

"MORE LIGHT."

Does the granting of a Dispensation for a new Lodge suspend the membership of the petitioners in the Lodges to which they respectively belonged?

Yes; and the suspension remains while the new lodge is under dispensation. If a Charter is granted, and the new Lodge constituted, this, of course completes the transfer of membership to the new Lodge. If the dispensation is revoked the membership of the petitioners is restored to the Lodges to which they before belonged.

How should Reports of committees on petitions be made?

In writing of course, after a careful investigation of the character and qualifications of the petitioner, but no entry should ever be made either on the petition or Lodge books as to how a committee reported.

The G. M. of Missouri decides that while closing a Lodge on the first or second degree does not affect the degrees above it, that closing on the third degree may close all below it.

Candidates *must* learn the work as they proceed—must give evidence in open Lodge of suitable proficiency in the preceding degree before they can be advanced. Where a candidate can be Masonically avouched for by a competent workman, it is, equivalent to an open examination.

What is the relation of a brother to the Lodge who has paid all dues and been granted a demit by the Lodge, but the Secretary having failed to fill out, sign and deliver the demit to him?

The action of the Lodge is binding when all the requirements have been met by the demitting brother and the facts recorded in the minutes, though the Secretary fails to give the proper certificate of demission—the brother is non-affiliated.

Is it right for the Grange to hold their meetings in our Masonic hall?

There is no prohibitory law, that we are aware of, against it, so it is a question left entirely to your Lodge to determine. It is however recommended that when a hall has been dedicated to the use of Masonry it should henceforth be kept sacred to that use.

Is the regulation in regard to installing by proxy the same in Chapter as in Lodge?

Yes. All installations by proxy are void.

Our Junior Warden elect cannot be installed; can the Junior Warden now serving by election and installation demit.

He cannot, until his successor is duly elected and installed.

When a brother is dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues, is a vote necessary to re-instate him?

If there has been no charges or trial, and he comply with the law by paying all demands against him, he becomes at once reinstated to all privileges without any vote being necessary, and the Secretary should so record him.

Bro. Wheeler—Will you inform me at your earliest convenience, if a summons to members of a Lodge to attend a Stated Communication when business demanding a summons is to be transacted, requires the seal of the Lodge attached to be a legal summons?

A legal summons is an order given verbally by the Worshipful Master to a Mason, stating time, place and purpose for which it is given; or an order made by the Lodge or Master, written out by the Secretary (or printed,) signed by him officially, stating time, place and purpose of the summons, *under the seal of the Lodge.* Some grand jurisdictions claim that a

summons shall also be signed by the Master, but we do not so rule.—*Masonic Jewell.*

Bro. Wheeler—If a brother has been indefinitely suspended, and wishes to be restored should he petition his Lodge (in writing) requesting restoration, or is it sufficient for some brother, whose sympathies naturally incline toward such person to make the request verbally? Would the latter be sufficient, especially when the brother's conduct, since his suspension is unknown to his lodge, from the fact that he has been a non-resident?

Fraternally yours, * * *

A petition for restoration from expulsion or indefinite suspension should come from the person expelled or suspended, unless his conduct has been so marked and correct that the members of the Lodge felt that as a matter of justice and as a reward for his correct life and example he should be relieved from further punishment. A brother must fully atone to the offended law, and his conduct must be naturally good and correct, to change the sentence of a Lodge.—*Masonic Jewell.*

Can an officer resign or demit before the expiration of his term?

No; when installed he solemnly promised to fulfill the duties of his office for the whole official term. Can he forswear himself?

