

## THE MASONIC JOURNAL

GREENSBORO, N. C.

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E. A. WILSON, Editor &amp; Proprietor.

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TERMS—CASH ON DEMAND.  
Office on South Elm Street, first door north of the Patriot Office.

Our readers will find the promised Synopsis of the Proceedings of our recent Grand Lodge, on the 4th and 5th pages of this number.

When ordering this paper friends will please remember that it is positively against our rule to enter the name of any one on our books as a subscriber until the money is received. By so remembering you will save much trouble and unpleasantness.

A Frenchman, named Prof. De Lagarriere, has been running a bogus Masonic Lodge in Boston, and found fools enough in that city to put about \$500 into his pockets, at the rate of \$10 and \$15 each for initiation. Worse than all, these poor dupes are all known, and their names and residences registered and published. We regard them on an equal footing, on the score of honesty, with the dealers in counterfeit currency.

We return thanks to brother Mc Kay Dugan for a copy of his "New Year's Gift," published at Osage Agency, Indian Territory. It is intended to show the doings of the Agency for the past three years, and to show which we make the following extract:

Three years ago last spring the Agency was located here, and looking over the work accomplished in that short space of time it seems almost incredible, and especially so, when we consider that the work is the civilization of the Osages. In the spring of 1872, the traveler would only have seen an unbroken prairie over which roamed the savage, either upon the war path or in search of game. Now we find a village containing stores, a flouring mill, wagonshops, a magnificent school house, &c.; and in the vicinity of the Agency are many farms upon which are Osages engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. Perhaps one of the most interesting features of the Agency is its school, which has an attendance of over eighty children, mostly full bloods, and under charge of "Uncle" Benjamin Miles who has employed two teachers. This is a step in the right direction, for it is easier to train the young than the old, and the interest manifested by the children shows that much has been and can be accomplished.

OUTRAGEOUS.—The report comes to us through the Press of the outrageous conduct of the court officials at Jacksonville, Florida, where three unfortunates have been confined for over two years in the county jail for the pitiful sum, each, of \$10 court cost. This of itself is an inhumanity that should not be tolerated in any civilized community, and the brutish officials should be made to feel the keen lash of the law which they so wantonly outrage.

Besides, we learn that these prisoners have, during this time cost the county nearly \$900. It would have been a mercy to them and their families to have farmed them out for the amount, besides an overwhelming saving to the county.

How aptly the old adage of gnat and camel applies here.

## Credit.

This is one of the vexed questions of newspaperdom, and, perhaps, there never was an editor, in modern times at least, but who has had unpleasant experience with it. By the rule of promiscuous slashing, as practiced in some offices, many an article is made to go the rounds of the press without any paternity, or what is far worse, with such as would make the author blush for shame should he see it.

Of course, there is a large class of matter that will always float around without special authorship, and is not worth any, but the plan of gobbling up all the best editorials and letting them pass coinage before the public as original with the papers publishing them is, to say the least, a species of thievery that should be frowned down by the honest press of the country. Frequently we see articles of merit and value, which from their remote position from the original departments of the papers, we know to be copied, and wishing to publish them we are at sea as to whom to give the proper credit. What shall we do? credit improperly or give no credit? The latter, we think is preferable; but in justice to ourself and with a desire to aid in abating the evil, we shall in future credit all such class of matter to the papers from which we take it, and leave our contemporaries to "catch thief" for themselves. If all the papers will adopt this rule the evil will soon be cured.

"CHARITY.—A brother having died in Australia, leaving nothing to his family but "pious poverty, God's blessing, and a father's prayers," the Craft there saw "the necessity of making immediate provision for the helpless and the destitute." The result was a donation of £115.—\$575, and a determination not to stop at that amount. Where is the evidence that the *Christian Cynosurians* have ever done even half as much for a destitute widow and her children? Scoffing, not relieving the distressed, is their favorite pastime."

We copy the above from the N. Y. *Hebrew Leader*, to ask of our respected cotemporary if his intention is to draw an invidious distinction between the Australian Jews and the large body of American Christians, by way of offering insult to the latter? If so, we respectfully suggest that the *Leader* should never again publish a line on the sublime tenets of Masonry, nor associate with the great body of the Brotherhood in Christian America. As a Mason and a Christian Minister we cannot say less than this.

We know that the churches, Lodges and Synagogues all fall far short of their duty in the great work of charity, but is it right, is it just, is it Masonic to seek to array one body of the Brotherhood against another when each, as one, are engaged in the *one work* of dispensing that blessed Masonic Charity mentioned in

the above paragraph.

Masonry knows no creed save that emblazoned upon its own banner:

"FAITH IN GOD,

HOPE IN IMMORTALITY,

CHARITY TO ALL MANKIND."

We do not censure our Hebrew brethren for their religious faith, nor arrogate to ourself the right to set in judgement upon them because they are Jews, and we do think that, in a Christian country and as a member of a largely ascendant Christian Brotherhood, the *Leader* is grossly wrong in flinging its inuendoes in the face of the great body of Christian Masons.

A MASONIC LECTURER IN A NEW ROLE.

