

CHAPTER 2. 1848 - 1850.

FIRST LODGE OPENED IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Brother James Reid opens first Branch. This brings the opening in New South Wales Australia of the first Lodge of the Society to our notice, and on October 3rd, 1848, BROTHER JAMES REID, who had four other members assisting him, opened the Travellers Home Branch No. 733 in the Star Hotel, George Street, Sydney, which was situated on portion of the land where David Jones, George Street Store stands to-day.

There is no mention of the issue of the Sub Committee of Management warrant to Sydney, nor of the letter which followed it. The sanction of the Annual Moveable Conference 1848, England, was not asked for setting up the authority nor was the approval of any Delegate Meeting sought, but the whole thing must have been the exclusive work of the Grand Master BROTHER TERRY and the Grand Secretary of England.

Suffice it is to say that BROTHER JAMES REID, who opened the first Branch was also the first Grand Master of the Australian Sub Committee of Management, the reason why Australian is quoted is that in the same year as the Travellers Home Branch was opened in Sydney another Branch was opened in Victoria at Canterbury No. 922, and as the History of the Society is gone into and each year of the existence of the Sub Committee of Management, it will be seen that Branches were opened by the New South Wales Sub Committee of Management in Victoria, South Australia and Queensland, and all in due time had their own Grand Lodge Officers.

BROTHER JAMES REID was a Soldier and was wounded at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, and was a member of the order in England before taking part in the war. He was invalided home from the Napoleonic Wars, and in the year 1844 emigrated to Australia. He was Grand Master from 1849 to 1853 and of these years very little was known of his colleagues.

He died in 1872 and was buried at Canterbury. In later years efforts were made by BROTHER P. NEWLAND a Past Grand Master and ex Grand Secretary to locate the grave but without success.

A photograph of BROTHER JAMES REID is hanging in the Committee of Managements' Board Room in the Grand United Building in Sydney, and this is the only real link we have with the one who launched the Grand United on its road to success.

From the opening of the Travellers Home Lodge in 1848 there were no records available of what business was carried out up to the 29th July, 1850, when the first meeting of the Sub Committee of Management starts the first minute book available. The business of this meeting comprised three motions being moved and carried. The first was Proposed by PAST NOBLE FATHER WHITE, seconded by PAST NOBLE FATHER McLEOD:

"That GRAND MASTER REID explain the matter between him and the Victorian Lodge Canterbury No. 322."

This was Carried.

Nowhere in the minute book is there to be found any mention of BROTHER REID'S reply to the resolution carried or was there any reference to the subject matter that brought about the motion. There certainly was a dispute between the Sub Committee of Management in New South Wales and the Lodges in Victoria, which related to the Brethren in Victoria requesting a Dispensation from the Grand Lodge of England to set up a Sub Committee of Management in Victoria and sever their connection with the New South Wales Grand Lodge. This matter will be dealt with in the year the matter was being discussed and any further reference to the dispute can be left till then.

The second resolution was:

"That the Degree of Grand Master Chapter be conferred on two Past Noble Fathers."

This was Carried.

The other resolution being:

"That the goods ordered by Port Phillip District be forwarded."

This was Carried.

The next meeting was held on August 7th, 1850, it being the usual custom for the Grand Lodge Officers to meet fortnightly or

monthly.

At this meeting the most important resolution carried was the Dispensation applied for by BROTHER SMITH, District Secretary, I presume of Sydney District, to open a new Lodge at the Wellington Inn, George Street South.

The next meeting was held on September 3rd, 1850. In any of the recorded minutes of the Sub Committee of Management meetings was any entry made of who were the Grand Lodge Officers present; all that there was mentioned being the mover and seconder of the motions brought forward. Director BROTHER BOLSTEN'S name figured very largely in most motions moved and with Director BROTHER MADDEN seemed to stand out as being the two main members of the Committee.

At this September meeting in 1850, District Master BROTHER KELSEY was requested to place all the matters relating to his dissatisfaction before his District, and have the difficulties ironed out by them and not the Committee of Management. The Society at this early stage printed Almanacs, and the Grand Secretary BROTHER SMITH was empowered to sell them at the price of 2/-; much higher charge than those of the present age.

Members exempted if belonging to another Benefit Society: Another motion at the same meeting was:

"That it be a recommendation to the District Officers, to enter a proposition in their books that no Lodge make a member belonging to any other Benefit Society.
This was Carried.

The next meeting in October lapsed as there was no business, also the November meeting.

A special meeting was held on December 26th, at this meeting a Dispensation was granted to the Loyal United Brothers to be held at Mr. H. Amos's White Horse Inn. It does not say if the Dispensation applied for on August 7th, 1850 was in reference to the above Lodge being opened and the Dispensation granted on December 26th was to move their meeting place from the Wellington Hotel to the White Horse Inn. It definitely proves that the Loyal United Brothers was opened in the year 1850.

Another motion was to the Past Noble Fathers Lodge:

"That if they did not send a remittance to the Committee of Management for goods other proceedings would be taken."

This was Carried.

The only other motion moved was:

"That the Lecturer write to the Noble Grand of each Lodge to place a minute in their Lodge Books that the charging of New Members be abolished."

This was Carried.

CHAPTER 3. 1851 - 1854.

RAPID ADDITION OF NEW BRANCHES.

The first meeting in 1851 was set down for February 8th, and the only business transacted was a remittance for goods being passed for the Grand Lodge of England.

At the meeting in March 1851 a motion was:

"That the Degree Book be sent to the Prince Albert Lodge on an application being made by the Sydney District."

This was Carried.

Other meetings held during 1851 were on April 24th when an application for a Dispensation from the Sydney District was not approved unless a recommendation from the District in the proper form was submitted, and in the next motion carried it stated when this came to hand the Dispensation be granted. On June 9th, 1851 when the name of the Grand Master BROTHER JAMES REID appears as a mover of a resolution, at this meeting the Grand Lodge Officers were elected, and for the Office of Grand Master BROTHER J. REID and BROTHER G. RICHARDSON were proposed and BROTHER J. REID was elected - BROTHER G. RICHARDSON was elected unopposed as Deputy Grand Master.

It appears from the minutes of the next meeting recorded on July 17th, 1851 that it was composed of Past Officers as well as the Sub Committee of Management and the first motion moved was proposed and seconded by Past Noble Fathers, and read as follows:

"That the last meeting of the Sub Committee of Management be rescinded and declared illegal."

This was Carried.

Another motion moved by District Secretary BROTHER FOSBERG, seconded by Past Noble Father BROTHER PENDENGASS:

"That any District absents himself from the Committee of Management for two successive nights, be considered not qualified to act, and the Grand Secretary summon all the Past Noble Fathers to elect another in his stead."

This was Carried.

and another motion: At this meeting, the Officers elected

"That Officers of the Committee of Management be subject to the same regulations or dis-qualifications as the Directors before mentioned."

This was Carried.

There seems to definitely be a different classification between the three main Officers Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary and the Directors.

The Election of Officers then took place, and on this occasion, BROTHER JAMES REID was again elected Grand Master, but BROTHER JAMES WHITE was elected Deputy Grand Master instead of BROTHER RICHARDSON. The Directors elected were - BROTHERS JERVIS, TUCKER, CARMODY, TUCKETT and SEARL.

Elected Officers fined. Another resolution was:

"That any Past Noble Father being proposed as an Officer or Director of the Committee of Management, and elected refused to accept office, be fined 2/6; and any Past Noble Father refusing to stand, shall be fined 2/6 or not less than 1/-, the fine to be recovered from the Lodge of the offending Past Noble Father."

This was Confirmed.

A further resolution:

"That a recommendation to the Sub Committee of Management to remove or alter their place of meeting as the present room is not considered sufficiently private."

This was Carried.

The meeting of the Sub Committee of Management on August 6th, 1851 quickly followed up the resolutions as to fines when three members were absent and the fine of 2/6 was placed on the members absent. At this meeting BROTHER G. RICHARDSON, who missed election at the second meeting was elected to a place on the Sub Committee of Management as Treasurer for twelve months. The meeting on September 16th, 1851 ended as soon as the Committee met, no business being brought forward.

Important Officers of the Society: At the meeting on October 1st, 1851, Past Officers and the Committee of Management met, and there seems no doubt in the mind of the Writer that the Past Noble Fathers of the Lodges were looked upon as the leading and most important Officers of the Society in New South Wales. The reason I assume this is that although members of the Committee

of Management were present at this meeting, the Officers elected as Chairman and Secretary were Past Noble Fathers and not Grand Lodge Officers.

After moving that fines be imposed on one Director and four Past Noble Fathers, the election of Grand Lodge Officers were proceeded with, although it was only on July 17th, 1851 that Officers were elected. The new Grand Lodge Officers elected were - Deputy Grand Master BROTHER TUCKER, Grand Secretary BROTHER JERVIS, Grand Directors BROTHERS MADEEN, SHERIDAN and PAGE. These were the only Officers elected and the term of their occupation of their respective Offices were for three months only.

First Levy of Members: A motion at this meeting was:

"That the sum of twopence per quarter for each financial member in each Branch be levied to defray the expenses of the Committee of Management."
This was Carried.

The four Lodges represented at this meeting being the Travellers Home, Loyal Mariners Rest, Prince Albert and Sons of Perseverance.

