

THE MASONIC JOURNAL

GREENSBORO, N. C.

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E. A. WILSON, Editor & Proprietor.

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THE MASONIC JOURNAL which is published at Greensboro is worthy of our support. It is ably edited, possesses a high degree of merit and contains, besides Masonic Literature, well selected matter which is calculated to make its visits desirable and instructive.

THOS. S. KENAN,
Grand High Priest.

The enterprise ought to succeed. We need a means whereby a more general Masonic communication may be had: a means for the more general diffusion of Masonic intelligence.

I hope every Mason will take the JOURNAL—every Lodge endorse it, and at once make it the Organ of Masonry in North Carolina. With such encouragement and support I am satisfied you can make it of incalculable worth to the Fraternity. GEO. W. BLOUNT,
Grand Master.

All of which is endorsed by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

Wanted.—We want active, reliable Agents in every county in the South to canvass for the JOURNAL, to whom a liberal commission will be paid. An endorsement as to reliability, under seal of the Lodge, is desired. An immediate application will secure choice of territory. Send stamp for reply.

THE MASONIC ECLECTIC is the title of a new Masonic Monthly Magazine started in Washington City, No. 1, for May having just reached us. As its name indicates it is a wise gleaner of valuable Masonic Matter which is presented in attractive form. Bro. G. H. Ramey is the editor and publisher, and its price \$2 per year. We welcome it to our exchange list.

We received a letter, too late for last week's issue, from a Charlotte Brother informing us that a scoundrel has been fleecing the craft in that city. The letter says he represents himself a member of De Molay Comd. No. 4, Key West Fla. and has a Diploma to that effect, gotten up in good style and regularly filled up and signed and sealed by the proper officers—when there is no such Comd. in existence. He also claims to be a member of Pentalpha Lodge, No. 23, of the same town. He no doubt is a first-class beat and we ask our exchanges to aid us in handing him around "lightly." He paid his respects to Greensboro, but found the Craft here hadn't much respect for a fraud.

How CORRUPTING are these degenerate times! And we fear that the Press of the country is not a whit better than the people it seeks to instruct and lead. Particularly does this appear from the loose, vulgar manner in which some of the secular papers attempt to play upon Scripture quotations. We have no language too severe any one who will be so thoughtless as to use the sacred language of God's word for the purpose of playing smart and pleasing his silly readers.

Plain Duty.

An exchange informs us that the "Grand Orient of France has given formal recognition to the Grand Lodges of colored Masons, so called, in Ohio and Missouri."

In point of duty this "formal recognition" makes it plain sailing for us in the United States, especially in the South. From henceforth all owing allegiance to the Grand Orient of France must share the fate of non-recognition by all regular Masons in America, and in examining French Masons it must be ascertained if they belong to the Grand Orient, which formally recognizing American clandestine Lodges debar all under its jurisdiction from recognition by all regular American Lodges.

Of course, in North Carolina we have no trouble on this score, our Grand Lodge having long since refused to recognize the Grand Orient, for gross irregularities, and we hope every American Grand Lodge will so act, not only to the Grand Orient of France but every other Grand Body that chooses to affiliate with clandestine Masons. We will not recognize any man who hails from any Grand jurisdiction so acting.

DIED.—We regret to learn from the *Louisburg Courier* of the death of Bro. Jos. J. Harper, of Franklinton Lodge, No. 123, Franklinton, in the 78th year of his age. He was one of the charter members of Franklinton Lodge, and though a resident of Louisburg for 45 years, his Lodge held him in such high esteem that they would not consent for him to change his membership. The *Courier* says "he was a good and pious man, and has gone to reap his reward in that bright and better land beyond the River."

The Orphans.

Friends, don't forget the orphans. Notwithstanding the press of hard times, the lag of business and gloomy outlook don't forget the imperative claims of these little ones to our support. Their necessities are never failing, and are dependent upon the public contributions for their daily bread; to meet which, if the contributions are regular and punctual, and from all who can give, it will be sufficient to keep the Institution moving and the orphans from want.

Already our Asylum has become a subject of comment all over the country, and other States are following our example by establishing similar Institutions for their own orphaned poor. In many of the States they have Legislative aid, while here we are dependent upon voluntary donations for carrying on our work. But let us not fear or grow weary—"large streams from little fountains flow," and by all joining their mites, regularly, a sufficiency can be secured for carrying on the work. In the absence of money make up boxes of provisions, clothing and other household necessaries and send them on. Let every section of the State do its whole duty for this great work.

A RECENT VISIT to the Cape Fear country and along the line of the Carolina Central, Western, and Raleigh & Augusta Roads showed splendid crops of corn and cotton, though, unfortunately there is vastly more cotton than corn and less small grain than either. We were not very favorably impressed with the country, though it has many redeeming qualities and the people showed themselves uniformly kind. As a rule the hotels are poor but they never forget how to charge. We received many special kindnesses from the Brethren for which, thanks.