DEPRIVATION OF MEMBERSHIP.—The Grand Lodge of Maine provides that no Mason shall be deprived of membership without due trial, but inspection of lodge records shows a diversity of custom in regard to the penalty for the non-payment of dues. "Stricken from the rolls" and "deprived of membership" are equivalent, but "suspended from membership" is different, because in the former case the delinquent to be restored must pay his dues and apply as in obtaining original membership, while in the latter payment of dues immediately restores him, if rightly construed. The vote and record are frequently made without considering this. A just distinction would be made by inflicting the severer penalty upon a man who refuses to pay dues, and the lighter upon the member who simply neglects his summons, as in the latter case the neglect is sometimes thoughtlessness. Injustice may occasionally be done to a member who goes on a long journey from home without notifying the lodge of his whereabouts, and care should be taken that prejudice does not place a worthy brother in a position to be stopped by a single ballot from the enjoyment of rights which he greatly values, and which detention abroad by misfortune had prevented him from protecting. Suspension from membership will meet all cases where a doubt of the delinquent's intentions exists.—*Masonic Token.*

GRAND LODGE DIMITS.—It seems strange that so few Grand Lodges have made provision for the issuing of dimits by Grand Secretaries to members of late defunct lodges, whose rolls and records are in their possession. In this State the Grand Secretary has the annual returns of all lodges in the jurisdiction, and when a lodge dies from any cause, the books, records and all property are sent to him, and when any of the members of such dead lodge desire a demit to affiliate with another lodge, all he has to do is to apply for it, and if found properly enrolled, he receives it on a fee of fifty cents; and, if he owed the lodge any dues when it went down, he pays his debt into the Grand Treasury. There should be such a law in every State, as it would save a vast deal of trouble.—*Mo. Freemason.*

Six murderers were hanged at Fort Smith, all at the same time, and each for a separate offence. Three of them were white, one negro, one Cherokee and one quarter Cherokee.

The steamer *Francis* from Bridgeport, Conn., arrived in Norfolk, Va., last week with 150 ladies and gentlemen—pleasure seekers, who are out for a ten day's voyage.

An Ideal Living Room.

It is by no means my notion, says Mr. Clarence Cook, that the living room should be a homely, matter-of-fact apartment, consecrated to the utilities, while the muses and graces are left to kick their heels in the hall. On the contrary, we want in the living-room, for a foundation, that the furniture shall be the best designed and best made that we can afford, and all of it intended to be used and necessary to our comfort; not an article to be allowed that does not earn its living and cannot prove its right to be there. These wants being provided for first, then we admit the ornaments of life—casts, pictures, engravings, bronzes, books, chief nourishers in life's feast; but in the beginning these are to be few, and of the choicest, and the greatest care is to be taken in admitting a new comer. The room, from the very first, ought to represent the culture of the family—what is their taste, what feeling have they for art; it should represent themselves and not other people; and the troublesome fact is, that it will and must represent these, whether its owners would let or no. If young people, after they have secured the few pieces of furniture that must be had, and made sure that they are what they ought to be, have some money left to get a picture, an engraving, or a cast, they ought to go to work to supply this want as seriously as they would the other, which seems the more necessary, but in reality is not a bit more necessary. I look upon this ideal living room of mine as an important agent in the education of life; it will make a great difference to the children who grow up in it, and to all whose experience is associated with it, whether it be a beautiful and cheerful room or only a homely and bare one, or a merely formal and conventional one. The relation of these things to education is all that gives any dignity or poetry to the subject, or makes it allowable for a reasonable man to give much thought to it. But it has a real vital relation to life, and plays an important part in education, and deserves to be thought about a good deal more than it is. It is, therefore, no trifling matter whether we hang poor pictures on our walls or good ones, whether we select a fine cast or a second-rate one. We might almost as well say it makes no difference whether the people we live with are first rate or second-rate.

The Death Kiss.

Woman's love, is there anything like it? A Canadian's wife has just died in Raleigh, and he has taken her to Canada to bury her under the native sod. She died in a land of strangers, but has left behind her the name of a devoted wife. It was love and death. He saw her sinking fast, he knew it, she knew it—it was consumption. He nursed her like a little child, the great strong man, and there they were in the room together the night she died. She wanted to see out, to gaze once more at the world outside, but he entreated her against it, and told her that to take her up would make her worse, but she told him she was dying anyway, and he lifted her tenderly in his arms and walked with her about the room, holding her to his breast and showing her this object and that, pointing out every pleasant thing, and she kissing him with every breath till the last breath had gone, and the kiss died cold on his cheek. Woman's love! When God made man, he put all of heaven in a woman's love, and told him to win it and be worthy of it.—*Tom Evans in Vicksburg Herald.*

Intemperance is the cause of more evil to Freemasonry than the whole catalogue of vices combined. It fouls thousands of masonic hearts.