At a meeting on January 14th, 1852, a motion was:

"That the Grand Secretary write to Port Phillip requesting the outstanding debt and amount of levy together with the return of financial members."
This was Carried.

It was very evident that the Victorian members were not in unison with the Committee of Management in New South Wales.

The meeting on September 1st, 1852 was prezided over by Deputy Grand Master BROTHER TUCKER, the Grand Secretary being BROTHER W. ADAMS, and the Directors present were BROTHERS CARMODY, RODGERS, BAYLISS and PAGE. BROTHER ADAMS Grand Secretary resigned on account of his departure for the diggins and a motion was:

"That the past Officers be summoned to attend a meeting at the House of Host Levy Sub Committee Rooms on September 16th, 1852."
This was Carried.

At this meeting BROTHER JOHN SHIPWAY was elected Grand Secretary.

A Dispensation was granted to the Melbourne District for a Lodge to be opened and called the Brighton Union Lodge No. 1053, also the name of the Loyal Ipswich Lodge appears as being written

to, in respect to amount owing to the Committee of Management, which goes to prove that the order was in existence in Queensland in the year 1852. At the meeting of May 16th, 1853 the reign of BROTHER J. REID as Grand Master came to an end, and the following Officers were elected - Grand Master BROTHER EDWARD WILSON, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER PETER DUFFY, Grand Secretary BROTHER JOHN SHIPWAY and Directors BROTHERS J. WHITE, J. KING, C. RICHARDSON, W. J. SMITH and J. HOGG.

On May 17th, 1853 a Dispensation was granted to the Melbourne District for the Prince Albert Lodge No. 1055. On March 16th, 1854 a Dispensation was granted to the Sydney District to open a Lodge at Maitland to be called the President Lodge No. 1056.

At the Committee of Management meeting on May 26th, 1854, the Melbourne District made application for a Dispensation for the Rose Lodge just opened by them. There was a motion and an amendment - the motion being to grant, and the amendment not to grant, the voting was equal and the Grand Master declined to vote, but directed the Grand Secretary to summon a special meeting to be held on Friday June 2nd, 1854, when a resolution was:

"That the application of the Melbourne District stand over, until the Annual Meeting."
This was Carried.

At the meeting a resolution was:

"That the Dispensation asked for be sent to the Melbourne District."

This was Carried.

The new Grand Officers elected for 1854-5 were - Grand Master BROTHER P. MURRAY, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER C. RICHARDSON, Grand Secretary BROTHER J. SHIPWAY, Directors BROTHERS RICHARDSON, J. WOOD, A. MILNE, G. CLINES, Treasurer BROTHER W. MUNDAY, Trustees BROTHERS A. MILNE and J. WOOD.

CHAPTER 4. 1854.

INDEPENDENT GRAND LODGE IN VICTORIA.

At the Sub Committee of Management Meeting held on November 17th, 1854 a Dispensation was granted the Sydney District to open a Lodge at Redfern to be called the Loyal Love of Liberty Lodge No. 1058.

It was at this meeting that the matter of the Melbourne District came before the Officers and a Charter that came from England was withheld until the reply to the Sub Committee of Management in New South Wales for a letter sent to the Committee of Management England. It was at this time the Lodges in Victoria were granted a Dispensation by the Committee of Management England to form themselves into an independent Grand Lodge, and sever their connections with New South Wales, and herewith is the copy of the letter from the Melbourne District Victoria and the one sent by the Sub Committee of Management New South Wales.

The Melbourne letter read as follows:-

"Grand United Order of Oddfellows - Melbourne District.
To the Committee of Management England.

I am requested to write to you petitioning that you will grant our application for a Sub Committee of Management in Victoria; that there is a necessity for such we think you will readily perceive, if you take into consideration the great distance we are from Sydney and the extra expense we are liable to, in being subject to a management six hundred miles away. The expense is nominal compared with the inconvenience we are put to through that Committee, for they have no knowledge of our wants or requirements, neither can they have, for our Colony has grown up so rapidly that even we ourselves are surprised; and this growth is still going on most extensively, and therefore we hope you will see the advantage our Order would have of diffusing its philanthropic principles throughout the Colony; if we had the power and honored privilege of granting Dispensations when our District is applied to for that purpose, thereby saving delay and other inconveniences that would be tiring to you to mention, nevertheless are important to us.

We have now fourteen Lodges opened at various distances around Melbourne many of them are situated in very prominent and flourishing parts of the Colony, where they will have opportunities inconceivable of extending the great moral and social influence that Oddfellowship is capable of bestowing.

Our dependence on Sydney for what we want is a very

great detriment to the Order, as, when we receive an application to open a new Branch, our correspondence with Sydney occupies so much time (often months), that the applicants think they are not attended to, and the consequence is that the other Societies are benefited by our apparent negligence.

Therefore, we have no hesitation in saying, that we feel we are not presuming too much, in asking to be allowed to manage our own affairs, which privilege we hope you will grant with as little delay as possible.

In the event of a Charter being granted to us, I am directed to give you an order for not less than twenty four Dispensations, with an equal number of books and other requisites that are required by each branch.

We do not wish to avow anything disrespectful to our Sydney Brethren, far from it, what we wish is a better system of management of the fourteen Lodges we have in the District, six are without Dispensations, books etc. Each Lodge has appointed a Past Noble Fath to form a Board of Directors to watch over the interests of the Order in Victoria until we hear from you.

Begging the favour of an answer to this as soon as possible, I remain, in the bonds of the Order,

W. J. VINCENT. District Secretary."

The letter from the Sub Committee of Management Sydney is dated May 20th, 1854, to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Committee of Management, Grand United Order Of Oddfellows, England.

"It is with feelings of surprise and astonishment to the Sub Committee of Management Sydney to find in the quarterly report of August, 1853 that you have granted a warrant to the Melbourne District to form a Sub Committee of Management in the Colony of Victoria. The Sub Committee of Management Sydney have therefore, requested me to write to you on the subject, and to refer you to our Charter of date October 3rd, 1848; also to your letter of date March 28th, 1849, which states that the Sub Committee of Management Sydney is the head of the Order in this part of the globe.

I will here copy that part of the letter which refers to it-

Leeds. March 28th, 1849.

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have to inform you that the Sub Committee of Management of Sydney is the head for the locality in that part of the globe, and nothing will be done by the Committee of Management England, to any Lodge or party without your request or desire, and all communications to us must first be laid before the Sub Committee of Management of Sydney, and meet with your approval; of-course what does not, there is no need whatever of you to send it to us. In reference to a District being formed in Melbourne Province, it can be done at any time

the Sub Committee of Management of Sydney see it is necessary, and can sanction such in any other distant Province, but at the same time all those Districts must be under the control and direction of the Sub Committee of Management Sydney.

GEORGE TERRY Grand Master
JOHN C. HOLROYD Grand Secretary.

The Sub Committee of Management therefore, wish to make an appeal against such decision of the Committee of Management.

First: Because the Melbourne District is under the control of the Sub Committee of Management Sydney, having been formed by the said Sub Committee of Management.

Second: That the said District never applied to the Sub Committee of Management Sydney for any such thing.

Third: Because it is in direct opposition to the spirit of our warrant, and the letter accompanying it, wherein it is stated that the Committee of Management will not take any notice of any Lodge or party sending letters or documents to the Committee of Management unless they come through the Sub Committee of Management.

Fourth: In the documents referred to it is stated that the Sub Committee of Management of Sydney is the head of the Order in this part of the Globe, and gives us the power to grant Dispensations, open Lodges, and form Districts, when the Sub Committee of Management see it is necessary, such Lodges and Districts to be under the control of the Sub Committee of Management Sydney, which have been done up to the present time. And further, the Committee of Management bind themselves to sustain and protect the Sub Committee of Management Sydney so long as the General Laws and principles of our honorable Order are observed and kept, which we believe has been done by us. We therefore, hope and trust that your honourable Committee will see the justice of recalling the Warrant from the Melbourne District, which we believe has been granted to them through their misrepresentations to you, and that justice may be restored to us, which we may say has been unjustly taken away from us.

Hoping that the prayer of our appeal will be answered by your Committee in a satisfactory manner.

EDWIN WILSON Grand Master
P. J. DUFFY
J. WILLIS
J. JAGELMAN
J. WHITE
A. MILNE
C. RICHARDSON
JOHN SHIPWAY Grand Secretary."

On the 4th May, 1855 the final resolution was taken, which says:-

"And that the Sub Committee of Management Sydney be

informed that the warrant granted to the Sub Committee Management does not, and was never intended to prevent the General Committee of Management from opening other Sub Committees whenever it may be likely to serve the interests of the Order for such to be established; and that it is by no means improbable that Sub Committees may be established if it becomes apparent that their establishment may conduce to the interests of the Order. And the Committee of Management beg to point out to the Sub Committee of Management Sydney that Sub Committees are not established for the pleasure or profit of individual Districts, but to facilitate the transaction of business.

That the General Committee of Management have no power to grant any Charter bartering away the privileges of the Order by setting up monopolies in the form of Sub Committees; and if the Imperial Government have found it necessary to establish a separate government for Victoria, much more necessary is it that good government should be promoted in our Order by opening Sub Committees wherever the want of the Order indicate the necessity, and that for the aforesaid reasons the granting of a Charter to the Colony of Victoria is confirmed."

