

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Lodge of Canada West,

I. O. O. F.

AT ITS

Seventh Annual Communication,

HELD AT ST. THOMAS,

IN THE ROOMS BELONGING TO ELGIN LODGE NO 32,

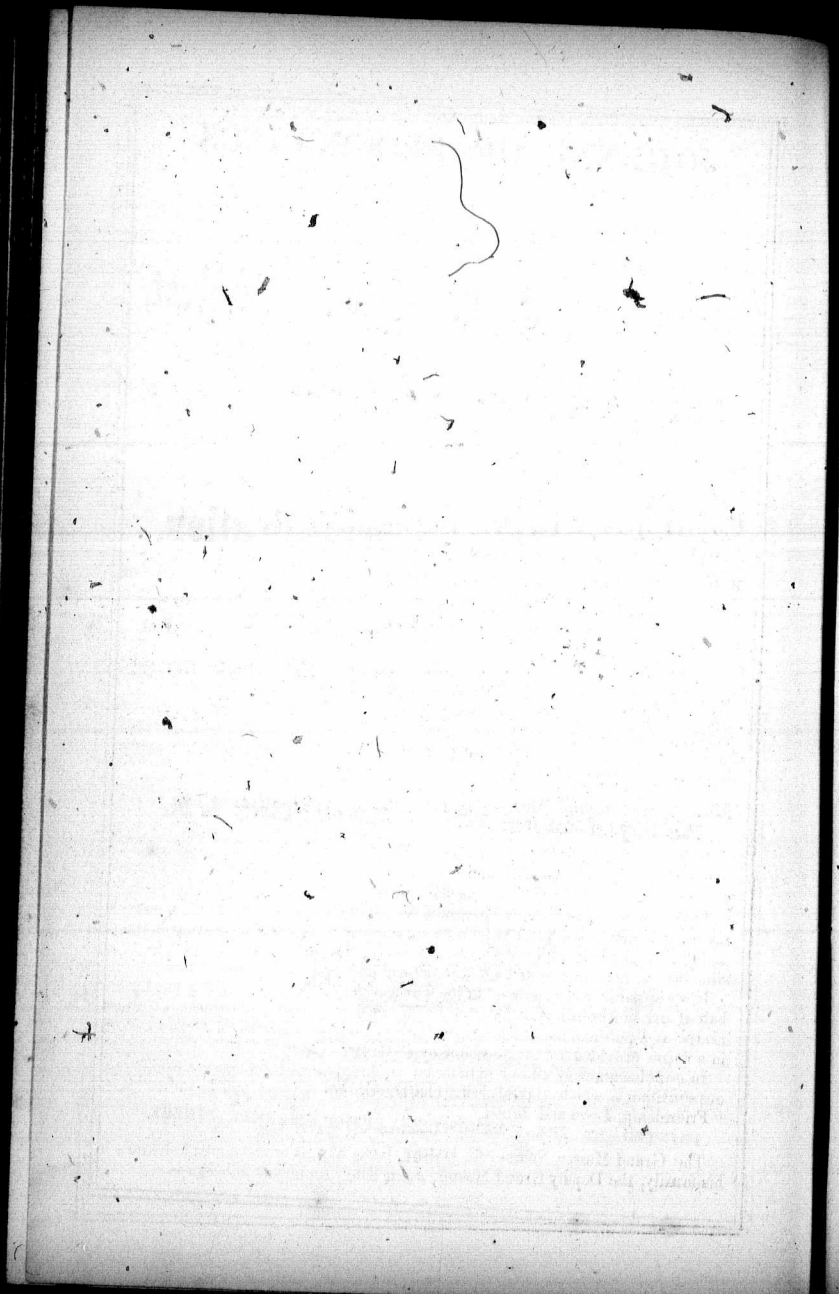
ON THE

7th day of August, 1861, at Eleven o'Clock A. M.



BRANTFORD, C. W.:

PRINTED AT THE "EXPOSITOR" OFFICE, MARKET STREET,
1861.



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I. O. O. F.,

SEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

OF THE

Grand Lodge of Canada West.

Held at St. Thomas, in the Rooms of Elgin Lodge, No. 32, commencing on the 7th day of August, 1861, at 3 o'clock, P. M., pursuant to adjournment.

A Special Meeting of Elgin Lodge having been called for the purpose of receiving the Officers and Representatives of the Grand Lodge, and the same having been announced, admitted, and received in due form, the Noble Grand delivered the following address:—

Most Worthy Grand Master, Officers and Representatives of the Grand Lodge of Canada West:—

As the Noble Grand of Elgin Lodge, No. 32, it affords me much pleasure to extend to you a welcome on this occasion; and on behalf of this Lodge I tender you the free use of our Hall during the present Session.

That your intercourse may be conducive of great good to all Odd Fellows is my most hearty wish, and I hope nothing may occur to embarrass your actions, and that your first meeting with us, will serve, by its energy and harmony, to stimulate us here to renewed life and determined exertions in the future.

If welcoming you among us in the Town of St. Thomas, I invite you, on behalf of my brethren here, to do us the honor of becoming the guests of Elgin Lodge at a public dinner to be given this evening, in honor of the Grand Lodge, in a room provided for the occasion by P. G. Bro. Laing.

In conclusion, may all our actions be so guarded as to increase those generous sentiments which should ever characterize an Order, whose motto is,—
“Friendship, Love and Truth.”

The Grand Master, Samuel G. Dolson, being absent on account of sickness in his family, the Deputy Grand Master, John King, replied as follows:—

Noble Grand Officers and Brethren of Elgin Lodge:—

On behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada West, and in the absence of the Grand Master, I thank you for the courtesy you have manifested, in offering us the free use of your Hall for the present Session.

It affords us much pleasure to meet the Brothers of Elgin Lodge on this occasion, and we cordially accept the kind invitation you have extended to us, for the dinner this evening.

The Grand Master having taken the Chair proceeded to business by appointing Reqs. Bingham, Box and Fitzsimmons, a *Committee on Credentials*, who, after due examination, submitted the following names of members entitled to seats as Representatives to this Grand Lodge:

James Hutcheson and Robert Fitzsimmons, Brock Lodge, No. 9, Brockville.

C. Yale, E. S. Friésman, and F. Healey, Union Lodge, No. 16, St. Catharines.

James Marquand, Chatham Lodge, No. 29, Chatham.

T. Brown, and R. Wigmore, Eureka Lodge, No. 30, London.

A. Walthew, Elgin Lodge, No. 32, St. Thomas.

W. A. Glover, Erie Lodge, No. 33, Port Burwell.

H. C. Bingham, Gore Lodge, No. 34, Brantford.

R. Box, St. Mary's Lodge, No. 36, St. Mary's.

John Findlay, Imperial Lodge, No. 37, Burford.

A. A. Towns, Forest City Lodge, No. 38, London.

A. Humphrey, Rond Eau Lodge, No. 40, Blenheim.

Henry Sewell, Avon Lodge, No. 41, Stratford.

On motion, the Report on Credentials was adopted.

On call of Roll, the following Officers and Representatives answered to their names:

R. W. Deputy Grand Master	JOHN KING.
R. W. Grand Warden	J. R. PEEL.
R. W. Grand Secretary	WM. H. READ.
R. W. Grand Marshal	W. A. GLOVER.
R. W. Grand Representative to United States	THOMAS PARTRIDGE.

Representative	JAMES HUTCHESON,
"	ROBT. FITZSIMMONS,
"	E. YALE,
"	E. S. FREISMAN,
"	T. HEALEY,
"	JAMES MARQUAND,
"	T. BROWNE,
"	R. WIGMORE.
"	A. WALTHEW.
"	W. A. GLOVER.
"	H. C. BINGHAM,
"	R. BOX,
"	JOHN FINDLAY,
"	A. A. TOWNS,
"	A. HUMPHREY,
"	HENRY SEWELL.

The Deputy Grand Master then appointed G. Rep. Partridge, Warden, *pro tem.*, and Rep. Walthew, Guardian, when the various Officers having taken their respective stations, and the new Repts, and others not qualified having retired, he proceeded to open the Lodge in the Grand Lodge Degree, after which, all entitled were admitted and instructed in that Degree.

