

THE MASONIC JOURNAL

GREENSBORO, N. C.

Tuesday, Aug. 15, 1876.

E. A. WILSON, Editor & Proprietor.

TERMS:

1 copy One Year - - - \$ 2 00
1 copy Six Months - - - 1 00

No club rates.

Any person sending us 5 or more yearly subscriptions, with the CASH, will receive the paper one year free of charge.

Unless renewed, all papers will be promptly stopped at the expiration of the term of subscription, of which due notice will be given.

Correspondents desiring a reply must enclose a Stamp for return Postage, and all matter desired to be seen only by the Editor should be marked "PRIVATE" on the lower left-hand corner of the envelope.

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 Supreme Court of the State has decided that a man cannot waive the benefit of the homestead, provided for him by the constitution.

Steady!

At this particular juncture no exclamation of warning can be more specially appropriate, when addressed to Masons. We are in the midst of a heated political canvass and all parties are vigorously contending for the mastery, and we urge the Brethren to steady! when about to take some dishonest advantage of his opponent. Remember that our obligation to each other as Masons bears equally upon us in every department of life. Let no undue partizan excitement lead us to unjustly offend our Brethren, and by all means never allow politics to insinuate itself into the Lodge.

Steady! when criticising the political motives and actions of the Brethren, lest a wrong be done them, a personal breach be created and an irreparable injury be done to Masonry.

Steady, Brethren, steady! and when you see a brother about to thus do wrong, gently but firmly remind him of those ties that bind him to protect and defend rather than to do violence to the motives of a Brother. The universality of Masonry obliterates distinctions and places upon one common level all of every nation, kindred and creed.

Steady, Brethren! remembering that Charity hideth a multitude of faults.

THE Bible, the Great Light in Masonry, says: "If we walk in the Light, we have fellowship one with another." How true is this of Freemasons and Freemasonry.

The Orphan Work.—Brother Mills informs us that he is greatly in need of means at the Orphan Home, money and supplies being almost exhausted. Brethren and friends of this noble Institution, do something for them. If you have already contributed, if possible do so again. It is the noblest work any of us can be engaged in, and the whole people of the State are morally bound not to let them suffer. A small amount from all regularly contributed will give them a decent support and pay the expenses of the Institution. So don't wait one for another, but send in what you can both in money and kind.

Masonic Portraits.

The above is the title of a beautifully gotten-up little work, edited by "J. G.," and published by W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, London, England. The portraits consists of a series of what we call "pen and ink sketches" of brethren prominent in all the noble undertakings of English Masonry. These little sketches comprise thirty three articles in all, replete with interest, and a just tribute to as many worthy brethren.

The "Masonic Portraits" is beautifully bound in cloth, printed on tinted paper, in clear type, and deserves a place in every Mason's library. We fail to perceive any mention of the price to American brethren, but a postal card addressed to W. W. Morgan, publisher, 67 Barbican, E. C., London, England, will elicit all necessary information on that point.

STATESVILLE.—We happened here on the day the gubernatorial candidates measured lances in public debate. The gathering was immense, and from all the adjoining counties. Three special trains ran in from Charlotte, Salisbury and down the Western road, bringing large numbers from distant points. The wildest enthusiasm prevailed, and both candidates acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of their friends.

The town we find greatly improved since our visit here three years ago, and the business seems to have increased with the growth of the town.

Fortunately for the traveling public the Simonton House, since the death of its former owner, has fallen into the hands of one of our former Guilford county men, Maj. Lanier, than whom a more clever, wholesouled gentlemen is not to be found, and we conscientiously advise our friends to stop at the "Lanier House" when they come to Statesville.

But we think the place sadly deficient in some respects. This is called a "dry town," from the fact that all the bar rooms were closed three years ago by the popular vote, and yet we saw more drunkenness here on the day of the speaking than we have seen in six months previous; and so inefficient is the police system that fighting and brawling was carried on with impunity while the solitary knight of the star stood quietly across the way as a "silent looker on in Vienna." But otherwise it is a pleasant place, with broad, shady streets, neat residences and business houses and a whole-souled people.

The crops are fine and the people hopeful in this section.

WE DIRECT special attention to the advertisement of the King's Mountain High School, of which Capt. W. T. R. Bell is the accomplished Principal. Having been on terms of close intimacy with brother Bell for several years, we are prepared to speak advisedly of the man and his merits, and we believe him to be one of the most thorough scholars and accomplished, persevering teachers we have ever met. Indeed, we'd rather have our children under his training than of any person we ever knew. In the Special Department, brother Bell informs us, he has a graduate of New York—a thorough scholar in Applied Mathematics.

The location is possessed of every desired advantage of health, morals, beauty and cheapness.

"The Butterflies of Masonry."