And so despite opposition from Sydney the Victorian Sub Committee of Management was formed, and their severance from the Sub Committee of Management Sydney an established fact.

The removal from Office of BROTHER SHIPWAY caused an agitation when he was called upon to surrender all books, property and any other goods or money in his possession to the Sub Committee of Management. The matter ran for a long time before the Sub Committee of Management and the Sydney District, for the reason that after suspension by the said Sub Committee of Management BROTHER SHIPWAY was elected District Secretary of the Sydney District, and the objection raised by the Sub Committee of Management was not supported by the Loyal United Brothers and the Sub Committee of Management requested the District not to support the Lodge in the stand they had taken and for them to call a Special Meeting to deal with the charge. BROTHER SHIPWAY had a counter claim against the Committee of Management for money due and the whole dispute seemed to have passed away without any further reference to the charge being made at any of the meetings.

The Grand Officers elected for 1880 were: Grand Master BROTHER DUFFY, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER GUTH, Grand Secretary BROTHER NASH, and Directors BROTHERS WOOD, ROBINSON, VOLFE, CARROLL and HENDAY.

CHAPTER 5. 1854 - 1862.

PROGRESS IN THE LATE "FIFTIES".

The Sub Committee of Management met on December 21st, 1854, when a Dispensation was granted to the Sydney District to open a Lodge at Newcastle to be called the City of Newcastle Lodge.

There was no business of any consequence transacted from the end of 1854 until May 9th, 1855 when at the Sub Committee of Management Meeting the Sydney District was granted a Dispensation to open a Lodge at North Shore to be called the St. Leonards Lodge, and on October 16th, 1855 one to open a new Lodge at Shoalhaven to be called the Southern Cross.

At a special meeting called on December 12th, 1855 the then Grand Secretary BROTHER JOHN SHIPWAY was removed from Office and BROTHER McNAB was elected to the vacancy.

The removal from Office of BROTHER SHIPWAY caused an upheaval when he was called upon to surrender all books, property and any other goods or money in his possession to the Sub Committee of Management. The matter was for a long time before the Sub Committee of Management and the Sydney District, for the reason that after suspension by the said Sub Committee of Management Brother SHIPWAY was elected District Secretary of the Sydney District, and the objection raised by the Sub Committee of Management was not supported by the Loyal United Brothers and the Sub Committee of Management requested the District not to support the Lodge in the stand they had taken and for them to call a Special Meeting to deal with the charge. BROTHER SHIPWAY had a counter claim against the Committee of Management for monies due and the whole dispute seemed to have passed away without any further reference to the charge being made at any of the meetings.

The Grand Officers elected for 1856 were : Grand Master BROTHER DUFFY, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER SOUTH, Grand Secretary BROTHER McNAB, and Directors BROTHERS WOODS, ROBINSON, WOLFE, CARMODY and MONDAY.

At the meeting of February 5th, 1857, a Dispensation was granted to the Sydney District to open a Branch at Cundletown, Manning River to be called the Manning River Union Lodge.

A Dispensation to open a Branch of the Order at East Maitland, to be known as the Star of the East Lodge was granted to the Sydney District at the meeting held on May 14th, 1857, and another Dispensation to Sydney District on the same date to open a Branch at Newtown to be called the Victoria Lodge.

Remuneration of Officers: The Grand Secretary was granted a remuneration for his services for the last 19 months the sum of £3., and the Auditors 2/6d each.

The Officers elected were, Grand Master BROTHER FORSBERG, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER MILNE and Grand Secretary BROTHER T. MCNAB and Directors BROTHERS KING, SOUTH, SHAW, WOODS and CARMODY.

On the 24th May, 1858, the Grand Secretary BROTHER MCNAB was voted the sum of £10. in appreciation of his services; and on June 10th, 1858 a further presentation was made of a handsome Fluted Nickel Coffee Service and a pair of Candlesticks from the Sub Committee of Management.

The Grand Secretary BROTHER MCNAB was no doubt held in very high esteem by the members of Grand Lodge, as at anytime any reference was made in connection with the work of the Grand Secretary, high praise was always bestowed on him for his able carrying out of the Grand Secretary's position.

The Annual Meeting of Past Officers held on June 21st, 1858 to elect the Grand Officers for the year was presided over by Past Officer BROTHER TUCKER. In the minutes of the evening the names of the Past Officers present were inserted, but there did not seem to be any member of the present Sub Committee of Management present and the election of Officers to the Sub Committee of Management and all the other business was carried out by the Past Officers. One motion was:

"That four Past Officers form a code of By Laws for the Sub Committee of Management and lay the same before a Past Officers meeting."

This was Carried.

The Grand Lodge Officers elected were: Grand Master BROTHER TUCKER, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER JAGELMAN, Grand Secretary BROTHER JOHNSON, Grand Directors BROTHERS MUNDAY, AYLIFFE, RIGERS, SHERIDAN and CAYLEY, every member elected being new Officers not one of the old Sub Committee of Management for the previous year being appointed.

At the meeting on November 25th, 1858, BROTHER JOHNSON tendered his resignation as Grand Secretary, and the Grand Master appointed BROTHER HOGG to act in his stead.

A Dispensation to open a Lodge in the town of Wagga Wagga was granted to the Sydney District, on May 3rd, 1859, the name of the Branch the Pride of the Valley. On December 15th, 1859, BROTHER McNAB is again listed as Grand Secretary of the Society.

Coming to the year 1860 at the meeting on May 28th, a Dispensation was granted to the Sydney District to open a Branch at Goulburn, to be called the Loyal Southern Star Lodge, No. 1172. The Grand Master BROTHER TUCKER having complained to the meeting about the manner in which BROTHER GORMAN of the Sons of Perseverance Lodge had treated him in that Lodge, on the occasion of his attendance, by using very insulting language to him, and BROTHER GORMAN having come into the Sub Committee Meeting.

It was proposed:

"That BROTHER GORMAN be required to leave the room."
This was Carried unanimously.

this was immediately carried into effect.

It was also proposed:

"That the Sons of Perseverance Lodge, receive permission to become a neutral Lodge of the Grand United Order in connection with, and under the control of this Sub Committee of Management."
This was Carried.

Another item of business proposed:

"That the Grand Secretary be paid the sum of thirty shillings for twelve months salary."
This was Carried.

On March 21st, 1861 a Dispensation was granted to the Sydney District, to open a Lodge at Waverley to be known as the Sons of Independence Lodge No. 1173.

Raising of Loan from Lodges: The April meeting of 1861 was attended by all Officers and a motion submitted was:

"That this Sub Committee of Management do endeavour to obtain a loan of £100. from some Lodge or Lodges in the Grand United Order, in the Colony of New South Wales, for the purpose of forwarding such sum to the Committee of Management England, on account of money due to them for goods received, and that in consideration of any Lodge or Lodges advancing said sum, that we do give them security for such, by a bond of present, Sub Committee of Management giving claim on present stocks in their possession, and the period of such loan not to exceed two years; and to be paid by instalments if required so to do, the same to bear interest not to exceed 10 per cent per annum."

This was Carried.

The Grand Secretary's salary £2.10. 0 for 12 months was passed for payment.

The Officers appointed in July 1861 were: Grand Master BROTHER MUNDAY, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER McLEAN, Grand Secretary BROTHER McNAB, Directors BROTHERS TUCKER, HOLLINGDALE, TUCKWELL, SOUTH and KEARNES.

At the same meeting it was decided to adjourn for half an hour to inspect the new Lodge Room of the Sons of Perseverance Lodge and report thereon.

After the meeting resumed a motion was:

"That this Committee cannot sanction that Lodge holding their meeting in the building purchased by them for a Lodge room, until the windows, two in front, and two on the side, to build up with nine inch brickwork to deaden the sound, and therefore, request them to have the same done immediately, and the Grand Secretary immediately forward a copy of the resolution to the Officers of the Sons of Perseverance Lodge."

This was Carried.

A further resolution was:

"That the Sons of Perseverance Lodge be fined one pound for removing their place of meeting without the previous sanction of this Committee and that they be required to pay the same within one month from this date."

This was Carried.

Lodge Suspended: On August 1st, 1861 other motions in reference to the Sons of Perseverance Lodge were:

"That the Sons of Perseverance Lodge No. 1054 of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows be suspended from this Order and all benefits therewith connected, until they comply with the resolutions of this Committee."

This was Carried.

"That the Grand Secretary be instructed to communicate the foregoing resolution to the Sons of Perseverance Lodge informing them at the same time unless they comply within a reasonable period they may be expelled altogether."

This was Carried.

On September 4th, 1861, further resolutions were submitted as follows:

1. "That the Sons of Perseverance Lodge No. 1054 of this Order be expelled from the Order and all benefits connected therewith, for refusal to comply with decisions of this Sub Committee of Management."

This was Carried.

2. "That the Grand Secretary obtain Legal advice and take such steps as he shall deem advisable to recover Dispensation and books of the Sons of Perseverance Lodge."

This was Carried.

3. "That the Grand Secretary after obtaining Legal advice shall advertise the expulsion of the Sons of Perseverance Branch, should such be in accordance with the expressed opinions of this Committee."

This was Carried.