On motion of Rep. Yale, seconded by Rep. Box, the Lodge then closed in Grand Lodge Degree, and opened in the Scarlet Degree, for the benefit of all Scarlet Degree Brothers.

The reading of the Minutes of last Session of the Grand Lodge held at St. Catherines, was dispensed with, and on motion adopted as printed.

The Deputy Grand Master then appointed, with the approval of the Grand Lodge, the following Committees, viz :

On Returns.—Reps. H. C. Bingham, R. Box, Robt. Fitzsimmons.

On Finance.—Reps. C. Yale, R. Wigmore, and W. A. Glover.

On Appeals.—Reps. E. S. Friesman, James Hutcheson and A. Walthew.

On Laws of Subordinates.—Reps. T. Healey, E. S. Friesman and John Findlay.

On Milage and per Diem.—Reps. T. Browne, James Marquand and Henry Sewell.

On the State of the Order.—Reps. T. Healey, A. Humphrey, and A. A. Towns.

On motion, the Address of Grand Master Dolson was read by the Grand Secretary, as follows :

By the continued favor of the Grand Master of the Universe, we are once more permitted to meet in Annual Session, and it becomes the duty of each and every one of us, to return Him thanks for the many blessings and privileges we have enjoyed during the year that has just passed away.

It affords me much pleasure to meet the members and representatives of our Grand Lodge in this beautiful town, and I hope, while surrounded by the consecrated walls of this newly fitted up Lodge Room, our deliberations may be conducted in a spirit of harmony and brotherly love, and that the meeting of this Grand Lodge may produce something that will be beneficial to our jurisdiction, and our coming together at this time will not be altogether in vain.

The time has already come when the grand luminary of day, from the moment he leaps from the Atlantic wave, which lashes the rough coast of New England, till he leaves his burning brow in the placid waters of the Pacific, ceases not to shire on and illumine the towers and minarets of the beautiful temples of Odd Fellowship ; and at these annual gatherings it becomes our duty to cast a retrospective glance at the past, and see if our Order is exercising that great and benevolent influence, which we, as its members, claim and desire.

During the forty-three years since we were first instituted on this Continent, through many vicissitudes has our Brotherhood passed, and how nobly has it out-rode every storm ; how valiantly surmounted every difficulty, and how manfully met and discomfited every foe. The hot blast of calumny has passed over it, but it remains unscathed ; the fierce and relentless opposition of ignorance has essayed the overthrow of our principles, but in vain ; we have lived down all opposition, and find our Order still continues to disseminate the principles of Friendship, Love and Truth, to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, educate the orphan, and bury the dead. What effect the disorganization now at work in the

United States, will have upon our Order, it will be difficult for any one at present to foretell, but it is to be hoped that the lowering clouds which now overspreads that nation, momentarily threatening to burst and scatter destruction and dissolution in their midst, will be speedily dispelled, and the time soon come when they shall beat their swords into plough-shares and their spears into pruning-hooks; when they shall not lift up sword against one another nor learn war any more.

An extract from the address of the Grand Master of the State of Indiana, may not here be inappropriate:

"The troubles which exist and threaten the disruption of our glorious Union, has given rise to numerous surmises in the minds of our Brethren as to the effects of these troubles on the unity of our Institution, and upon the perpetuity of the one Grand Legislative head of the Order as it now exists, composed of representatives from all the grand bodies on this Continent. The significance of these questions at this time, and in view of future events, can neither be doubted or evaded. Many anxious minds desire some alleviation of their fears for our unity, and some encouragement to their hopes that the Order may pass unscathed through this trying vicissitude. My counsel is that we do nothing and say nothing calculated to engender dissention or fruitless discussion in our now united and fraternal Order. Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth; but let us, as an Order, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering forbearing one another in love, endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. Let us rely upon the freedom of our institution and its principles from all political bias, upon its universal fraternity that would make us all under God benefactors and all mankind objects of our benefaction and regard, to save our cherished Order from disruption and dissension. Though love of family, of party, or of country is a natural and beautiful sentiment and holds us to obligations of a peculiar character that should never be disregarded; yet we must not stop with these, we must not array them in direct conflict with other and more comprehensive duties. Let us never lose sight of what we teach respecting our benevolent enterprise, that all men are one family; that there is but one country the earth; but one nation, the human family."

The limited field of the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge has not furnished during the past year many topics on which it is necessary that I should address you, it seems to have been a year of rest, compared to other years, or the principles of Odd Fellowship are getting too well understood, and too rigidly practiced in the several lodges to call for the frequent interference of official authority, and it gives me much pleasure in stating that no interference on my part has been necessary during the past year, and I believe, for the first time in many years, there are no appeals before this grand body.

The report of our worthy Grand Secretary will give you full detailed information as to the condition of our Order in the various Lodges. From the reports which I have received from the D. D. G. M's. I find that the Order has not increased in numbers a great deal, but the financial condition of most of the Lodges appears to be better, which is very important to the existence of a Lodge. Ontario Lodge, I fear, will have to surrender from the mere want of energy among its members. In December last I received an application for a dispensation for a new Lodge to be located in the town of Stratford, and from the recommendations of Brother McLean, of St. Mary's, I granted the request, and it will be

necessary for this Grand Lodge at this time either to confirm or set aside my action. In January last, while taking an official tour among the Lodges, I had much pleasure in proceeding to Stratford and instituting Avon Lodge, No. 41, which has since continued to work and their reports show that they have not been idle, and I here take the opportunity of returning thanks to those Brothers from London and St. Mary's, who were present on that evening, and also Brother Bingham, of Brantford, and the Grand Secretary; they all being good and efficient members, enabled me to conduct the whole proceedings in a becoming and satisfactory manner.

The official tour taken by me may appear to some to have been unnecessary, but it was a duty which I considered I was called upon to perform, which, however, I did not undertake until I had consulted all the D. D. G. M's. in our jurisdiction, as to the propriety of such a visit; they all having approved of my intentions, I proceeded in January last and visited all the Lodges, excepting Brock and Ontario, and I must say that I found everything as well as could be expected. I had the pleasure of installing the officers of Forest City and Chatham Lodges in public, but would here recommend that, in future, public installments do not take place oftener than about once in five years. I went to Amherstburg and made an effort to revive Rose Lodge, and supposed I had succeeded, for nine members signed a petition requesting to be reorganized, I immediately granted the request, and installed their principal officers and left them, under the full conviction that they would work and try to make themselves into a prosperous Lodge as they once were, but I have not heard from them to this day, and I now believe that all future effort there will be in vain. The expenses connected with this visit will not draw very heavy on the receipts of this Grand Lodge, as they will be mostly met from the sale of blanks, which I furnished to the different Lodges for the purpose of introducing a uniform mode of working, realizing therefrom the sum of thirty-eight dollars, the printing of which cost eleven dollars and fifty cents.

Another great inducement I had for making the official visit was that I might personally present before each Lodge the necessity of disposing of the Charter question. I felt as though the funds of our Grand Lodge were not sufficient to allow any money to be taken from them for that purpose, and I am glad to say when it was properly laid before the Lodges, that they have liberally responded, and in most cases informing me if what they gave was not sufficient they were ready at any time to pay their share to make up the balance.

I have great pleasure in stating that Brother Peel furnished the design for Charter, which he freely and voluntarily offered to do, at the last session of our Grand Lodge, which was unanimously approved of by your committee. It certainly was a very beautiful design and highly spoken of by all who have seen it, and reflects great credit upon Brother Peel as an artist, and certainly must have cost him many hours of anxious thought and labor, and I was in hopes that this Grand Lodge would be in a position to tender to Brother Peel some testimonial of their appreciation for his valuable services. From the moment I saw the design, I was more convinced of the necessity of making a personal appeal to the Lodges, in order that so beautiful a piece of workmanship might be properly lithographed. The whole cost of which will be \$161.25, including expenses, &c., for which I have received from Lodges \$127, making nearly enough to cover all without using the \$50 appropriated by this Grand Lodge at the last session.

The lithographed copies are now in the possession and at the disposal of this Grand Lodge, together with the estimates I received for the lithography and all communications connected therewith.