Under this caption the New York *Herbivore Leader* contains some severe strictures from the pen of H. J. M. Miller, 323^d, of Baltimore, against the wearing of Masonic Emblems, which the *Leader* endorses as *apropos*.

To a great extent we think the Ill. Brother wrong, and in nearly his whole article too severe. The old adage about catching flies with vinegar is applicable here, his unguarded sarcasm not being calculated to incline many to his way of thinking. We doubt not but that Masonic emblems are too frequently worn by unworthy members of the Fraternity to the detriment of the Craft, but the better cure for the evil is to properly discipline the unworthy member and either make him worthy to wear it or cause him to cease it by expelling him from the Lodge. No Lodge has the right to foster an unworthy member and then complain of his unworthiness.

We confess that we see no wrong in a worthy Brother wearing a simple emblem of the Order, if he so desires, any more than that of any other form of jewelry, nor would we object to Brother Miller's wearing a silk tile as an article of dress in preference to any other style of head gear. Of course we are opposed to the abuses and abominations aimed at by Brother Miller, but we also think that more injury is done to Masonry running after the Butterfly degrees—so called higher branches of the Order, than can possibly come of the simply wearing of emblematic jewelry, such as pins, charms and rings. In fact, does not the undue tendency to run after the "higher degrees" grow out of this undue display of these wonderfully mysterious emblems before the simpler Master Workman?

With our good Brother we desire to see every man stand squarely to his post and perform his duty, and if he will let him wear just as many emblems as he chooses; but if he will not—apply the remedy, emblems or no emblems. Make the Lodges cheerful and the meetings interesting and attractive and you will be troubled very little with the emblem-wearing mania.

A GOOD RULE.—Two Masonic friends much at variance, referred their quarrel to a clerical Masonic Brother. He patiently heard them accuse each other as wholly in fault, and declared themselves without blame; and then he said, "My judgement is this: let the innocent forgive the guilty."

A SUGGESTION.—On the death of a Brother the Secretary should endorse on his Grand Lodge certificate the date of his death, and that he was then in good standing, attest it as Secretary, and impress the seal of the Lodge upon it. This will add to its value, should his family ever have occasion to show his standing as a Mason.—*Masonic Token*.

Advice to Masters.

The following by M. W. Bro. Griswold, of Minnesota, addresses itself to Masters everywhere, and may be studied with profit by all who wield the gavel of command:

"Determine to be, and let your Brethren see that you are a Master indeed. One whose authority they can and will respect; to whose decisions they will be glad to bow, and to whom they will never look for Masonic light in vain. You will be called upon frequently to decide questions of law and order. Never attempt at this point to evade or shift responsibility; meet every issue squarely and never allow your decisions to be disrespected. Let your knowledge of Masonic jurisprudence be so thorough that you will not be under the necessity of writing to the Grand Master for information on every question that arises, or else be left by erroneous decisions to place yourself in an awkward position, and to introduce confusion into the councils of the Lodge. And yet never attempt to make a display of authority; never have the appearance of being arbitrary. Remember that you have solemnly promised 'not to rule your Lodge with a rod of iron, or in any unjust or arbitrary manner;' and that to be a true Mason is everywhere and always to be a true gentleman. Respect the rights of your Brethren, and endeavor to protect them in the exercise of the same. Stand in your own place at all times. Do not allow yourself to be so ignorant of our ritual that when there is Degree work to be done you will be under the necessity of calling another to the East, and thus lower yourself in the estimation of your Brethren, and cause them to feel that they have committed a serious mistake in placing the gavel in your hands.

By possessing a thorough knowledge of Masonry yourself, be prepared to dispense light and knowledge 'to all uninformed Brethren.' Above all, bring out and enforce, by precept and example, the moral teachings of our institution, and in doing this you can never employ too much of your time and talent."—*Keystone*.

The following is a Masonic curiosity, in its way, being a copy of Grand Lodge summons of the year 1732, when Lord Viscount Montague was M. W. G. M.:

"Montague,
Grand Master,

You are desired to meet your Brethren, The Free and Accepted Masons, On _____, at 12 o'clock at Noon, to chuse a Grand Master and other general officers, and to dine,

No. 563.

10 Shillings 6d.

Sturt Sculptit.

N. B.—No Brother admitted unclath'd or arm'd."

—*Keystone*.

The great commandment of Masonry is "Love one another."

It is evident that the chief libelers of Masonry do not believe "honesty is the best policy."

Masonry teaches that all power is delegated for the good—not for the injury of the people.

The late anti Masonic convention was not a success in injuring Masonry. It was a success in developing the selfishness of its leaders and in showing how they dispose of its funds.

One of the most valuable teachings of Masonry is that we should not depreciate this life. Masonry does not consider this earth as a dungeon or prison, but a beautiful habitation, affording many comforts and blessings of which to think meanly is to dishonor God.