4. "That the Grand Secretary repeat the advertisement in reference to the Sons of Perseverance Branch for mail and send to England four copies of Newspaper."

This was Carried.

Three Dispensations were granted at this meeting to Sydney District to open Lodges at Nimitybelle, Minmi - Hunter River to be called the Miners Home Lodge No. 1175, and at Wallsend - Hunter River to be known as the Hand of Friendship Lodge No. 1176.

CHAPTER 6. 1862 - 1868.

COMPLETION OF FIRST TWENTY YEARS.

We are not recording events of consequence that were recorded in the minutes of the year 1862.

Grand Director BROTHER TUCKER resigned from the Sub Committee of Management, as he accepted appointment by his Lodge as a Delegate to the District Committee. By this it would seem that this Brother looked upon District Office as being more important in his work for the Society.

On March 26th, 1863 correspondence was read at the Sub Committee of Management Meeting from some members of the Travellers Home Branch asking that a Past Officers' Meeting be called, but the request was not entertained and the members were informed that until the expenses of such meeting were in the hands of the Grand Secretary no action would be taken by the Sub Committee of Management. It was also resolved that in consequence of the dispute between members of the Travellers Home Lodge and consequent detention of property owing to such dispute, that the Sub Committee of Management allow those members who voted in connection with the District a Dispensation plate to hold their meetings by.

Money owing to Committee of Management, England: The Sub Committee of Management were disturbed at the amount of money owing to the Committee of Management, England for goods, that they earnestly requested the Sydney District to help them by enlisting the assistance of the Branches under their jurisdiction by purchasing stock held by the Sub Committee of Management, all of which was purchased by them for the use of Branches in New South Wales.

In their request for a loan of £100. from Branches the Sub Committee of Management were loaned £30. by the Grand Masters' Chapter and £10. was promised by the Travellers Home Branch, and no further response was met with as far as the records of minutes are concerned.

The year we are writing of at the present time 1863, was a very good one, as can be seen by the Dispensations granted to open Branches in many parts of the State and as far north as Queensland, all of them being under the jurisdiction of the Sydney District at the opening, but events will show that some of them were not long under the Sydney District.

In May 1863, the following Branches were opened, Major's Creek called the Rose of Australia Lodge No. 1177, Queensland at Brisbane called the Star of Queensland Lodge. In December 1863 other new Branches were at Araluen called the United Miners Lodge, at Redbank called the United Brothers of Friendship Lodge, and then came a request from Braidwood, Major's Creek and Araluen to open a new District, which was duly granted.

The Sub Committee of Management elected for 1864 were:-
Grand Master BROTHER MILNE, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER KEARNS,
Grand Secretary BROTHER McNAB, Directors BROTHERS WILLIAMS,
HIGGINTON, HOLLINGDALE, SMITH and GOUGH.

A Dispensation was granted the Sydney District to open a new Lodge of the Order at Taree Manning River on May 16th, 1864.

A Dispensation was also granted Braidwood District to open a Lodge at Cooma to be called the Loyal Victoria Lodge of Monaro No. 1182.

The meetings of the Sub Committee of Management were being held quarterly and the year 1865 Officers were not all mentioned in the minute book, but it seems a BROTHER PHILLIP NEWLAND was elected Grand Secretary, and BROTHER MOORE Deputy Grand Master, and Directors BROTHERS SHOLL, JOYNER, HUND and HILL. A name is mentioned at the meeting of September 28th, 1865 of BROTHER GEORGE BROWN, one who was destined to play a big part in the welfare of the Society and District for a great number of years.

BROTHER BROWN was elected to a Committee formed to make by-laws for the new dedicated Braidwood District.

The Officers for 1866 were Grand Master BROTHER T. MOORE, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER C. RICHARDSON, Grand Secretary BROTHER P. NEWLAND, and Directors BROTHERS SHOLL, JOYNER, FURNELL, HUND, ADAMS and TOYNER.

At this special meeting Directors BROTHERS GOUGH and COOMBES moved, to prevent the District Delegates who attended the Sydney District Meeting in September last, from attending the special meeting of Past Officers asked for by the Sons of Friendship Lodge.

It was moved and seconded:

"That the Grand Master instruct the Grand Secretary, to summon a special meeting of Past Officers, to be held on December 12th at the Burrangong Hotel, George Street South, and that he instructs the Lodges not to elect Delegates, who attended the Sydney District meeting of September last; for they will not be allowed to sit at such meeting."

This was Carried Unanimously.

At the meeting on December 19th, 1867 two Dispensations were sent to the Hunter River District to open two new Lodges called the Honeysuckle Lodge and the Miners Refuge Lodge and this being done goes to show that the Hunter River District must have been opened during this year? The Sub Committee of Management must at this period been very short of cash as a resolution was passed paying the Grand Secretary 14/- on account of salary for the last year. Twenty years have gone by since the Order was opened in Sydney and in the year 1868, the Officers elected were Grand Master BROTHER T. WIGGINTON, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER W. CRISPIN, Grand Secretary BROTHER P. NEWLAND and Directors BROTHERS R. MOP, I. WINGROVE, J. BRENNER, A. JOYNER and C. HUND.

During this year a Grand Masters' Council was opened at Cundletown Manning River, and another at Brisbane Queensland.

A Dispensation to the Hunter River District Secretary to open a new Lodge at Morpeth was granted.

District on January 12th, to open a Lodge at Sydney Queensland to be known as the Star of Syria Lodge and at the same meeting a letter was received from Brisbane complaining of the delay in Sydney District in not making their application for a new Lodge. The Sub Committee of Management instructed the Grand Secretary to communicate with the Queensland Lodge advising them to form a District of their own. Another Lodge was opened at Rinton called the Royal Oak Lodge No. 1368.

CHAPTER 7. 1869 - 1873.

SPREADING OF SOCIETY IN QUEENSLAND AND TO NEW ZEALAND.

It was at the Sub Committee of Management meeting on March 25th, 1869, that a Charter was given to the Hunter River District to open a Grand Masters' Chapter. In the early days of the Society both in England and Australia the name of the Past Noble Fathers' Councils were known as Grand Masters' Chapters. This name was altered later on to what operates at the present day - Council Masters' Chapters.

Commencement of Widows & Orphans Fund: During this year the Widows and Orphans Fund was started in the Braidwood District and the By-Laws were submitted to the Sub Committee of Management for approval. These were with the exception of one passed, and the one rejected was to make it compulsory for all Lodges to join, but the Victoria Lodge at Cooma objected and the new By-Law submitted back to the Braidwood District was to make the joining up optional to the 'present Lodges but compulsory to the New Lodges opened.

The new Grand Officers elected at the Annual Meeting in August 1869 were Grand Master BROTHER T. D. McNAB, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER W. EVANS, Grand Secretary BROTHER W. SHAW, and Directors BROTHERS G. TUCKELL, H. WEBB, J. DUNCAN, R. CAIRNS and C. BUTLER.

The year 1870 was another milestone in the spread of the Society in Australia. A Dispensation was granted to the Sydney District on January 13th, to open a Lodge at Gympie Queensland to be known as the Star of Gympie Lodge and at the same meeting a letter was received from Brisbane complaining of the delay in Sydney District in not answering their application for a new Lodge. The Sub Committee of Management instructed the Grand Secretary to communicate with the Queensland Lodges advising them to form a District of their own. Another Lodge was opened at Hinton called the Royal Oak Lodge No. 1382.

At the Sub Committee of Management meeting in March a resolution was:

"That to inform the various Districts that owing to the previous Committee leaving a debt they were compelled to ask the said Districts to still continue the quarterly Levy to the Sub Committee of Management."

This was Carried.

On April 15th another Dispensation was granted the Sydney District to open another Lodge in Queensland at Toowoomba to be named the Queen of the South Lodge, and on May 27th one was granted to the Braidwood District to open a Lodge at Bombala to be known as the Loyal Prince Alfred Lodge.

The meeting of the Sub Committee of Management held on June 28th a resolution was:

"That in consequence of the Sydney District not having appointed Auditors to audit the Sub Committee of Management's Books etc, the Grand Master with the sanction of the Sub Committee appoint two Auditors to do the audit, as the Annual Meeting was only a few weeks ahead and, two were appointed by the Grand Master."

This was Carried.

It was also proposed:

"That the Grand Secretary's salary of £15. for the year be paid when sufficient money is available."

This was Carried.

On June 16th the Sydney District opened a Lodge on the Manning River at Taree called the Belmore Lodge.

The Annual Meeting in July elected the following Sub Committee of Management - Grand Master BROTHER W. CRISPEN, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER P. J. NEWLAND, Grand Secretary BROTHER W. SHAW, Directors BROTHERS JOYNER, ROBERTS, HAND, STOCK, EVANS and MOUNTFORD.

The first meeting in the year 1871 a Dispensation was granted to open a Lodge at Wingham to be called the Wingham Union Lodge.

Difficulties of Finance: It was also resolved at this meeting to communicate with the Sons of Perseverance Lodge respecting their application to be admitted again into this Order. The sum of £3. was also paid to the Grand Secretary as part of salary owing to him. Money was scarce in these days so far as the Sub Committee of Management were concerned as right through the 23 years history from 1848 to 1871 this body of Oddfellows we find always in trouble

as far as finance was concerned.