According to notice a resolution will be in order at this meeting, altering our Constitution so as to allow lodges that choose to meet semi-monthly. My opinion is that it might be desirable in some localities, but I am sure it would not do for the Lodge of which I have the honor of being a member.

We will probably have a full report from our worthy Grand Representative, which may bring up some question upon which it will be necessary for you to act, in order that your next representative may be prepared and enabled thereby to sustain your views. I believe there is a strong disposition to have the secret work somewhat changed, and a committee has been appointed for that purpose; in my opinion a change, in some respects, would be beneficial, and fully believe that the matter is in competent hands to report on.

Permit me, in conclusion, to tender to the members of this Grand Lodge my sincere thanks for the honorable position they assigned to me one year ago, for I assure you it was with many misgivings and doubts in regard to my ability that I accepted the trust which was then confided in me, and in again resuming my position as a private in the ranks among you I shall labor with increased zeal, and be at all times ready and willing to advance the interest of our order, and thus may we all co-operate in the great mission of Odd Fellowship, and hasten the period when man shall hail his brother-man with fraternal greetings; when wickedness and falsehood shall be driven from the earth, and the race of Adam form a universal family, acknowledging the God of the Universe as their Father, and every child of man as a brother; when, in short, one law shall bind all nations, tongues and kindreds of the earth, and that law shall be the law of Universal Brotherhood.

When no sigh, no murmur the wide world shall hear,
From every eye he wiped off every tear;
Peace o'er the world her olive wand extend,
And white robed innocence from Heaven descend.

SAMUEL G. DOLSON, *Grand Master.*

Rep. Bingham moved, seconded by Rep. Wigmore, that the Grand Master's Address be referred to the Committee on the State of the Order.

It was moved in amendment by Rep. Yale, seconded by Rep. Brown, that the address be referred to a Special Committee of three.

The vote being taken on the amendment it was lost, and the original motion duly carried.

On motion duly carried the Grand Lodge then adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock, Thursday morning.

Thursday Morning.

Lodge was opened in the Grand Lodge Degree, by Grand Master Dolson, for the instruction of new members.

The Roll being called, the following answered to their names, viz:

Officers Dolson, King, Peel, Read, Glover, Walthew, and Partridge, and all the Representatives.

The Grand Master then appointed P. G. Skinner, of London, as Conductor, *pro tem.*

On motion the Lodge closed in the Grand Lodge Degree, and opened in the Scarlet Degree.

The Committee on Returns then submitted and moved the adoption of the following Report :

To the R. W. G. L. of Canada West,—

We, your Committee on Returns, having examined the various Lodge Returns, beg leave to report as follows :

The Returns of Forest City, Union, Gore, Samaritan, Chatham, Imperial, Eureka and Erie Lodges, are correct.

Avon Lodge reports no W. and O. Fund ; St. Mary's is deficient in percentage 89cts ; Ontario Lodge Report does not give names withdrawn.

Rond Eau Report for 1860 is without Seal.

Brock Lodge Report for 1860 is signed by current Officers instead of Past Officers, and is without Lodge Seal ; and the Report of same Lodge for June 1861 does not give names of expelled members.

Elgin Lodge overpaid percentage \$3.23.

Your Committee would recommend that the Grand Secretary insert, hereafter in the Return Forms, before sending them out, the words "*In good standing*," after the words "*Past Grands*," and erase the word "*Other*," and insert the word "*Total*" before the words "*Members in good standing* ; insert the word "*General*" before the words "*Funds in Treasury* ; interline or insert the words "*W. and O. Fund in Treasury*" at bottom of all reports ; prefix the word "*General*" to the words "*Funds in Treasury*," and annex the word "*Invested*" to the words "*W. and O. Fund*," in order that our statistical reports, when filled and published, may show exactly the amount, and position of each Fund. We further recommend that whenever new blanks are printed, the above alterations be properly made in them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. C. BINGHAM.
RICHARD BOX.
ROBT. FITZSIMMONS.

The question being to adopt, it was moved in amendment by Rep. Yale, seconded by Rep. Marquand, that the Report be referred back, with instructions to report in a separate form, a new Blank Return, embodying the proposed alterations.

The question being taken on the amendment it was declared *lost*. The question then recurring to the adoption of the Report, it was *carried*.

The Annual Report, Statistical Table, Receipts, &c., of the Grand Secretary, were next submitted and read as follows :

BRETHREN,—Another year in Odd Fellowship having passed away, usage imposes upon me the duty of submitting to you a Report, whereby you may be enabled to judge of the work and condition of the Lodges in our jurisdiction.

I have received the regular returns from all the Lodges in good season, excepting Ontario Lodge, which has, as yet, made no report for the term.

I have much pleasure in stating that a beautiful Bible, as a testimonial to the widow of our late P. G. M. Thos. Reynolds, was purchased by Grand Master Dolsou, with the \$20 appropriated by this Grand Lodge at its last Session, and

the same was duly forwarded by me through Bro. Wm. Fitzsimmons, to Mrs. Reynolds, together with the letter of Condolence, which was prefixed in the Bible as a fly-leaf.

She expressed herself highly pleased, and wished me to convey her sincere thanks to the Grand Lodge for so beautiful a gift; one which she should ever highly prize.

The Reports from the several Lodges I have condensed into the following:—

STATISTICAL TABLE,

Showing the Condition of the I. O. O. F. in Canada West, for the year ending June 30, 1861.

NAME OF LODGE.	NAMES OF REPRESENTATIVES.															
	No.	Initiations.	Rejections.	Admitted by Card.	Withdrawn by Card.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Reinstated.	Deaths.	Past Grand.	No. of Contributing Members.	Paid for sick benefits.	Widows & Orphans.	Funeral expenses.	Widow & Orphan Fund.	Degrees conferred.
Brook.....	9	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	56\$	3.00	\$130	\$15	\$324.00	38 James Hutchinson and R. Fitzsimmons.
Ontario.....	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	9	14	.....	..	270.42	— No Report last Term—no Rep.
Union.....	16	15	2	0	1	0	20	19	3	107	104.00	..	36	1980.53	49 C. Yale, E. S. Freeman, and F. Healey.	
Chatham.....	28	15	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	36	52.50	..	..	227.21	38 James Marquand.
Durham.....	30	5	2	0	1	1	3	1	0	9	56	93.18	..	46	779.15	10 T. Bowne and R. Wigmore.
Elgin.....	32	7	1	0	0	10	9	2	0	10	35	123.00	..	30	399.77	15 A. Walthew.
Essex.....	33	7	0	0	0	10	9	2	0	8	34	48.00	..	30	359.15	40 W. A. Glover.
Gore.....	34	2	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	7	29	.....	68	475.00	13 H. C. Bingham.
Samartian.....	35	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	5	15	.....	1	271.48	1 Abel Bristol.
St. Mary's.....	36	3	0	1	3	0	5	2	0	9	50	9.00	..	138.06	19 R. Box.	
Imperial.....	37	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	18	8.00	..	123.00	6 John Findlay.	
Forest City.....	38	8	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	32	13.00	..	313.03	26 A. A. Towse.	
Road Eau.....	40	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	32	..	..	44.05	3 A. Humphrey.
Avon.....	41	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	30	.....	..	..	44 Henry Sewell.
		105	10	2	14	79	43	13	4	123	544	477.68	585	180	6704.85	297

Note..... The Suspensions and Expulsions are mostly for non-payment of Dues.

Receipts of Grand Sec'y for the year ending Aug. 6, 1861.