We value the religious exercises of the lodge, and conceive that no lodge is opened "in form" without a prayer.

Interesting Masonic Relics.

We recently had the pleasure of viewing the Jewels and Warrant of a lodge formerly held at Cape Coast Castle, Africa, now in the possession of Bro. Alfred R. Potter, Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, and which he is about to transmit to H. R. H. our Brother the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of Masons of England, whose Grand Lodge Granted the Charter. There are a number of interesting facts connected with this Lodge, which we will state to our readers.

The Warrant of "Gold Coast Lodge of St. John," is dated London, July 19, 1833, and was granted by Prince Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex, Grand Master of England, Cape Coast Castle, where the lodge was held, is a town and fort, the capital of the British Settlements on the coast of New Guinea. The principal fort is situated on a granite rock which projects into the sea, and near it are two small outposts. The town has a population of about 10,000 blacks and 15 Europeans.

Bro. George Maclean, Ensign of his Majesty's 91st regiment of Foot, was named in the Warrant as W. M. of this Lodge, and he afterwards became Governor of Cape Coast Castle. He married a famous literary lady—Letitia Elizabeth Landon, a popular English poetess, well known by her signature, L. E. L., and whose death occurred in 1839, from an overdose of prussic acid, which she took as a medicine.

The Warrant and Jewels of this Lodge, and Bro. Maclean's certificate of lodge membership were brought to the United States some years ago by Bro. John Glass Sanderman, of Glasgow, Scotland, who was secretary to Governor Maclean, and the only surviving member of the lodge, all the other members having died of the coast fever, (the W. M. Bro. Maclean died in Bro. Sanderman's arms.) Bro. Charles A. Besson, a M. M. of Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia, having at heart "Masonry around the world," obtained from the widow of Bro Sanderman the ownership of the relics above described, and has just presented to Grand Master, Bro. Alfred R. Potter, with the trust that he will transmit them to the Grand Lodge of England, to which Body they rightfully belong. Bro. Potter is about to comply with this fraternal request, and his act will doubtless be duly appreciated, and be the means of further cementing the Masonic relations between the Old World and the New.—*Keystone.*

Ancient Initiation.

In Egypt the ceremonies of initiation into the mysteries, took place in a pyramid erected over a cavern; the pyramids of Egypt are nothing more or less than Masonic Temples, and these were so constructed as to defy the ravages of time.

The Arabs have a tradition that the present pyramids were built by Saurid Ibn Salhouk, King of Egypt who lived three hundred years before the deluge, and who adopted this curious form of building, on account of the great solidity it gave to the structure, and its symbolical reference to the sun—the spiral flame. It was also to indicate the God head; for having three sides, it represented *trinity* in unity, and wisdom strength and beauty.

The caverns under these places of initiation; or Temples of Masonry, usually extended East and West, and differed in their appearance, some being perfectly bare and devoid of all ornament, while others were embellished with symbols cut in the solid rock, and contained couches and cells, or closets. In these caverns were celebrated the rites of Ancient Masonry.—*Canada Craftsmen.*

Some of the papers are jubilating over the approach of another circus humbug. Of course the agents will be nosing around here shortly.

Notice is given that on and after Dec. 1st., a light will be shown from the lighthouse recently built on Currituck Beach, N. C.

Gen. Joseph E. Johnson has been tendered the position of Commander in Chief of the Egyptian army by the Khedive at a salary of \$25,000 per year. If his head is as level on salary as it is on tactics he will accept.

Dr. W. J. Hawkins has resigned the presidency of the Raleigh and Gaston (N. C.) Road. The *Raleigh News* says: "For nineteen years, he managed the affairs of the company with energy judgment and integrity."