At the meeting of June 15th, four Dispensations were granted as follows - Loyal Lodge of Bungendore - Braidwood District, Commercial at Clarence Town - Hunter River District, Hastings and Tinonee Independent - Sydney District.

At the period there must have been a good deal of distress at Araluen in the Braidwood District as a special resolution was:

"That a vote of thanks be recorded on the Books of the Sub Committee of Management to the Sydney District and Loyal United Brothers Branch, for the noble manner in which they responded to the call of our distressed Brethren in Araluen."

This was Carried.

A letter was also received at this meeting from the Sons of Perseverance Lodge requesting to again amalgamate with this Order, and it was proposed and seconded:

"That the Sub Committee of Management are willing to receive the said Lodge again into our Honorable Order as a "Neutral Lodge" on the condition that they are willing by a majority at a summoned meeting of the Lodge "called for the purpose" to amalgamate and obey the laws now in force or which may hereafter come into force of the Order - information of the same to be remitted to the Grand Secretary with the Seal of the Lodge attached."

At the last meeting held on the 6th December, 1871 a Dispensation was granted to open a Lodge at Hillend, Tambaroora to be called the Star of the West. A resolution was:

"That a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of our late Past Grand Master BROTHER T. McNAB, in consequence of her sad bereavement."

This was Carried.

The Brother mentioned was a very interested member of the Sub Committee of Management for a lengthy period. He came on the Sub Committee of Management in 1855 as a Director and the same year he was elected Deputy Grand Master, and in December of the same year was elected Grand Secretary in the place of BROTHER JOHN SHIPWAY resigned. This Office he held until December 1858 when he resigned, but a vacancy occurring in December 1859 he again took on the position of Grand Secretary until the year 1865 when he again resigned and in 1869 he was elected Grand Master.

At a meeting of the Sub Committee of Management of June 1872,
a resolution was:

"That the action taken by the Grand Officers
respecting the opening of Grand Masters' Councils
be adopted."

This was Carried.

That is that a memorial signed by at least seven Past Noble
Fathers be requisite for the granting of a Grand Masters' Chapter
warrant. This part of the Order's activity seemed to be availed
of by the many Branches who have been given Dispensations to open,
as on September 19th, 1872 two were granted in the Braidwood
District. This District not only made progress in the above
direction, but also were very much alive to the necessity of
opening new Branches of the Order, as at this meeting they were
granted a Dispensation to open Miners Home Branch at Currawang.

Opening of a New Zealand Lodge: The last meeting of the Sub
Committee of Management in 1872 was of considerable interest
as on December 19th a Dispensation was granted to New Zealand to
open the Loyal Hunter Lodge No. 1505 at Shortland Thames. This
Lodge must have passed out as in later years the Committee of
Management in New South Wales sent an Organiser to this Country
and who was successful in establishing the Grand United Order in
New Zealand. The part played by the Society in New South Wales in
opening and financing the Order in New Zealand will be dealt with
at the period this was done.

Two other Dispensations were granted to open at the following
places - Tambaroora - Hunter River, and Balmain - Sydney District,
no names being given in the record of minutes.

At this same meeting an application from the Lodges on the
Manning River was received requesting that a separate District be
formed to be known as the Manning River District, and this petition
was duly granted.

The first meeting in the year 1873 - January 25th, an application
having been received from the Hunter River District asking the
Sub Committee of Management to grant them a Dispensation to be
held in abeyance until they should receive an application, which
was expected from New Zealand. The reply to the above application

was as follows:

"That the Sub Committee of Management considering the short term of their office could not grant the request, and that the Grand Secretary inform the District Secretary that any application received in due form will be immediately attended to and if necessary by telegram."

The meeting on February 5th, 1873 a letter was received from a Lodge (name not mentioned) to withdraw from the newly formed Manning River District, the Grand Officers requested them to pay their share in forming the same as provided by law; then they could apply to the Sub Committee of Management for permission to return again to the Sydney District, another resolution was:

"That in reference to the following - a Lodge No. 1500 elected an Officer passed him through the Chairs in one night, so as he could be sent as a Director to the Sub Committee of Management, and this action by the Officers of the Lodge was approved by the said Sub Committee of Management."

This was Carried.

At the Biennial Meeting of 1873 a premium of 10 guineas was offered for the best code of General Laws to be completed for by members of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows, Sealed Tenders to be sent to the Grand Secretary.

This Biennial Meeting was held at Braidwood on the 13th, 14th and 15th February, 1873. There was not a good attendance of Representatives many Branches not sending a Delegate. The Sydney District was represented by only two of their Branches, Braidwood District 7 Branches and Hunter River District 1 Branch, the Prince Alfred. The Representative of this Lodge was Past Grand Master BROTHER J. A. McCUBBEN, who for so many years afterwards was Grand Secretary of the Society.

At a later period of the meeting £1. Fine was imposed on 12 Branches in the Sydney District, 1 Braidwood District, 9 Hunter River District and 4 Queensland District and 1 Neutral Lodge - Sons of Perseverance.

At this Biennial Meeting the following paragraph was inserted in the report:

"Your Committee desire to state that they in conjunction with other Friendly Societies in Sydney are endeavouring to get a Bill passed through Parliament for the better protection and working of Friendly Societies."

Another important matter was debated and it was:

"That an Extension Fund be at once formed by the Sub Committee of Management, and that the first levy be one penny per quarter per member."
This was Carried.

Also at this meeting the blindfolding of candidates being initiated was abolished.

The election of Officers resulted in Grand Master BROTHER CRISPIN, Deputy Grand Master BROTHER P. J. NEWLAND, Grand Secretary BROTHER W. SHAW, Directors BROTHERS C. JOYNER and W. EVANS being re-elected for another two years and BROTHERS J. WINGROVE, W. A. KERSHAW, E. WILSON and J. A. McCUBBEN.

"That the Institution be retained and the District Officers be retained in the office of Master in the first place."
This was Carried.

"That the Institution be retained and the District Officers be retained in the office of Master in the first place."
This was Carried.

"That the Institution be retained and the District Officers be retained in the office of Master in the first place."
This was Carried.

CHAPTER 8. 1873 - 1876.

AMALGAMATION WITH ANCIENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS

IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

At a special meeting held on December 6th, 1873 the matter of the correspondence from Adelaide accepting the Sub Committee of Management New South Wales terms for the amalgamation with the Ancient Order of Independent Oddfellows in Adelaide was dealt with and it was decided to send an Instructor to Adelaide for the purpose of opening and instructing the Lodges. It was proposed that the Officers of the Senior Lodge be initiated and instructed in the first place, that they may be able to assist the Instructor in opening and instructing the other Lodge. An amendment was moved:

"That the Instructor initiate and instruct the District Officers now existing in the Adelaide District in the first place."

This was Carried.

The two Directors who moved the motion that was defeated, moved another as follows:

"That the Instructor open not less than three Lodges and then form a District in connection with the Grand United Order of Oddfellows."

An amendment by the Grand Secretary:

"That the question be left with the Instructor, to work in accordance with law."

This was Carried.

Deputy Grand Master goes to Adelaide: A motion that the Grand Master go to Adelaide as Instructor was carried, but owing to his not being able to accept, it was decided to send the Deputy Grand Master BROTHER P. NEWLAND, and his allowance was fixed at 15/- per day and his travelling expenses and the sum of £20. was voted as part of his expenses. It was also decided that 19 Dispensations to open the 19 Lodges in South Australia applied for be granted, also a District warrant be granted to the Adelaide District.

A letter was sent to the Loyal Love of Liberty Lodge asking them for the loan of their magnificent Banner to unfurl on the

occasion of the amalgamation of the Ancient Independent Order of Oddfellows with the Grand United Order of Oddfellows. This was granted by the Branch on the following conditions -

The Sub Committee of Management be responsible for its safe return and that the said Banner be insured for £40.

The Hunter River District was granted two Dispensations to open Branches - The Golden Fleece at Muswellbrook and the Marquis of Lorne at Rocky Mouth now known as Maclean on the Clarence River. The list of Lodges under the Sub Committee of Management at this stage of the Society's History were in each District - Sydney District 15, Braidwood District 10, Hunter River District 14, Queensland District 4, Manning River District 7 and Adelaide District with the largest number of Branches under the jurisdiction of the Sub Committee of Management New South Wales, which totalled 20, a total of 70 Branches.

A resolution was passed at the Biennial Meeting of the Society in England during the year 1873 as follows:

"We the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Committee of Management and Delegates assembled at Preston in Lancashire, England on this third day of June, greet you with sincere remembrances in the name of Friendship, Love and Truth. Forming as we do under our great principles, one undivided Institution existing for the benefit of our common humanity amongst all peoples of every Nation and colour throughout the World, your parent Society through its duly elected representatives, gladly embrace this opportunity of forwarding to their transatlantic brethren, their hearty and sincere congratulations, and most fraternal greetings, and thus our common bond of love and brotherhood will be strengthened, between the Order and Committee of Management, here with the Sub Committee of Management and Brethren in New South Wales."