Received from Union Lodge on Per centage, Blanks and Odes.....	\$60 70
“ “ St. Mary's “ “ “ and Cards...	26 52
“ “ Forest City “ “ “ “	32 53
“ “ Gore “ “ “ “	19 17
“ “ Elgin “ “ “ “	21 45
“ “ Brock “ “ “ “	23 54
“ “ Imperial “ “ “ “	8 12
“ “ Eureka “ Blanks Odes and Cards..	29 03
“ “ Chatham “ “ “ “	28 04
“ “ Rond Eau “ “ “ “	14 35
“ “ Erie “ “ “ “	23 07
“ “ Samaritan “ “ “ “	12 03
“ “ Ontario “ “ “ “	2 80
“ “ Rose.....	2 50
“ “ Avon Lodge on Charter, Books, Blanks and Odes.....	72 63
“ “ P. G. McLean for Digest.....	2 50
“ “ Gore Lodge as a Grant for New Charter.....	10 00
“ “ Samaritan Lodge “ “ “ “	5 00
“ “ Forest City “ “ “ “	10 00
“ “ Erie “ “ “ “	7 00
“ “ Chatham “ “ “ “	10 00
“ “ Rond Eau “ “ “ “	5 00
“ “ Brock “ “ “ “	12 00
“ “ Avon “ “ “ “	10 00
“ “ Imperial “ “ “ “	8 00
“ “ Eureka “ “ “ “	10 00
“ “ Union “ “ “ “	10 00
“ “ St. Mary's “ “ “ “	20 00
“ “ Elgin “ “ “ “	10 00

By paid Grand Treasurer for year ending 6th of August, 1861.....\$595 98

BRETHREN,—Before retiring from the office of Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, permit me to return you thanks for the honor you conferred upon me in electing me to fill so important an office. Being only a young member in Odd Fellowship, I felt that I was incompetent to discharge such important duties in a satisfactory manner, and I trust that any irregularities on my part will be overlooked by you. With a fervent prayer to the Author of all good, that our present Session may be useful and harmonious, and that the future of our beloved Order may be bright and prosperous, I respectfully submit for your consideration the foregoing abstract of the past year's work.

WM. H. READ, *Grand Secretary.*

On motion of Rep. Towns, seconded by Rep. Glover, the Grand Secretary's Report was referred to Committee on Finance.

The Report of the Committee on Appeals was read as follows:
To the R. W. Grand Lodge of Canada West I. O. O. F.:

We, your Committee on Appeals, to whom generally falls the most disagreeable and tedious business of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report:

That we have made a most diligent, but very agreeable search, and can find nothing in the shape of an Appeal, requiring our attention,—not even a rumor of an appeal, and hope that our successors on this Committee may be able to report likewise for all time to come.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. S. FRIESMAN,
 J. HUTCHESON,
 A. WALTHER,

On motion of Rep. Fitzsimmons, seconded by Rep. Yale, the Report was adopted.

The Grand Treasurer's Report was then presented and read as follows:

Wm. Fitzsimmons, Grand Treasurer,

In account with the R. W. Grand Lodge of Canada West I.O.O.F.

TO CASH RECEIVED.

1860.

Aug. 1. To balance as per Report of 1860.....\$414 41

1861.

Aug. 6. To received from Grand Secretary as ordinary revenue of Grand Lodge for year ending this day..... 378 98

“ “ received from Grand Secretary on behalf of Subordinate Lodges for New Charter..... 127 00

Total.....\$920 39

BY CASH PAID.

From August 1st, 1860, to August 6th, 1861, inclusive.

By paid mileage and per diem of Reps. of Brock Lodge at St.

Catherines.....					\$75 72
“ do do do	do	do	do	Ontario Lodge	14 20
“ do do do	do	do	do	Union do	15 00
“ do do do	do	do	do	Chatham do	16 04
“ do do do	do	do	do	Eureka do	11 64
“ do do do	do	do	do	Elgin do	12 68
“ do do do	do	do	do	Erie do	12 52
“ do do do	do	do	do	Gore do	8 44
“ do do do	do	do	do	Samaritan do	10 12
“ do do do	do	do	do	St. Mary's do	26 64
“ do do do	do	do	do	Imperial do	8 60
“ do do do	do	do	do	Forest City do	23 28
“ do do do	do	do	do	Rond Eau do	17 04

Carried forward.....\$251 92

	Brought forward.....	\$251 92
By paid James Henry per W. H. Nelson on account of visit to Rose Lodge.....		16 00
“ Abel Bristol deficiency of mileage attending Grand Lodge, 1859.....		4 00
“ Grand Treasurer's account for money order, telegram and postage.....		1 63
“ Grand Master Dolson as per resolution of G. L. for Bible for Mrs. Reynolds.....		20 00
“ Grand Lodge United States account and Representative tax and exchange.....		80 80
“ Express charges \$1, do. do. \$2, Stationery \$1 07, and Postage accounts \$10 54.....		14 71
“ G. M. Dolson for Supplies for Avon Lodge.....		9 43
“ O. G. at St. Catherines per order of Grand Master....		2 00
“ Past Grand Sec. Dolson for past services in office.....		30 00
“ Grand Master Dolson travelling expenses visiting Lodges.....		35 00
“ For 2 Rebecca Books.....		2 00
“ James Seymour printing Proceedings, &c.....		33 00
“ “ “.....		1 50
“ Wm. L. Copeland & Co., Stationery.....		1 39
“ H. F. Leavenworth, Printing.....		11 50
“ For Charter and incidental expenses of same.....		161 25
	Total.....	\$676 13
Balance in Treasurer's hands.....		244 26
		<u>\$920 39</u>

WM. FITZSIMMONS, *Grand Treasurer.*

On motion of Rep. Humphrey, seconded by Rep. Yale, the Grand Treasurers Report was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The following Communication from the Grand Lodge of the United States, was read, and on motion placed on file:

I. O. O. F.

Office Corresponding and Recording Secretary, R. W. Grand Lodge of United States.

BALTIMORE, April 1st. 1861.

To William H. Read, R. W. G. Secretary G. Lodge of Canada West.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Pursuant to a resolution passed at the September session of the R. W. Grand Lodge of United States, I. O. O. F.; held at the city of Nashville, State of Tennessee, directing the undersigned “to communicate to the several State Grand Bodies, in circular form, due notice of the amendment to the tenth article of the By-Laws, adopted at said session,” I herewith have the honor to submit a copy of the said tenth By-Law as amend-

ed, and as now in force, and fraternally to request that the law be complied with,

Yours, in Friendship, Love and Truth,

JAS. L. RIDGELY, C. S.

BY-LAW GRAND LODGE OF UNITED STATES.

ARTICLE X.—Annual returns shall be made by each State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment, in which they shall give the names of Grand Officers, number of Lodges, and the aggregate number of members in good standing in all Subordinate Lodges, and the aggregate number of Initiations, of reinstatements, rejections, suspensions and cause, expulsions and cause, admissions by card, withdrawals by card, of brothers relieved, of widowed families relieved, deaths, amount expended for relief of brothers, amount expended for education of orphans, amount paid for burying the dead, and the whole amount of receipts; forms for which shall be furnished by this Grand Lodge. Said returns shall be made to the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary at least one month previous to the annual meeting of this body, and shall be accompanied with the dues thereon, in money current at par in the place where the meeting of this body is held. *And in default of such returns being made and the dues thereon paid within ten days prior to the annual meeting of this body, the Representatives from such delinquent Grand Lodges or Grand Encampments shall not be admitted to a seat in such annual meeting.*

The Committee on Mileage and per Diem then made a Report, which, on motion of Rep. Box, seconded by Rep. Bingham, was referred back to await the Report of the Committee on Finance.

The Report of the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of United States for 1859 and 1860, was then submitted, and on motion of Rep. Sewell, seconded by Rep. Fitzsimmons, those parts referring to proposed amendments in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of the United States, were referred to the Committee on the State of the Order.

On motion of Rep. Yale, seconded by Rep. Wigmore, Grand Master Dolson, Grand Secretary Read and Grand Rep. Partridge, were appointed a Committee to abridge the Report of Grand Rep. Partridge, for printing in the Journal of Proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Moved by Rep. Bingham, and seconded by Rep. Box, that in consequence of the disorganized condition of Political, Religious, Benevolent and Social Institutions of the United States, it becomes this Grand Lodge to act with more than ordinary caution in the payment of its regular per centage to the Grand Lodge of the United States, and that the same be not forwarded until perfectly assured that the executive officers, and those having control of the funds, and other effects of the Grand Lodge of the United States, have no sympathy with the proposed dismemberment of that Grand Body, and unless such assurance can be obtained sooner, that the per centage be placed in the hands of Grand Rep. to be paid over by him at the next regular meeting of the Grand Lodge of the United States, when fully assured that our confidence will not be abused, nor our funds misappropriated.