—The *Wilson Advance* tells the following good story: There is perhaps not a Mason in middle or eastern North Carolina who is not on intimate terms with Bernice Walker, the well known, Grand Lecturer of that Order for the State at large. To those who have not that pleasure, we propose to introduce him. He is a bachelor from habit, (whether from choice or not, we are not prepared to say), slightly passed the mediocre of life, of tall but not commanding stature, moderately good looking, with no hope of improvement in this particular, a soul as large as a meeting house and a fund of dry wit and quaint humor, sufficient to fill said building. This is the man, the same, who after several months of professional duty, worn out and fatigued with the toils of travel, on the day before Christmas, sought the hospitable mansion of Esquire Wm. M. Blackwell, in the good old county of Granville, to spend in quiet retirement the holiday season. He was met at the gate by his old friend who bade him a double welcome. "Pon my word" said the squire, "glad to see you; why, do you know that Joe and Ben C. the best bird hunters in Warren county will be here to-night? The lecturer was delighted at this news. Accordingly about sunset the Warren county sports drove up and were escorted to the house where a general hand-shaking reunion of old friends ensued.

After supper, preliminaries for the morrow's bird hunt was in order.

"As I am too old now to be ranting over the fields with you boys, Walker, you take my gun and bag, said the Squire."

"Never shot a gun but twice in my life," said the man of the mystic tie. "But you must," insisted the Squire.

"No," said the lecturer, "I'll go along as marker and game carrier."

This was agreed upon and early next morning the sports were in the field. For an hour or so the shooting was fine, birds were plentiful, the route smooth and easy and the man of Masonic fame enjoying the sport hugely, so much that he failed to observe several private conferences between the Warrenites.

"This way, Walker, we are going over now to a new field," said Joe C. with a knowing wink to Ben.

"All right, boys I'll be with you to the end, don't be afraid of my not keeping up," answered the old bach.

For a mile and a quarter the route lay over the roughest fields and woods, deepest gullies, highest fences and thickest underwood in Granville county, where it came to a brier swamp a half a mile in width at its narrowest point. The Warren sports halted just long enough to glimpse the jaded bachelor in sight, who by this time had doffed his overcoat, thrown away his umbrella, and with hat in hand coming at full speed. Beckoning him on, the Warren boys plunged into the swamp and running up a hundred yards found a path which carried them through dry shod, but the lecturer went straight ahead,

first in slush mud, then waist deep in water, and often tight in the embrace of unyielding vines and briars. After the most heroic efforts he managed to reach the opposite side and emerged from the thicket, hatless, with one boot on, the left half of his spike-tail coat entirely gone, vest open and trousers in shreds and shreds.

The Warren sports hailed him from their point of concealment on the hill, but he bore to the left and when last seen was making a bee line in the direction of Oxford. It was afterwards ascertained that he flanked this town on the right, and it is to be hoped that ere this he has safely landed in the protecting arms of his fast friend, Buck Blackwell, of Durham tobacco fame, to whom he can unfold the burdens of a heart saddened with the reflections of a Granville county bird hunt with a couple of Warren county sports on Christmas day.

## I. O. O. F.

There are upward of six hundred Lodges in Ohio.

The Encampment branch of the Order in Kentucky has had a large increase in membership during the past year.

Illinois will have the Ritual translated into the Swedish language. They have a considerable number of Swedes in that State.

## Grand Encampment of Wisconsin.

The Grand Encampment met at Oshkosh on Tuesday Nov. 30th, John H. Vivan, G. P., presiding. Present: R. H. Hotchkiss, G. H. P.; T. B. Elliott, G. S. W.; L. B. Hills, G. Scribe; D. Adler, G. Treas.; G. E. Weatherby, G. J. W. Reynolds, Rep. to G. L. of U. S. and all of the appointed officers.

In the report of the Grand Patriarch it was stated that all the Subordinate Encampments which had not been visited by his predecessor last year had been visited by himself, in which work he had been ably assisted by Grand Scribe Hills, the "Nestor of Odd Fellowship in Wisconsin." The office of the Grand Instructor is one which ought to be established, and its consideration was recommended.

Among the decisions of the Grand Patriarch, the most important was that which stated the right of a Patriarch to receive a withdrawal card before having taken the R. P. Degree.

The Subject of uniforms was touched upon, and encampments recommended to obtain uniforms as rapidly as possible. It is the opinion of the Grand Patriarch that the rigid requirements of Encampments in reference to memorising the work, though perhaps originally unadvisable, ought not now to be departed from.

Three new Encampments have been instituted during the present year and two revived.

The receipts for the year were \$1,760, of which \$1,731 were used, a larger amount than usual having been expended in printing for the Grand Encampment. The gain in this branch of Odd Fellowship during the year has been 175 members, which is not so great as it ought to be, and as it may be with judicious work. The Grand Encampment ought no longer be a mere attachment to the Grand Lodge, but should legislate in such a manner as to change the time of holding the meeting of the Grand Encampment to the month of June, or some other date which shall cut it loose from the Grand Lodge, and insure its complete independence.

The report of the Grand Scribe shows that the total number of Patriarchs in this State is 2,126, of whom 621 are members of the Grand Encampment. Twenty widowed families have been relieved during the past year with other individual reliefs to members of this branch of the Order. The estimate of the expenses for the Grand Encampment for the ensuing year is \$1,045.