At the meeting of the Sub Committee on April 2nd, 1874 a vote of thanks was recorded with thanks to the Loyal Love of Liberty Branch for the loan of their Banner and to the Deputy Grand Master on his mission to Adelaide, which must have been successful judging by the 20 Branches operating in the Adelaide District. A vote of thanks was also recorded to Past Grand Master BROTHER WAGDEN for his zealous conduct in the cause of Oddfellowship more particularly in reference to the amalgamation of the

Ancient Order of Independent Oddfellows Adelaide with our Order and that further recognition be referred to the Biennial Meeting. At this meeting he was presented with an Honorarium of £10 .

It was mentioned earlier in this report that a sum of £10. would be handed to the successful competitor in the contest for members in the best code of general By Laws submitted. There was only one entry and this was under an assumed name, viz: "Mosquito", and the prize to him was awarded and presented.

At the meeting held on May 2nd, 1874 a communication was received from the Adelaide District expressing their entire satisfaction of the whole Brotherhood with the recent amalgamation and also of the entire satisfaction given by the Instructor, Past Grand Master BROTHER NEULANE in such amalgamation; together with an application through this Committee to the Committee of Management England for a warrant to form a Sub Committee of Management for South Australia as intimated to them on their amalgamation, and also for a warrant for a Grand Masters Council, one of the Brethren of the Adelaide District having visited Sydney and received the honour of being initiated into the rites and Ceremonies of the Grand Masters Chapter of Sydney, when it was proposed that the communication be received and that a warrant for a Grand Masters Chapter be issued.

Also an application be sent to the Committee of Management England for a warrant for a Sub Committee of Management for the twenty Lodges now existing in the Adelaide District, to be called the Sub Committee of Management, South Australia. There is not any doubt in the mind of the Writer that the Order in South Australia had every opportunity of making great progress, but somehow the splendid avenue for extension was not availed of otherwise the Order in this State would have to-day been much more advanced in the matter of numerical strength.

It seems that the members were all belonging to the Ancient Independent Order of Oddfellows and came over in a body by amalgamation and became the Grand United Order of Oddfellows. In this year the Hunter River District opened four new Lodges, the

name of the Lodges or Towns are not mentioned in the minutes, but the numbers were 1597, 1598, 1599 and 1600, and on account of their extension movement they were granted amounts of £5. and £4. from the new passed Extension Fund. In a further record the four Lodges opened by the Hunter River District were Ulmarra, Chambers Creek, Greta and Home Rule. At this time the Extension Fund was worth the sum of £15.7.5, and this was drawn from the General Fund and placed in the Savings Bank.

Pioneer Spirit of Early Members: A Branch was opened on August, 21st, 1874 at Tingha, New England, by the Manning River District. It is almost impossible to judge the hazardous journeys undertaken by the members of the various Districts in their efforts for the extension of the Society in New South Wales.

The Biennial Meeting of 1875 was held at Newcastle at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Hunter Street, and occupied six days. The number of Branches represented were 33, Sydney District 11, Braidwood District 8, Hunter River District 11, Manning River District 2 and Sons of Perseverance Neutral Lodge 1. The number of members under the Sub Committee of Management New South Wales were 4753, consisting of six Districts and 79 Lodges, and the total worth of the Society at the 31st December, 1874 was £21,073.0.3, making an average of £4.8.8 per member.

BROTHER W. CRISPIN, who had filled the office of Grand Master for 4½ years was asked to leave the room and it was carried that a testimonial not to exceed £20. be presented to the Grand Master. In accepting the resolution the Grand Master said "he was again nominated although he would much rather see someone else elected, and he promised that what they had now appreciated in him they would never regret." While the Grand Master was replying, BROTHER ANGUS CAMERON, M.L.A. was announced at the door and was welcomed in the room. BROTHER CAMERON in reply said "the meeting had taken him entirely by surprise. He always felt it his duty to forward the interests of the Order. He took great pleasure in attending all meetings and would have had great pleasure in attending as a representative, but he could not being a member of the Legislative

Assembly."

Proposal of First Journal or Magazine: A notice of motion from the Mariners Rest Lodge urging the desirability of the publication of a journal or magazine in connection with and under the control of the Sub Committee of Management.

The election of Officers resulted in Grand Master - BROTHER W. CRISPIN, Deputy Grand Master - BROTHER J. HOLLAND, Grand Secretary BROTHER W. SHAW, Grand Treasurer - BROTHER J. McCUBBEN, and Directors - BROTHERS J. MOUNTFORD, H. HILL, W. KERSHAW, F. HINDMARSH, T. DAVIDSON and C. JOYNER. BROTHER P. NEWLAND retired from the Sub Committee of Management and an honorarium of £10. was passed to purchase a suitable present for presentation to him for his valuable services to the Order.

Thirteen Lodges had no representative and a fine of £1. was placed against each Lodge. The £21,073. mentioned previously as the worth of the Society in New South Wales was not held by the Sub Committee of Management, their balance in hand at the end of December 1874 was £202. in the Genral Fund and £19. in the Extension Fund so it seems that the Districts and Branches held over £19,000. of the value of the Funds. The meeting on April 8th, 1875 granted a Dispensation to the Hunter River District to open a Lodge at Lithgow to be called the Lily of the Valley, and on June 17th a Lodge was opened at Minmi to be called the Star of Minmi, and at this meeting a letter was received from BROTHER NEWLAND refusing to accept the proposed presentation in any shape or form.

A special meeting was called for July 1st, 1875 to deal with communications and telegrams from Adelaide for three Dispensations, one of which had been applied for and the other two to remain in abeyance, it was resolved:

"That a Dispensation be granted to the Adelaide District to open a Lodge at Yelta, Yorkes Peninsula."

A Dispensation was granted Hunter River District to open a Lodge at Mudgee to be called the All Nations Lodge.

On September 15th, 1875 the Committee met and a communication was received from England congratulating the Committee on the

extensive spread of Oddfellowship in the Colony and it was resolved:

"That the letter be published with the next report."

Three Dispensations were granted as follows - Pride of Warwick, Queensland District, Loyal Star of Milton, Braidwood District, and Gulgong, Hunter River District. A communication was received from the Adelaide District emphatically refusing to pay the levies imposed upon them as a right, it was considered at some length and the Grand Secretary was requested to correspond with the Adelaide District informing them that in order to bring the matter to a climax:

"That if they will abide by the decision of the Committee of Management, England on the the question, the warrant would be sent forthwith."

The meeting on October 14th, 1875 was a most important one as Grand Master BROTHER C. BALK, District Master of the Adelaide District, was present in connection with the dispute between the District and the Sub Committee of Management. BROTHER BALK spoke at some length and stated "that at the Amalgamation it was distinctly understood that no levies or other charge would be made upon them, but that they would be entirely under the control of their own funds, and that the Sub Committee of Management of New South Wales would at once recommend the Committee of Management England to grant them a warrant, which was immediately acceded to, and that warrant has been in the possession of the Sub Committee of Management Sydney since December last, and he could not see why it should have been held back so long. He contended that although the warrant was not in their possession they were virtually entitled to it before the time had elapsed that any levies under ordinary circumstances been imposed, he therefore begged that the Sub Committee of Management would take a more lenient view of the matter and allow him to take back with him the warrant."

The Grand Secretary replied and stated "that immediately on receipt of the warrant he was instructed to apply to the Adelaide District for a Document containing the transfer of the Ancient Independent Order of Oddfellows to the Grand United Order of

Oddfellows when the warrant would be forwarded."

A reply was received from the Adelaide District desiring to know the nature of the document required and which was read at a quarterly meeting of the Sub Committee of Management, when it was decided that a document signed by the District Officers, with the seal of the District, would be sufficient, but it appeared that by the word transfer they understood that it implied a transfer of their funds etc. and which they were unwilling to do, and during the controversy the levies had been imposed on them. After some further discussion BROTHER J. McCUBBEN moved and it was seconded:

"That the Banner be handed over to BROTHER BALK, District Master without the payment of levies imposed in consequence of the misunderstanding that had arisen."

This was Carried.

BROTHER BALK thanked the meeting for the courtesy they had shown him and the Adelaide District.

Three Dispensations were granted for new Branches, two in the Hunter River District - Loyal Tichbourne and Happy Home and one to the Queensland District - Loyal Vespasian. These two Districts received grants from the Extension Fund in connection with the opening of the new Branches, £9.10.0 being paid to the Hunter River District and £7.10.0 to the Queensland District.

At the first meeting in 1876, January 14th, Trustee BROTHER C. JOYNER tendered his resignation previous to his departure for Europe. His resignation was accepted and the best thanks of the Sub Committee of Management for his services were extended to him.

A Dispensation was granted to the Hunter River District to open a new Lodge at Narrabri, also one to open at Cootamundra by the Braidwood District and £5. was voted to this District from the Extension Fund for expense in opening the Cootamundra Branch.

There was very little business transacted during the year 1876.

At the meeting of the Sub Committee of Management held at the Adelaide District on the 14th of January 1877, BROTHER J. McCUBBEN and BROTHER J. McCUBBEN were elected in their stead.

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CHAPTER 9. 1877 - 1879.

SUB COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT IN QUEENSLAND.

The year 1877 opened with the first meeting of the Sub Committee of Management on January 18th when £4.10.0 was granted from the Extension Fund to the Hunter River District for expenses in the opening of a new Branch at Narrabri. The Biennial Meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Pitt Street, Sydney on the 14th, 15th and 16th of February, 1877.