Moved in amendment by Rep. Healey, and seconded by Rep. Friésman, that the motion proposed by Rep. Bingham, be referred to the Committee on the State of the Order—Carried.

The Grand Master, with the consent of the Grand Lodge, added name of Grand Rep. Partridge, to the Committee on the State of the Order.

The Committee on Laws of Subordinates, submitted the following Report:
To the R. W. Grand Lodge of Canada West, I. O. O. F.:

We, your Committee on Laws of Subordinates, have carefully examined the Laws laid before us, and ask leave to report as follows:—

We condemn the Preamble and Article 1st of Constitution of Elgin Lodge, No. 32, and recommend the use of the Constitution for Subordinates, as adopted by this Grand Lodge.

We cannot recommend any alteration at present, in the proportion of regular receipts set apart for the W. and O. Fund, as the requisite notice of Amendment has not been given.

We recommend, that the Amendments adopted by Imperial Lodge, No. 37, of its By-Laws, changing the scale of Initiation and Degree fees, be sanctioned by this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee are also of the opinion that the application of Round Eau Lodge, No. 40, for a change in their night of meeting, from Friday to Saturday, should be granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted;

T. HEALEY,
E. S. FRIESMAN,
JOHN FINDLAY.

On motion of Rep. Bingham, seconded by Rep. Findlay, the Report of the Committee on Laws of Subordinates, was adopted, and ordered filed.

On motion of Rep. Wigmore, seconded by Rep. Glover, the Lodge adjourned for half an hour.

Thursday, 2½ o'clock, P. M.

Grand Lodge met and opened in the Scarlet Degree. Officers and Representatives all present.

The Committee on Finance, then submitted a Report; which on motion was referred back, with instructions to include a report, upon the receipts and disbursements for *Charters*.

Rep. Bbx, gave notice of proposed amendment to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, so as to combine the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary in one.

The Committee on the State of the Order, submitted the following Report:

To the R. W. the Grand Lodge of Canada West:

Your Committee on the State of the Order, beg leave to report; that the Order in our jurisdiction remains about the same as one year ago. There has been a slight increase in membership, but quite a number of expulsions and suspensions for non-payment of dues.

We are of opinion that the cause of the small accessions to our numbers during the past year is to be attributed rather to the general financial depression through which the country has passed during the last few years, than to any want of

interest or dereliction of duty on the part of the Officers or Brothers of the Order in general.

Your Committee fully concur in the report of the Grand Secretary, in regard to the present state and future prospects of the Order, as set forth in said report, and would recommend the adoption of said report by this Grand Lodge.

In regard to a Resolution moved by Rep. Bingham, and seconded by Rep. Box, and referred to your Committee on the State of the Order, relative to the sending of the regular Per Centage to the Grand Lodge of the United States; your Committee fully concur in the view set forth in said resolution, and would recommend the adoption of the same.

In regard to the possible effect, that may result to our Order, from the present troubles in the United States; your Committee fully concur in that portion of the Grand Master's Address, which refers to this subject, and would recommend, that the counsel there given, be strictly adhered to.

In the report of the Committee on the State of the Order, at the last sitting of your Grand Body; your Committee find the following recommendation:

Viz: "Your Committee would also recommend, that the affairs of Rose Lodge, No. 28, be closed up if possible, and that a Committee be appointed for that purpose."

In regard to the above we would state, that subsequent to the recommendation of the Committee above referred to, an effort was made in January last, by our R. W. Grand Master, to re-organize said Lodge, which effort, he supposed had proved successful. Since which time, however, nothing has been heard from said Lodge. Your Committee are therefore of opinion, that all has been done in the premises, that can reasonably be expected, and we regret to say without avail.

Your Committee would recommend, that the action of the Grand Master, in granting a Dispensation to Avon Lodge, No. 41, be confirmed, and a Charter granted them.

In regard to the Charters now in possession of this Grand Lodge; your Committee would recommend that in consequence of the persevering efforts of Grand Master Dolson in obtaining them satisfactorily to this Grand Lodge, that he be allowed to fill the same, together with the Grand Secretary, and present to each Representative a copy of the Charter, for their respective Lodges.

With regard to a change in the secret work of the Order, as has been proposed by the Grand Lodge of the United States; your Committee not knowing wherein the change may consist, merely say, that, reposing full confidence in our Representative to that Body, we would allow him to use his own judgment on the question.

Your Committee feel that this Grand Lodge is deeply indebted to our respected Brother Peel, of Eureka Lodge, for the very chaste and beautiful design furnished by him for our Charter; and would recommend that some suitable Testimonial be presented to him, as an acknowledgement from this Grand Lodge, of his zeal for the good of the Order, as well as of his taste and skill as an artist.

Your Committee would also recommend; that the Grand Secretary be allowed some remuneration for his valuable services during the past year, as Secretary of this Grand Lodge.

With regard to amendments to the Constitution of the G. L. U. S., to be

acted upon at its next session; we object to the adoption of No. 1, 2 and 3, as proposed. In regard to No. 3, we would recommend that the words *four fifths*, be inserted instead of the word "*unanimous*." We would recommend the adoption of No. 4. No. 5, we would favor, in the event of No. 4 being adopted. No. 6, we would favor, excepting the second part of the clause, with regard to the meeting of Grand Officers every six months. No. 7, we would approve.—No. 8, we would oppose. No. 9, we would favor providing No. 4 is adopted. No. 10, we would approve.

Your Committee are happy to state, that from the able reports already laid before your Grand Body, nothing of present interest or the future good of our beloved Order, is likely to be omitted or left undone during the present session of this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted;

A. A. TOWNS, *Chairman*—
T. HEALEY,
A. HUMPHREY.

On motion of Rep. Yale, seconded by Rep. Findlay, the Report of the Committee on the State of the Order was adopted and ordered filed.

On motion of Rep. Glover, seconded by Rep. Yale, the Committee on Mileage and Per Diem, was instructed to compute the mileage at 3 cents per mile, and to give the estimate of Mileage and Per Diem for Grand Officers, in a separate table.

Moved by Rep. Glover, seconded by Rep. Sewell, that Article IV, Section I, Clause I, of Constitution of Subordinates, be amended to read as follows, viz: This Lodge shall hold its meeting weekly, or semi-weekly, on such evening, and at such hour, as may be provided by its By-Laws; provided always, that as required by the Grand Lodge of the United States, twenty six night's service, shall be required as the term of office.

Moved in amendment, by Rep. Box, seconded by Rep. Hutcheson, that resolution of Rep. Glover, be laid over until the next session.

The question being taken on the amendment, it was declared *lost*; when the question recurring to the original motion, it was declared *carried*.

Rep. Walthew gave notice of amendment of Article V, Section II, Clause 4, of Constitution of Subordinates, so that Subordinate Lodges may appropriate only one tenth of all dues collected, to the W. and O. Fund, instead of one third, as at present required.

On motion of Rep. Friesman, seconded by Rep. Fitzsimmons, it was resolved that a blank Charter, of which Grand Warden J. R. Peel was the designer, be presented to him, and that the Grand Master appoint a Committee of three, to obtain a suitable token of esteem and acknowledgment from this Grand Lodge, for the generous work and masterly design of Brother Peel.

The Nomination and Election of Officers being in order, the following nominations were made.

- For R. W. Grand Master. Past Reqs. King, Morgan and Bissell.
 " R. W. Deputy Grand Master. Grand Warden J. R. Peel.
 " R. W. Grand Warden. Past Rep. John Collins.
 " R. W. Grand Secretary. Reqs. Bingham and Wigmore.
 " R. W. Grand Treasurer. Reqs. Brown and Box.
 " R. W. Grand Representative, U.S.. Past Grand Master S. G. Dolson.

