawn or Ex- pelled.	Deceased.	Total Number.	Amount of Sick Benefits.	Paid for Funerals.	Surgeons' Fees.	Capitation Tax.	Invested.	In Treasurers' Hands.	Total Lodge Fund.	Liabilities.	No. Paying Cap. Tax.
1	ALBION	202	162	18	23	5	37	26	1	213	\$384 00	\$50 00	\$229 47	\$65 40	\$2151 71	.....	\$2151 71	\$81 66	166
2	MIDDLESEX	143	146	12	10	6	44	12	1	174	344 50	.....	202 24	50 40	1587 40	\$113 57	1700 97	82 72	133
3	KENT	107	93	11	15	13	34	8	1	132	135 50	90 00	116 63	35 60	1035 97	51 37	1087 34	.....	86
4	ESSEX	49	35	4	9	9	5	6	1	48	63 00	.....	35 00	14 40	687 28	33 74	721 02	.....	39
5	SUSSEX	59	46	7	7	..	7	2	..	60	78 50	15 00	43 50	19 80	551 30	40 17	591 47	19 58	44
6	YORK	49	43	7	7	..	15	24	..	57	37 50	.....	60 53	17 00	155 00	88 55	243 55	39 15	45
7	BRIGHTON	35	48	7	3	2	34	7	..	58	45 00	.....	59 00	16 90	205 15	57 27	262 42	12 00	52
8	BRITANNIA	101	137	14	4	6	78	18	1	162	45 22	.....	105 25	34 70	1030 00	157 86	1187 86	66 19	112
9	OLD ENGLAND ..	27	32	1	..	..	9	3	1	33	31 69	30 00	25 00	11 20	153 00	51 81	204 81	.....	30
10	SOMERSET	34	51	5	5	1	36	2	..	69	7 00	7 00	61 87	15 70	349 00	11 25	360 25	.....	47
11	SURREY	55	43	7	6	..	12	9	..	58	90 75	.....	68 89	18 90	470 55	101 80	572 35	36 61	46
12	VICTORIA	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	.....	.....	2 50	1 00	43 20	.....	43 20	.....	10
13	WARWICK	68	65	13	10	..	23	8	1	88	81 00	50 00	88 32	28 20	488 16	.....	488 16	68 89	78
14	MANCHESTER ..	36	49	4	8	2	33	5	..	68	28 50	.....	45 55	15 10	.....	169 85	169 85	.....	44
15	DURHAM	26	57	2	1	..	33	1	1	59	12 00	57 00	64 49	17 20	240 00	.....	240 00	.....	53
16	ROSE OF AFRICA.	25	50	..	..	..	25	..	..	50	.....	.....	70 00	.....	.....	.....	200 00	.....	..
17	OXFORD	40	93	3	..	..	54	..	..	96	.....	.....	68 25	19 10	437 53	71 39	508 92	.....	75
18	CHESTER	13	21	1	1	..	6	..	..	23	.....	.....	17 86	5 70	.....	72 29	72 29	71 70	20
19	WELLINGTON ..	66	23	..	..	..	7	..	..	23	.....	.....	.....	6 90	.....	91 24	91 24	.....	23
20	WESTMINSTER ..	....	24	..	..	..	24	..	..	26	.....	.....	15 00	4 40	50 00	38 53	88 53	.....	22
			1234	113	106	44	504	131	6	1597	\$1384 16	\$299 00	\$1379 35	397 60	\$9435 25	\$1180 69	\$10995 94	\$478 50	1125