Fayetteville, a beautiful old town, has many fine buildings but does not show many signs of improvement. Here is the best arranged and located market house in the State. We might say much of this country but space forbids.

A Legal Summons.

A few weeks since we discussed this subject, referring particularly to the great indifference that is attached to this important document by many who proclaim themselves Masons. But there are always two sides to every question, and this comes under the rule.

We are strong advocates of obedience to law, and when a Brother wilfully violates it let him pay the penalty. A legal summons is one of the most solemn and important documents that issues by Masonic authority and is not to be lightly esteemed or disregarded by any, and hence every good and prudent Master will be exceedingly careful not to abuse this important power delegated to him by virtue of his office. But that it is abused, and grossly so, we are convinced, and we pen this with the hope that we may induce greater prudence in the future.

A legal summons is a very important and necessary document in certain cases, and when issued, under the great seal of the Lodge no good Mason will dare to disregard it. But the continual abuse of this power often leads to disgust and contempt of authority, and causes more harm to the Lodge than it can be possible for it to cure. To show the force of this it is only necessary to state that we have known more than one Master whose weekly habit was to summon all members of his Lodge to every regular meeting, and only for the purpose of having a full attendance. This of course brought perpetual trouble to the Lodge and great dissatisfaction to the members, causing many to choose the less evil of dimitting as a means of riddance from such perpetual annoyance and inconvenience.

We deprecate all this, and suggest the better course of making the meetings more interesting, and consequently attractive. As a rule, the brethren absent themselves because of a lack of interest and attractiveness to draw them to the meetings. Ofttimes they go there with an earnest purpose to promote Masonry, but only to hear the same old song of complaints that have so long obtained, and they are disheartened and discouraged until a summons is barely sufficient to bring them out.

Let all such death-dealing abuse of power cease; let the Masters learn more prudence and the Brethren more ready obedience, and let all strive to create a more lively interest in Masonry and in the Lodge meetings and a punctual and full attendance will never be lacking. When there is no work to do in the degrees let the Master, or some competent Brother, have some subject for discussion pertaining to Masonry and its manifold principles and works and an interest will soon build up and the Master will soon enjoy the satisfaction of seeing all his members promptly in their places at every hour for meeting. Try it, Brethren.

AGAIN we ask our exchanges in copying from this paper, or referring to it editorially or otherwise, to please do us the kindness to write it *Greensboro, N. C. MASONIC JOURNAL*. We request this more particularly because there is another *Masonic Journal* just started at Louisville, Ky., and unless the discrimination is made as we request confusion and injustice to both is sure to be the result.

We regret the possibility of the confusion but as there is another paper, and a good one, too, sailing under our beautiful nomenclature all mishaps may be avoided by writing the location when referring to either paper.

RENEW!—The time of many of those who subscribed for the JOURNAL for six months has expired, and others are falling due each week. We have notified quite a number and are doing so each week as they fall due. (see blue X) and we earnestly urge all to renew promptly so that the JOURNAL may not only retain all its old friends but be the better able to please the constantly increasing number of new ones. Stick to us, Brethren, and keep your subscriptions promptly paid and we'll try to give you a good paper in return.

We recently sent out circulars to our older subscribers urging their aid and cooperation in behalf of the JOURNAL, to which a few have nobly responded while the others as yet have not done so. The few who have responded have also sent us words of cheer assuring us that they will do all they can to increase our circulation and extend the usefulness of the paper. Will not each one try at least to send us one more subscriber and at once put the JOURNAL on a basis of success? We ask this of you Brethren, with the assurance that you can, and the hope that you will promptly respond. Please let us hear from you.

The youth of every generation bewail the evil of their times, and think they have fallen upon the worst period of the world's history. Their fathers cannot recall a period that was better than the present, and envy the good lot of their sons whose lots have been cast in more auspicious times than theirs. To youth, the present seems to present more evidences of men's dishonesty, greater disregard of human life, more corruption in politics and religion, more selfishness, and less of everything admirable in man and woman; to the man of three score and ten, the present is but a repetition of scenes that have passed a many times before his eyes; he sees iniquity stalk through the world, but not more hideous in aspect than some two score years ago; if the men and women of this day are not virtuous and honorable, neither were they of fifty years ago; some then were chaste and honest; so are they now; and to his experienced mind the advantages in all things pertaining to comfort and happiness are decidedly in favor of the present as against the former times. And so we go on from generation to generation, and the youth of to-day, who bewails the times as worse than his grand-sire's, will in the future years offer the same consolation to his children and their children that is now given to him.—*Louisville Masonic Journal*.

Gen Albert Pike, the Sovereign Grand Commander of A. & A. Scottish Rite for the Southern jurisdiction, having been invited to visit the Pacific coast, left for San Francisco on Thursday, June the 29th. He will probably remain within the States bordering on the Pacific for two or three months visiting the various bodies of which he is officially the grand head.