The Election was next proceeded with, and Reps. Fitzsimmons and Bingham having been appointed Tellers, declared as follows:

- WM. BISSELL, London.....*Most Worthy Grand Master on 2nd ballot.*
 J. R. PEEL, ".....*R. W. Deputy Grand Master by acclamation.*
 JOHN COLLINS, Mt. Vernon....*R. W. Grand Warden, by acclamation.*
 H. C. BINGHAM, Brantford..... " *Grand Secretary, 1st ballot.*
 THOMAS BROWN, London..... " *Grand Treasurer, do.*
 S. G. DOLSON, St. Catherines... " *Grand Representative, by acclamation.*

Past Grand Master Dolson then proceeded to install the Officers just elected, in their respective offices and chairs, after which, Grand Master Bissell announced the following appointments of officers, who were duly installed, viz:

- Past Rep. WM. SKINAER, London..... W. Grand Marshall
 " A. WALTHEW, St. Thomas..... W. Grand Guardian.
 " R. BOX, St. Mary's..... W. Grand Conductor

The following Brothers were then appointed by the Grand Master, as District Deputy Grand Masters:

- For Leeds and Grenville.*—Robt. Fitzsimmons, Brockville.
For Lincoln and Welland—James D. Tait, St. Catherines.
For Lambton, Kent and Essex.—James Marquand, Chatham.
For Middlesex, Huron and Bruce.—Wm. Skinner, London.
For Elgin West.—J. Lindop, St. Thomas.
For Elgin East.—W. A. Glover, Port Burwell.
For Brant and Haldimand.—James Woodyatt, Brantford.
For Perth.—John McLean, St. Mary's.
For Oxford.—Abel Bristol, Ingersoll.

At the request of the Grand Master, Grand Rep. Partridge proceeded to instruct those entitled in the Past Official Degrees.

Moved by Rep. Yale, and seconded by Rep. Browne, that the deficiency in the Charter Fund, be divided among the Subordinate Lodges equally, and that the respective Representatives of the several Lodges advance the amount due from each Lodge, viz., \$2 64.

Moved in amendment by Rep. Bingham, seconded by Rep. Box, that, where as, there is a deficiency in the contributions for payment of Charters; the whole cost of Charter be apportioned among the several Lodges according to their Representation, and that each Lodge be credited with the amount already contributed by it, and called upon for the deficiency, if there then be any due by said Lodge.

The question being taken on the amendment, and the Yeas and Nays being called for were taken as follows:

YEAS.—Bingham, Findlay, Browne, Town, Wigmore, Walthew, Sewell, Marquand, Humphrey and Box.—10,

NAYS.—Yale, Friesman, Healey, Fitzsimmons and Hatcheson.—5.

The amendment being carried, the original motion was declared lost.

Rep. Yale, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following final Report:

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

We, your Committee appointed to examine the Financial Statement, Books

and Vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report that we have examined the same and find them correct, and showing a balance now in the Treasurer's hands of \$244 26.

The account of the Grand Lodge of the United States for

Representative Tax.....\$75 00
And Charge Books, Cards, &c..... 21 00

Total.....\$96 00

We also find correct, and recommend the payment of the same.
All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAUNCEY YALE,
RICHD. WIGMORE,
W. A. GLOVER.

On motion duly passed, the Report was adopted and ordered filed.

Rep. Browne, on the Committee on Mileage and per Diem, submitted the following final Report and Tables:

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

We, your Committee on Mileage and Per Diem, beg leave to submit the following Report for this Session:

NAME OF LODGE AND No.	No. OF MILES.	No. OF REPS.	AMT. OF MILEAGE.	AMT. PER DIEM.	TOTAL.
Brock Lodge No. 9	1348	2	\$40 44	\$6 00	\$46 44
Union " " 16	738	3	22 14	9 00	31 14
Chatham " " 29	158	1	4 74	3 00	7 74
Eureka " " 30	60	2	1 80	6 00	7 80
Elgin " " 32		1		3 00	3 00
Erie " " 33	60	1	1 80	3 00	4 80
Gore " " 34	142	1	4 26	3 00	7 26
St. Mary's " " 36	76	1	2 10	3 00	5 10
Imperial " " 37	144	1	4 32	3 00	7 32
Forest City " " 38	30	1	0 90	3 00	3 90
Rond Eau " " 40	182	1	5 46	3 00	8 46
Avon " " 41	90	1	2 70	3 00	5 70
GRAND OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE.					
Grand Master.	246		7 38	3 00	10 38
Deputy Grand Master.				3 00	3 00
Grand Warden.	30		0 90	3 00	3 90
Grand Secretary.	246		7 38	3 00	10 38
Grand Representative, U. S.	30		0 90	3 00	3 90
12 Lodges and 5 Grand Officers.	3574	16	\$107 22	\$63 00	\$170 22

The above is computed at three cents per mile, and at one dollar and fifty

cents per day, allowing two days for the Session.

All of which respectfully submitted.

THOMAS BROWN,
HENRY SEWELL,
JAMES MARQUAND.

On motion duly passed, the Report on Mileage and Per Diem was adopted and ordered filed, and the Grand Secretary instructed to issue orders accordingly, on the Grand Treasurer, in favor of the Grand Officers and Representatives.

The Special Committee appointed to abridge the Report of the Grand Reps., reported their duty completed, and were duly discharged.

To the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Canada West:

The undersigned, your Representative to the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of the United States of America, would respectfully submit the following Report of the proceedings of that Body during his term of office. On the nineteenth day of September, 1859, I attended the annual Communication held at the City of Baltimore.

By reference to the Grand Secretary's Report, I am informed that there were then, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the United States, thirty-nine State and Territorial Grand Lodges, three thousand four hundred and twenty-five Subordinates, with a membership of one hundred and seventy-seven thousand seven hundred and eleven, which shows an increase during the past year of thirty-five Subordinate Lodges, and one thousand and eleven members.

By the same Report I find that there was, during the same year, eighteen thousand one hundred and thirty brothers relieved; two thousand six hundred and ninety-seven Widowed families assisted,—\$300,359 15 paid for the relief of brothers, \$51,454 00 paid to widowed families, \$13,555 72 for the education of Orphans, and \$45,227 74 expended in burying the dead.

The decisions made by the Most Worthy Grand Sire during the recess of the Grand Lodge, and confirmed by that body at the Session of 1859, were as follows:

When the holder of a Withdrawal card has, within a few months after its use, deposited the same in, and thereby become a member of another Lodge, the Lodge issuing such card has no right to annul it.

That it is competent for a State Grand Lodge to prescribe a By-law, that all applications for Visiting or Withdrawal cards, must be in person or in writing.

It is not competent for a Lodge or an Encampment to try a deceased member, or deprive his widow of the benefits allowed by the laws, her husband having been beneficial, and not under charge at the time of his decease.

If under the law authorizing public installations, any controversy arise between the Elective Grand Officer and a District Deputy Grand Master, as to which shall conduct such installation, the Elective Grand Officer, being superior in rank, shall have precedence.

The following decisions of the Grand Sire was reversed:—When a brother, living remote from his Lodge, sends to its Treasurer instead of its Secretary, his dues, and said Treasurer fails at next meeting of the Lodge to report the payment of the same, and before another meeting the brother dies, this Lodge cannot withhold the funeral benefits authorized by law, the Treasurer reporting and paying such dues to the Lodge at said second meeting. The Treasurer is an

agent of his Lodge, and the proper custodian of its funds, and to refuse benefts under such circumstances, would not be consistent with the just and liberal spirit of our Laws.

The Grand Lodge decided that when the law of the Lodge required payment of dues to the Secretary, a payment made to the Treasurer, who withholds it, does not bind the Lodge.

The following decisions were made by the Grand Lodge upon reports of Committees, to whom the subjects were referred. That when local laws require a majority of two-thirds present to be necessary to expel, that member excused from voting must be counted as present, and in fact as voting in the negative.

That when the By-laws of a Lodge limit the Candidates on a second ballot to the two highest on the first ballot, all votes cast for other Candidates on the second ballot are void.

That a Grand Lodge is not liable for the indebtedness of one of its defunct Subordinates, arising out of advances made by a Lodge in a Sister jurisdiction to one of its sick members, unless it appears that assets sufficient to discharge the debt belonging to the defunct Lodge, come into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge.

That when a brother without the term pass-word shall apply for admission to his own Lodge, the Noble Grand shall, after he has been satisfied of the good standing of the brother, direct his admission.

None of the proposed amendments to the Constitution were adopted.

