

Secrecy

(Exchange)

It has been said that Masonry is the open secret of the world. Its principles are such that they may with full propriety be shouted from the house-tops. However, there are certain things about the Fraternity that should be held within the tiled recesses of the lodge or between brethren entitled to them under proper circumstances. In addition to the ritual and method of recognition that should never become known to those not of the Fraternity, there are other matters that should never be divulged. For instance, if a man apply for the degrees and is blackballed, the fact should be held in inviolable secrecy. The lodge has a right to accept or reject an application, but it doesn't have the right to publish the fact of rejection. There are many things besides those generally regarded as the secrets of Freemasonry that ought to be held in secrecy. Circumspection is truly a Masonic virtue.

They Say

(Masonic Standard)

If "They say" was throttled, hanged, choked to death, quartered and burned to ashes, and the ashes scattered to the four winds of heaven, there would be peace and harmony in the world and much less heartache.

"They say" is a cowardly twin brother to Lucifer, and is an escaped convict from the realm of Abandon.

"They say" is a sneak thief afraid to appear in the light, but under cover of somebody else's slurs pilfers good deeds, steals good reputations, and, clothed as an angel of light, seeks to "damn with praise."

"They say" is a liar and never speaks the truth. The brightest, purest most beautiful character in the world becomes hideous when "They say" has finished the falsehoods he invents.

"They say" is an assassin, stabbing in the back and never appearing where his dastardly, hideous demoniacal countenance can be seen, but covering in the shadows of good men, carries on his Mephistophelian work of destroying good names.

Trouble makers are abundant in the world, and the trouble factory runs day and night, with "They say" as the manager. He throws into the bubbling cauldron of care whole tons of mean and false insinuations, pokes the fire of the furnace with the pronged fork of hypocritical "friendship" and hums an incantation of discordant maliciousness to keep up his fiend-like spirits.

"They say" should be avoided, and what "They say" utters nine times out of ten—nay, should never be believed, for nine times out of ten—nay, ninety-nine times out of a hundred, the utterance is false. Avoid "They say" as you would a venomous reptile.

Directory

Stanly Lodge No. 348—First and third Friday nights in each month.

Albemarle Lodge No. 703—Second and fourth Monday nights.

Pee Dee Lodge No. 150—First and third Thursday nights.

Yadkin Falls Lodge No. 637—First and third Monday nights.

Albemarle Chapter No. 71 O. E. S.—Second and fourth Tuesday nights.

Norwood Chapter No. 164—First Monday night.

Tallassee Chapter No. 208—Third Tuesday night.

Fine Heritage

(The Compass)

Masonry was never designed to be a popular institution, yet in all ages "the best men of society" were found in its ranks. But it is on American soil that brotherhood shines especially to our liking. Among the ancestors of our New World civilization do we find them. They were among the Boston Puritans, the Newport Jews, the Baltimore Catholics and the Philadelphia Quakers.

The colonial governors were chiefly Masons, the Continental Congress of 1774-1775 was largely Masonic. George Washington and Peyton Randolph were among the leaders who were Masons, and the Continental Congress of 1776-1777 was almost wholly made up of members of the Masonic Fraternity.

So it is today that we American Masons look with wonder and admiration into the American Masonic past. The future of American Freemasonry will have to speak for itself.

Where Joking Is Out Of Place

(Exchange)

By a certain type of mind "scaring" a candidate is considered to be an excellent joke. Those who petition a lodge are told of the terrors of the "lodge goat," thus keeping alive a form of ridicule of Freemasonry invented by its enemies more than 200 years ago. A candidate is told he will "back down". The terrors of the "third degree" are expounded with laughter, winks and apparent enjoyment by them who thus soil something sacred and beautiful for the sake of a moment's amusement — if, indeed, it is amusing to make a new-comer afraid of that which later proves to be without terror.

Citation won 32 races in 45 starts and was unplaced only once during his career.

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