The Deputy Grand Master BROTHER J. HOLLAND was a member of the Sons of Perseverance suspended, and this was raised and a motion moved:

"That in the opinion of this meeting the Deputy Grand Master was not eligible to attend."

The Grand Master said he was and would not submit the motion. It was then moved:

"That this meeting disagrees with the ruling of the Grand Master in refusing to put to the meeting the motion previously moved."

This was Carried.

and the original motion was then put and carried, and the Deputy Grand Master retired from the meeting.

Grand Lodges in three States: The Queensland District was granted a warrant to open a Sub Committee of Management and the Order has now reverted to its former limits - all three States, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland having their own Grand Lodge.

The Officers elected at this Biennial Meeting were, Grand Master - BROTHER A. CAMERON, Deputy Grand Master - BROTHER I. AMESS, Grand Secretary - BROTHER J. LAND and Directors - BROTHERS J. ROBERTS, R. CRAIG, W. SHAW, H. TEMPLETON, J. HOGG, J. McFADYEN and J. CLARKE.

The Grand Secretary's salary was fixed at £35. yearly. At the first meeting of the Sub Committee of Management four of the elected Directors resigned and BROTHERS J. A. McCUBBEN, W. LOUGHLIN, H. WINGROVE and I. DOUGLAS were elected in their stead.

At the meeting of the Sub Committee of Management on June 21st, 1877

an application from the City of Newcastle Lodge to secede from the Hunter River District was received, and after BROTHER A. LENTHALL was admitted as a Delegate to explain the reason of the Lodge's application, it was decided to grant the request. Two Dispensations were granted for two new Lodges, one to Hunter River District at Charlestown and the other to Braidwood District to open at Delegate. During this year five Lodges were closed, two each in the Sydney and Braidwood Districts and one in the Hunter River District.

On September 20th, 1877 BROTHER I. AMESS resigned the Deputy Grand Master's position and BROTHER J. McCUBBEN was elected in his stead.

A very important resolution was:

"That it shall be compulsory for all Lodges to forward their correspondence to the Grand Secretary, through the Secretary of the District."

This was Carried.

Another resolution moved at the meeting was:

"That BROTHER W. SHAW'S seat be declared vacant and that his Lodge be informed of the same with a view to the election of another Director in his place."

At the meeting held on June 20th, 1878, Dispensations were granted for Lodges to be opened by Braidwood District at Nimitybelle, Frogmoor and Gundagai. At the meeting on October 10th, 1878 further Dispensations were granted to the Hunter River District for Tighe's Hill and Hamilton, to Braidwood District - Pride of the West and to Sydney District - Strangers Refuge, Orange. The Grand Secretary BROTHER J. LAND resigned as Grand Secretary and BROTHER ALFRED SMITH was elected for the remainder of the term.

At the meeting on November 7th, 1878, the Grand Master BROTHER A. CAMERON tendered his resignation and BROTHER J. McCUBBEN was elected Grand Master and BROTHER R. CAIRNS Deputy Grand Master in place of BROTHER W. SHAW. The Biennial Meeting of 1879 was held at Sydney on the 12th, 13th and 14th of February. A new Rule was:

"That there shall be four District Meetings in each year on the third Monday in January, April, July and October and members absenting himself without due cause to be fined 2/6d."

This was Carried.

The Officers elected on the Sub Committee of Management were, Grand Master - BROTHER JOHN McCUBBEN, Deputy Grand Master - BROTHER E. CLARIDGE, Grand Secretary - BROTHER ALFRED SMITH, and Directors

BROTHERS DARK, MCGREGOR, BROWN, LENTHALL, DAVIDSON, LODGE and J. J. CLARKE.

On April 8th, 1879 the Sons of Perseverance - Sydney made application to be re-admitted to the control of the Sub Committee of Management. This was agreed on providing Sons of Perseverance paid the sum of £14.17.0 to the Sub Committee of Management. The Duke of Edinburgh - Kempsey also applied but it was resolved to ask them to supply information respecting their financial position and number of members.

At the meeting on June 19th, 1879 there appears in the minutes of this meeting a report of a court case published in "The Evening News", when Mr. District Court Judge Josephson gave a decision in the District Court of peculiar interest to Friendly Societies. Mrs. Hill a widow, sued the Trustees of a Lodge of Oddfellows for £30. due to her as a donation on the death of her husband, who was an Oddfellow, also for £2.10.0 due for medical expenses. The plaintiff's case was that her husband was a sober steady man and had been employed at Parbury's bonded stores for years. The Trustees' case rested on the evidence of Dr. Alston, who was the Medical Officer of the Lodge. His evidence was that he died from Delirium tremens or alcoholism and he gave a certificate of death to that effect. His Honor set aside the Doctor's testimony and held that plaintiff's witnesses as to Mr. Hill's sobriety proved plaintiff's claim and gave a verdict for defendant.

A Dispensation was granted to open a new Lodge at Gunning - Braidwood District. Duke of Edinburgh Lodge was granted permission to become a neutral Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Sub Committee of Management.

At the last meeting of the Sub Committee of Management on December 19th, 1879 three Dispensations were granted to open new Lodges as follows - Captain Cook Ashfield - Sydney District, Pride of the East Maitland - Hunter River District and Evening Star Candelo - Braidwood District. The opening of the Captain Cook Lodge at Ashfield was of considerable interest to members in the Sydney District. On the 30th November, 1879 a large number of members of the various Lodges of the Grand United Order of

Oddfellows among whom were the Grand Master of the Order and the Officers of the District left the rooms, George Street South, headed by the Coldstream Band under Mr. Douglas and proceeded to Ashfield. After a few preliminaries had been arranged a number of gentlemen were initiated and the Lodge dedicated according to the ritual of the Order and named the "Captain Cook". Speeches were delivered by Grand Master BROTHER J. McCUBBEN, District Master BROTHER PHIL NEWLAND and District Treasurer BROTHER GEORGE BROWN.

This report was from "The Evening News" as in the days under review so far, the daily papers were very good in publishing any matters of interest connected with the Friendly Society movement.

CHAPTER 10. 1880 - 1883.

MARKED INCREASE OF MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDS.

March 25th was the first meeting in the year 1880, and a letter from the Registrar of Friendly Societies asking for further particulars of items under head of Management Expenses, Medical Attendance, and supply of medicines as the forms printed by the Government and used at the present time did not make the necessary division of expenses incurred under these headings, and the Grand Secretary informed the meeting that the information had been supplied the Registrar.

Two new Lodges were granted Dispensations the Macleay Lodge, Kempsey - Manning River District and the Star of New Sheffield, Nattai - Braidwood District. A notice was to be sent to Lodges informing them that any matters for consideration at the next Biennial Meeting must be submitted in writing through the District three months prior to the date of meeting. The Grand Masters Council of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows held a dinner at the Masonic Temple, Clarence Street on Thursday March 28th, 1880, when a very happy and congenial evening was spent by the seventy members present, Worthy Grand Master BROTHER W. CRISPIN being the Chairman and BROTHER GEORGE BROWN Past Grand Master responded to the toast of the Council. The Young Australian Brass Band were in attendance and rendered many musical items. The sum of £10. was voted to the Hunter River District on June 17th in consideration of having opened four new Lodges.

Dispensations were granted at this meeting to open four new Branches, The Young Australian Lodge at Braidwood, the Loyal Argyle at Goulburn both in the Braidwood District and the Glebe Union at Glebe, the Native Rose at Sydney both in the Sydney District. The Grand Master made reference to the Perseverance Society as still working under the name of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows although severed for a considerable time past, through the non-payment of fines and levies. It was decided that legal advice be

procured respecting their liability to the Sub Committee of Management. Two Lodges were closed the Tingha Lodge - Manning River District and the Hearts of Oak Lodge at Snowball Gundagai. £10. was granted to the Braidwood District from the Extensive Fund to the Braidwood District in consideration incurred by them in opening nine new Branches.

The Grand Master advised the Committee that he had taken council respecting the Sons of Perseverance Lodge and a claim had been made for monies due, twenty one days having been allowed to them to make a settlement, this they had failed to do. It was then carried:

"That the Sub Committee of Management of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows of New South Wales do hereby at their Regular Meeting of the Committee, recall and cancel the Dispensation No. 1500, and demand all books, papers, documents and other properties including cash in the custody of the Society called "The Sons of Perseverance" Lodge meeting in Brisbane Street in this City, as they do not comply with the rules of the Society."

Another resolution was moved by BROTHER GEORGE BROWN:

"That the Grand Officers take further action if necessary."

This was Carried.

The last meeting for 1880 was held on December 16th when a grant of £10. was made to the Sydney District for expenses incurred in opening new Lodges, Dispensations were granted to the following - Stroud, Pride of the Hills and Loyal Cobar all in the Hunter River District. An application was received at this meeting from the following Branches through the Hunter River District to form a new District, to be called the Bathurst District, as follows - Loyal Britannia, Bathurst, Star of Tambaroora, Lily of the Valley, Lithgow, Happy Home Hill End, Wellington, and Dubbo United - this application was granted and the Grand Master and Grand Secretary or whom so-ever they may appoint attend at Bathurst for the purpose of opening the new District. Further to the dispute with the Sons of Perseverance Lodge it was stated that further steps had been taken to carry out the rules, but up to the present time no settlement of matters had taken place, the case now being in the hands of the Registrar of Friendly Societies, further action being deferred pending the result of his enquiry.