I also attended the Session for 1860, which commenced its sittings in the city of Nashville, Tennessee; on the 17th September. The R. W. Grand Sire was not present, and the chair was filled during the session by the R. W. Deputy Grand Sire, Edward H. Fitzhugh, of Virginia. The debates were unusually lively, contested, and extended, and brought out, in full relief, the promptness, the perspicacity, firmness and courtesy which distinguished the presiding officer.

DECISIONS MADE.

The following decisions, applicable to the branch of the Order which I represent were made:

Where the Degrees are conferred by a regular Degree Lodge, separate from the Subordinates, the application of the brother desiring the degree must be acted upon in his Subordinate Lodge by such members only as have taken the degree applied for. If the application is granted, a certificate of the fact is given to the applicant, which certificate being presented to the Degree Lodge, authorizes it to confer the degree.

It is not legal to ballot upon the application to have the Rebekah Degree conferred upon brothers' wives when objections are made. The Degree of Rebekah is conferred on the wives of scarlet members in good standing, as a matter of course.

It is not competent for a Subordinate Encampment, or Lodge, to insert in its Constitution a provision that a member who may draw a final card, shall have the privilege of depositing the same in said Lodge within a specified time, by a simple vote of the Lodge, instead of a ballot vote, as in the case of initiating members. The laws of the Order clearly provide *the way* in which a person may regain membership upon card, and a Lodge granting a final card has no more power to depart from that *way* when the person holding that card seeks to

reunite with said Lodge, than upon the application of a stranger. But persons who, from no fault of their own, are illegally initiated, cannot be discharged from membership for that reason, but are entitled to all the rights enjoyed by other members of similar rank; and the same rule governs the case of an unworthy person, who may have been inadvertently admitted.—*Digest 307, Section 17.*

The above decisions were made by the R. W. Grand Lodge upon reports of the Committee on the State of the Order, upon decisions of the M. W. Grand Sire, made during the recess of the Grand Lodge.

The following decisions, reported by the Committee on the State of the Order, were adopted:

The presiding or sitting N. G. of a Subordinate Lodge, has no right to sign an annual or semi-annual report returning himself as a Past Grand, he not having previously passed the Noble Grand's chair.

Officers of Subordinate Lodges may confer the Degree of Rebekah upon widows of Odd Fellows in good standing, after application in open Lodge.

The certificate of either the Recording Secretary or the Permanent or Financial Secretary of a Subordinate Lodge, under the seal of the Lodge, of the standing, etc., of a member thereof, is sufficient evidence for an Encampment to act upon—but that local legislation may make it exclusively the duty of either Secretary.

The following decisions of the Committee of Appeals were adopted:

No person, on being admitted to membership in this Order, thereby loses any rights he had in possession as a citizen. His right to protection by the civil authorities is not impaired by becoming an Odd Fellow—the laws of the land and the courts which administer them, are the surest and most proper means by which justice can be attained; especially is this so in regard to civil contracts, frequently involving, as they do, long, intricate and conflicting accdunts; requiring close and patient scrutiny, and impartial investigation. This class of questions of difference should always be submitted to the legal institutions of the land, rather than be attempted to be adjudicated by any authorities within the Order.

This was a case in which a brother refused to permit his Lodge to interfere with his pecuniary transactions with another brother, and for that reason was expelled for contempt. He was restored to membership.—*Appeal of P. G. Cutlin.*

The Order does not, in every case, recognize the "legal representatives" of a brother deceased, as entitled to his benefits.—*Appeal of P. G. Adams.*

A Treasurer of a Subordinate Lodge became pecuniarily involved by the accdents in business; he informed his Lodge of the fact, and made security to them which they accepted as satisfactory, and released his sureties. It then became unlawful to prefer charges against the delinquent brother for appropriating the funds of the Lodge to his own use.—*Appeal of P. G. Seaman.*

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

Rep. Kennedy, of Southern New York, moved the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Legislative Committee be instructed to report such action, if any is required, to enable the Grand Secretaries of Grand Lodges to issue proper certificates to members of defunct Lodges, who are in good standing, to enable them to make application for membership in another Lodge.

The Legislative Committee having considered the subject matter, reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge, to be found on page 3134 of the Revised Journal of the Annual Session of 1859, having reference to the authentication of all certificates and cards issued by State Grand Officers and officers of all Subordinate Lodges and Encampments, shall not be construed to apply to certificates signed by Grand Officers of State Jurisdictions to members of defunct Lodges, as heretofore provided.

On motion of Rep. Veitch, of Missouri, the Lodge adopted the following amendment proposed by him to Article X of the By-Laws, as follows:

Amend Article X of the By-Laws by adding thereto as follows: "And in default of such return being made and the dues thereon paid within ten days prior to the annual meeting of this body, the Representatives from such delinquent Grand Lodges or Encampments shall not be admitted to a seat in such annual meeting."

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to report to the next session of this body a revision of the secret work of the Order, having in view the various suggestions to that effect submitted to this Grand Lodge at this and previous sessions.

Reps. Stuart, of the District of Columbia, Dwinelle, of Northern New York, and Nicholson, of Pennsylvania, were appointed such committee.

Resolved, That the Committee to whom was referred the subject of revising the work of the five degrees, be directed to enquire and report upon the propriety of expediency of incorporating into the instructions required to be given in conferring degrees, the several emblems of our Order, and give emblems such a fixed language.

The following were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to Grand Sire Samuel Craighead, for the very able, courteous and impartial manner in which he has performed the very arduous and responsible duties of his office.

Resolved, That P. G. Sire Samuel Craighead be requested to sit for his portrait, to be placed in the Hall of this Grand Lodge, and that the expenses incurred for the same be paid from the treasury of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due and they are hereby tendered to R. W. D. Grand Sire Fitzhugh, for the very able, courteous, dignified and impartial manner in which he has discharged the unusually arduous duties of Grand Sire during the present term.

Resolved, That in consideration of these services, and of the services heretofore rendered this Grand Lodge, in all the departments of duty which he has been called upon to discharge and fill, the Grand Lodge recognize a debt of obligation, which they propose in part to discharge by tendering this acknowledgment; and the additional request, that he consent to sit for his portrait, to embellish our Grand Lodge; and that an engraved likeness be made to be inserted in the bound Journal, and that the Grand Secretary have the same carried into effect.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

The following propositions for the amendment of the Constitution of the R. W. Grand Lodge, are pending for action at the next session :

By Rep. Prall, of Northern New York, seconded by Rep. White, of Northern New York, Rep. Taylor, of Pennsylvania, Rep. Hunt, of Texas, Rep. Garwood, of California, Rep. Veitch, of Missouri, and Rep. Clark, of Vermont :

Amend Article XIV, Clause 2 of the Constitution, by striking out the words "seventy-five" and inserting "twenty."

Proposed by Rep. Kennedy, of Southern New York, seconded by Reps. Dwinelle, of Northern New York, Escaville, of Maryland, and Starr, of Illinois :

Amend the Second Section of the Ninth Article of the Constitution so that it shall read as follows :

"SECTION 2. Every State, District, Territorial or Colonial Grand Lodge, or Grand Encampment, having under its jurisdiction one thousand or less members in good standing, shall be entitled to one vote in the Grand Lodge ; every State, District, Territorial or Colonial Grand Lodge, or Grand Encampment, having under its jurisdiction over one thousand members in good standing, shall be entitled to two votes ; and no State, District, Territorial or Colonial Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment, shall have more than one Grand Representative at the same time ; Provided, however, that any Grand Lodge, or Grand Encampment, shall be entitled to as many Grand Representatives as it may have votes, on assuming the payment of the Mileage and Per Diem of the additional Grand Representatives."

Proposed by Rep. Thayer, of South Carolina, seconded by Reps. Lamberton, of Pennsylvania, Granniss, of Georgia, Burnham, of Maine, Krogman, of Massachusetts, and Dwinelle, of Northern New York :

Amend Article XII of the Constitution to read :

1. This Grand Lodge shall meet biennially on the third Monday of September, at 9 o'clock, A. M., at such place as the Grand Lodge shall from time to time determine. It may also meet on its own adjournments. It may also meet on the calls of the Grand Sire, of which the Grand Sire shall cause three months' notice to be given to the Representatives of the several State, District, Territorial and Colonial Grand Bodies, communicating to them the purpose for which the special meeting is called ; and in no case shall any business be transacted at a special meeting, unless notice thereof has been given as above provided.

2. During the time intervening between the biennial sessions, there shall be a committee, of the Grand Sire, the Deputy Grand Sire, the Grand Secretary, and the Committee on Appeals appointed at the last preceding session, to whom appeals and applications for charters may be made, or any other business referred, not affecting the finance of the Grand Lodge, nor being of a legislative nature. Said committee shall hold semi-annual sessions, their actions being always subject to confirmation or reversal by the Grand Lodge at its next session.

3. Article IX and other Articles of the Constitution are hereby ordered to be formed in phraseology, so as not to conflict with this.

Both of these propositions were pending and acted upon at the session just past. The Grand Lodge patiently devoted a whole legislative day to their discussion in Committee of the Whole. It is conceded that some alteration of

the Constitution is imperatively demanded by the present and prospective condition of the finances of the Grand Lodge, which cannot now or hereafter sustain the present representation with an annual session.

The Grand Lodge received, at the hands of the city authorities of the city of Nashville, a public reception at the Capitol of the State, which was worthy the reputation of that city for a genial and graceful hospitality. The sessions of the Grand Lodge were held in the hall of the House of Representatives, by invitation of that body. The Grand Lodge also visited in a body the residence of the late President James K. Polk, by invitation of Mrs. Polk, and were entertained by her with her accustomed grace and urbanity. They also, by invitation of the Odd Fellows of Nashville, visited the Hermitage, and tomb of Andrew Jackson, where a chair was presented to them, and some special exercises had, which are explained by the following resolutions:

On motion of Past Grand Sire John A. Kennedy, the Grand Lodge

Resolved, That the hickory arm chair, presented through the M. W. Grand Sire, be accepted, and that the R. W. Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary be instructed to have the following inscription placed, in a permanent form, on the chair: "Presented at the Hermitage to the Grand Lodge of the United States, I. O. O. F., by G. Rep. H. K. Walker, of Tennessee, on behalf of Dr. John Marshall Lawrence, a member of the family of the late Andrew Jackson, who constructed the chair with hickory withes grown upon the Hermitage estate, Nashville, September 20, 1860."

Rep. Mills, of Kentucky, moved the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, unanimously, That this Grand Lodge hereby express the great pleasure derived from our visit to Mrs. James K. Polk, and tender to that estimable lady our unfeigned thanks for her very elegant, courteous and hospitable reception of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Grand Lodge of the United States fully appreciates the kind endeavors of the members of the Order in Nashville, to contribute to our comfort whilst in that city, and the efforts they have made to this end shall be remembered with pleasure and gratitude.

Resolved, That our honorable reception at the State Capitol, our visit to Mrs. James K. Polk, and our excursion to the Hermitage, are worthy of special remembrance, and will be cherished by us as amongst the most pleasant incidents of our lives.

Resolved, That the presentation of the hickory chair, at the Hermitage, by Dr. J. M. Lawrence, is peculiarly calculated to excite our admiration and our pride, and we rejoice to have such a memorial from the home of the illustrious soldier, statesman and patriot, Andrew Jackson, intrusted to our hands.

Resolved, That the above resolutions, together with the resolution offered by Rep. Kennedy, of Southern New York, in reference to the inscription to be placed on the chair, be published in the papers of this city.

Rep. Shinkle, of Kentucky, on behalf of Olive Branch Encampment, No. 6, of Kentucky, presented a gavel to the Grand Lodge of the United States, made of ash wood, obtained at the home of the late Hon. Henry Clay.

On motion of Rep. Strong, of Mississippi, it was

Resolved, That the gavel presented to this Grand Lodge by Olive Branch Encampment, No. 6, of Kentucky, be accepted, and that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be returned to Olive Branch Encampment for the same.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing two years, and duly installed:

M. W. Grand Sire.....R. B. BOLYSTON, of South Carolina;
 R. W. Deputy Grand Sire.....MILTON HERNDON, of Indiana;
 Grand Rec. and Cor. Secretary.....JAMES L. RIDGELY, of Maryland;
 R. W. Grand Treasurer.....JOSHUA VANSANT, of Maryland.

BY-LAW ADOPTED.

The following by-law was adopted by the R. W. Grand Lodge:

Any propositions offered for reference to any Standing Committee of this Body, which shall require an entry in full upon the journal, shall be submitted in duplicate, either in print or manuscript; and if in writing, they shall be on paper not less in size than half a page of foolscap.

A resolution substantially the same was adopted on the first day of the session, and the business of the session was transacted under it. It enables the Grand Secretary to send to its appropriate committee at once, everything which is referred by the Grand Lodge; it protects him from annoyance, and from the loss of papers and documents.

Resolved, That the following matters be referred to the several Grand Jurisdictions for their consideration, and that they be requested to report their conclusions to this R. W. Grand Body at the next Annual Communication:

- I.—The abolishment of the mileage and per diem to Grand Representatives.
- II.—The reduction of the present Representative tax of seventy-five dollars, to its former amount, of twenty dollars for each Representative.
- III.—Supplies such as cards, books, odes, etc., be furnished to Grand Bodies and Subordinates at cost price.
- IV.—All deficiency in revenue to be yearly assessed upon the membership of the respective Grand Bodies.

In conclusion, I have in every respect endeavored to advance your interests, but in consequence of a custom of the Grand Lodge, of appointing only those Representatives who have for years occupied seats in the said Grand Lodge, on committees of any importance, I was unable to bring the same amount of influence to bear, I could wish. In closing the report of my stewardship, allow me kindly to thank the members of this Grand Body, for placing me in the position I have occupied, and hope that no act of mine has caused any member to regret the confidence they bestowed.

All of which is respectfully submitted;

THOMAS PARTRIDGE,
 G. R. to G. L. U. S.

In compliance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge, moved by Rep. Friesman, the Grand Master appointed, P. G. M. Yale, P. G. M. Dolson and P. G. Secretary Read, a Special Committee, to procure a suitable Testimonial for Deputy Grand Master Peel.

On motion of Rep. Browne, seconded by Rep. Findlay, the several Lodges, were instructed to return their original dispensations, as soon as possible, after the receipt of the new charters.

On motion, duly passed, a New Charter, signed by S. G. Dolson, as Grand

Master, and W. H. Read, as Grand Secretary, wrs then presented to the Representatives of each of the following Lodges—Avon, Brock, Chatham, Eureka, Elgin, Erie, Forest City, Gore, Imperial, Rond Eau, St. Mary's and Union, and one sent to Samaritan Lodge.

On motion of Rep. Fitzsimmons, seconded by Rep. Hutcheson, the Bonds of Past Grand Treasurer Wm. Fitzsimmons, were duly cancelled, he having paid over all the funds in his possession, belonging to this Grand Lodge.

On motion, duly passed, the Grand Secretary was instructed to issue an order on the Grand Treasurer, in favor of the Outside Guardian for \$2, for services.

On motion of Rep. Yale, seconded by Rep. Hutcheson, the hearty thanks of the Representatives and Members of this Grand Lodge, were tendered to the Past Officers, and especially to Past Grand Master Dolson and Past Grand Secretary Read, whose duties have been arduous indeed, for the uniform courtesy and zeal with which they have performed the duties assigned them.

Moved by Rep. Bingham, seconded by Rep. Sewall, and

Resolved, That we, the Members of the Grand Lodge of Canada West, in Grand Lodge assembled, extend to the Brethern of Elgin Lodge, No. 32, of St. Thomas, our unanimous thanks, for the very cordial welcome and entertainment we have received from them, in the Gratuitous use of their Lodge room, and in the table of luxuries provided for us by them, on the occasion of our visit to this place; and that we most heartily wish for them, that they may be as fortunate in the welcomes they receive everywhere through life, as we have been among them; and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to remit a copy of this resolution, to the Secretary of Elgin Lodge.

Moved by Rep. Marquand, seconded by Rep. Friesman, and

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do now adjourn, to meet at the Town of Chatham, on the first Wednesday in August, 1862, at the hour of 9 o'clock, A. M., punctually.

H. C. BINGHAM,
R. W. Grand Secretary,
Grand Lodge, C. W.