The Biennial Meeting of the year 1881 was held in Sydney on the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th of February. During the two years the total Funds increased from £14,800 to £22,256 and increase of £7,458, the sick pay distributed was £5,412 and it was recorded that the financial members may be taken at 5,000, approximately, as several returns were not to hand.

The election of Officers resulted in BROTHER JOHN McCUBBEN being elected again as Grand Master, BROTHER GEORGE MICHAEL - Deputy Grand Master, BROTHER A. L. SMITH re-elected Grand Secretary and Directors - BROTHERS S. ORIELL, J. CLARKE, S. CLEARY, H. SKINNER, B. KERSHAW and G. FITZPATRICK. The business of this Biennial Meeting was mostly alterations to Rules and in the records there is only the mention of Rule such and such a number carried or lost, but it can be taken for granted that if there had been any exceptional matters relative to the successful operation of the Society they would have been given space in the minutes or report of the proceedings. It did state for the first time in the Grand Master's address that a Magazine had been published in 1879 at a charge of 3d, and he said with what measure of success he left it to the members to decide.

Many communications had been forwarded to the Committee of Management England, asking for all information in connection with the "Secret System" and at meetings held by the Sub Committee of Management Sydney the same matter was brought up, and when no reply was received from England the opinion was expressed that the Society in New South Wales draw up a Secret System and Lectures of their own, but this was allowed to stand over until the reply did come from England. At this Biennial Meeting the reply was available and the contents were that with the exception of occasional lectures the Secret ~~System~~ System is entirely dying out and that no tangible information respecting the same can be given.

At the first meeting of 1881, a letter was received from the Bathurst District thanking BROTHERS BRETNALL and NEWLAND for their services rendered on the occasion of opening the District. A sum of £10. was voted from the Extension Fund to Hunter River District for expenses incurred in the opening of new Lodges.

At the first meeting in 1881 a Dispensation was granted the Hunter River District to open a Branch at Lawrence - Clarence River. Six Dispensations were granted for new Branches as follows; Star of Berridale - Braidwood District, True Friendship, Pride of O'Connell and Pride of Blayney - Bathurst District, and Prince of Wales and Pride of Waterloo - Sydney District. £7. was voted to the Bathurst District in connection with the expense of opening the two Branches and they also made a request for the amount paid to the Sub Committee of Management on account of expenses incurred by the representatives sent for the purpose of the formation of the Bathurst District, the reply to this was that under some Rule they had no power to deal with the application.

A letter from the Miners Home - Wallsend to the Hunter River District was read, stating; that they refused to receive the new Laws as they objected to Law 106, and on account of this letter the Hunter River District had suspended the Branch. The Sub Committee of Management in reply moved a resolution:

"That the Grand Secretary write to the District Secretary of the Hunter River District informing him that providing the Miners Home Branch accept the new Laws, that the suspension would be removed by the District and the Branch allowed to supplement the 106 By-Law by one which should give them the same benefits as those contained in previous Laws."

This was Carried.

Four Dispensations were granted - Miurumburrah in Braidwood District and Island Home, Rylstone and Copeland in the Hunter River District. Many Grand Masters' Chapters had been opened and although it has not been mentioned where such Chapters were opened in the history already complete, there was not any doubt that these Chapters were very popular and as only seven were required to open many individual Branches opened and carried on with much enthusiasm for the good of the Order.

The last meeting in the year 1881 on December 15th was responsible for four more Dispensations being granted, namely Star of Help at Bowning, Pride of Harden at Harden both in the Braidwood District, Wilcannia in Bathurst District and the Columbia at Burwood in the Sydney District. £5. was granted for Extension work to the Bathurst District.

At the first meeting in 1882 on March 16th a letter was received from Wilcannia stating no Medical Officer was available and candidates could not be passed to open the Branch. The Grand Officers granted permission to open the Branch with Honorary members, who could become full members when passed by a Doctor.

Two letters were read one from the Grand Secretary of South Australia and the other from the Grand Secretary of Victoria, conveying expressions of kindly feeling towards the members of the Order in New South Wales. Dispensations granted during the quarter were four: one to Bathurst District at Capertree, two to Sydney District at Port Macquarie and Advance of Freedom, Bellinger River. BROTHER ALFRED SMITH tendered his resignation as Grand Secretary and BROTHER JOHN McCUBBEN was elected to the vacancy and started his long years of service as Grand Secretary of the Sub Committee of Management New South Wales. BROTHER G. MICHAEL moved up to Grand Master and the retiring Grand Secretary BROTHER ALFRED SMITH was elected Deputy Grand Master.

A resolution was:

"That the Sub Committee of Management confer with the Sydney District in respect to arranging a monster picnic to take place on "Queen's Birthday".
This was Carried.

At the second quarterly meeting held on June 15th, an application was received from the following Branches - Loyal Argyle Goulburn, Star of Breadalbane and Star of New Sheffield to form a new District at Goulburn. It was resolved:

"That the Grand Secretary write to Braidwood District informing them that on the above named Branches complying with the Rules permission will be granted."

Four Dispensations were granted at this quarterly meeting as follows - Palmers Island, Chatsworth, Clarence River and in Hunter River District, Pride of Yass Braidwood District and Arakoon Macleay River. A question was asked by BROTHER J. CLARKE - "was the Sydney District in order in granting £5. for a prize essay on the best mode of building a Hall." The Grand Master replied - "he considered the money was voted illegally."

At the third meeting of 1882 BROTHER McFADYEN asked for information in connection with the Biennial Meetings of 1875-7-9 and

1881 requiring the number of representatives present and the cost to the Sub Committee of Management, and he was informed as follows; the 1875 meeting was held at Newcastle, number of members present 36, cost £69.4.6. 1877 meeting at Sydney, 16 members present, cost £100.18.6, 1879 meeting at Sydney, 23 members present, cost £99.18.0 and the 1881 meeting at Sydney 31 members present, cost £173.4.6. At the meeting at Newcastle in 1875 the representatives were paid by their Branch, and not the Sub Committee of Management, from that meeting this was altered and the expenses were borne by the Sub Committee of Management. Out of the £69.4.6 expenses at Newcastle only £20. was paid to the Grand Officers, the balance being given as donations to the Hospitals etc.

At this meeting a letter was read from the Sons of Perseverance Society asking on what terms we would re-admit them, when it was moved:

"That we have no further correspondence with the above Society."

This was Carried.

A resolution was:

"That we condemn the action of the Grand Master BROTHER MICHAEL in Procuring £90. as payment in full of the Braidwood Accounts."

This was Carried.

BROTHER MICHAEL left the Chair and the Deputy Grand Master then took the Chair. Before the motion was put BROTHER MICHAEL abruptly vacated the Meeting. £15. was granted the Hunter River District for the great expense they went under in opening nine Branches. Another question was asked - "Does the Grand Master and Grand Secretary hold their seats on this Committee according to the Laws having resigned from the Offices of Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand Master." the reply was - "the answer to be given next meeting."

Four more Dispensations were granted to Dalton and Binalong in the Braidwood District and Lily of St. Leonards and Rose of Kembla in Sydney District. The business for this meeting was completed and was adjourned until the following day, September 22nd, 1882.

The matter referring to the two Officers was dealt with and a motion was moved by BROTHER J. CLARKE:

"That these Officers were illegally in their respective offices."
This was Lost.

and the Deputy Grand Master BROTHER A. SMITH resigned immediately.

The vacancy was filled by BROTHER ORREIL.

A resolution was:

"That the Office of Grand Master be declared vacant."
This was Carried.

and BROTHER G. FITZPATRICK was elected for the remainder of the term. The newly elected Deputy Grand Master tendered his resignation as Trustee and BROTHER CLEARY was elected to the vacancy for the rest of the term.

At the last meeting of 1882 held on December 21st, BROTHERS MOUNFORD and THORNTON took their seats in the place of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master respectively.

Three Lodges were opened during the quarter all in the Braidwood District, they were - Rockynhall, Nowra Waratah and Cumbewarra. At the first meeting in 1883, March 15th it was announced that the Grand Secretary BROTHER J. McCUBBEN had opened the new District at Goulburn. Four Dispensations were granted for new Branches, Star of Broughton, Braidwood District, Bulahdelah, Hunter River District and North Goulburn and Pride of Joadja, Goulbourn District.

The Biennial Meeting of 1883 was held in Sydney other meetings were held, but with the increase in Branches and members it was necessary to allow more time for the preparation of reports and business for the meeting. The Officers elected were Grand Master - BROTHER GEORGE BRETNALL, Deputy Grand Master - BROTHER N. COLLINS, Grand Secretary - BROTHER J. McCUBBEN and Directors - BROTHERS W. CRISPIN, J. AMESS, J. McFADYEN, H. ORREILL, G. FITZPATRICK, B. J. NEWLAND and W. KERSHAW.

The Statistical report revealed that the Order had close on 7,000 members, 117 Branches, amount of sick pay £3,808, funeral donations £1,453, widow and orphans donations £217, medical benefits £5,022, management, rent etc £1,834, distress gifts £80 a total of £12,417.

The meeting in June 1883 voted £10. to the Goulburn District to