

THE GRAND LODGE OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND
HONORABLE SOCIETY OF FREE AND
ACCEPTED MASONS



Constitution and Laws



FOR THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

1924

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS
GENERAL REGULATIONS AND EDICTS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF THE
MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE SOCIETY
OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
FOR THE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ALSO
A DIGEST OF MASONIC LAW
AND A
CODE FOR THE TRIAL OF CHARGES

1924

LAWS OF NEW JERSEY, SESSION OF 1866.
CHAPTER XCIX.

AN ACT to incorporate the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey.

1. BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey*, That William Silas Whitehead, John Hopper, Robert Rusling, James H. Stevens, Jonathan S. Fish, Joseph H. Hough, Joseph Trimble, Daniel B. Bruen, David Naar, William S. Bowen, Henry R. Cannon, David S. Plume, Thomas J. Corson, William E. Pine and James S. Gamble, and their associates, officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, and their successors, be and are hereby constituted and declared to be a body corporate and politic in law by the name, style and title of "The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey," and by that name they and their successors shall and may at all times hereafter be capable in law of having, purchasing and holding any lands, tenements, hereditaments and personal estate purchased, devised or bequeathed by any person or persons, body corporate or politic, capable to devise or bequeath the same; and also to have a common seal and the same to use at pleasure, and to enact a constitution and by-laws for their own government, and to alter and amend the same, and to make and ordain such rules and regulations and to appoint such agent or agents at their regular stated meetings as may seem to them necessary and proper for the management and disposal of their property, whether real or personal; *provided always*, that the said corporation or body politic shall not at any time hold or possess property, real, personal or mixed, the net income of which shall exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars per annum

2. AND BE IT ENACTED, That this act shall be deemed a public act, and shall take effect immediately.

Approved March 7th, 1866. P. L. 1866, p. 248.

FORM OF BEQUEST TO MASONIC HOME

I give and bequeath to the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey, the sum of..... dollars, to be applied to the support and maintenance of the present or any future Masonic Home established or to be established by said Grand Lodge.

CONSTITUTION.

Adopted January 21st, 1874.

WITH AMENDMENTS.

1. This Grand Lodge shall be styled and known by the name of "THE GRAND LODGE OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE SOCIETY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS FOR THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY."

2. The Grand Lodge shall consist of the following officers and members, to wit:

- Most Worshipful Grand Master.
- Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
- Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
- Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
- Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.
- Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
- Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.
- Right Worshipful Grand Chaplains.

Right Worshipful Grand Instructor.
 Right Worshipful District Deputies.
 Right Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon.
 Right Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon.
 Right Worshipful Grand Marshal.
 Right Worshipful Senior Grand Steward.
 Right Worshipful Junior Grand Steward.
 Right Worshipful Grand Sword Bearer.
 Right Worshipful Grand Pursuivant.
 Grand Organist.
 Grand Tyler.

The last two, if Past Masters, are entitled to the title of Right Worshipful.

All elected Past Grand Officers and Past Masters, while they remain members of regular warranted lodges in this jurisdiction, and all Masters and Wardens for the time being of said lodges.

3. The Grand Lodge shall meet stately once a year, for the communication of all the lodges, and may have occasional communications, as business may require, at such times and places as the Grand Master shall appoint.

4. It shall be the duty of every lodge to be represented at the communications of the

Grand Lodge by its Master and Wardens, or by a proxy, duly commissioned in writing under the seal of the lodge, the commission to be signed by the Master and attested by the Secretary. And, that there may be no neglect of this duty, each lodge is authorized, at its annual election, to elect any Master Mason of regular standing in said lodge, not holding office in the Grand Lodge, a proxy to represent it there in the absence of the Master and Wardens, and shall, at least one week before the annual communication, deliver the certificate of proxy to the Grand Secretary.

5. No brother who is not a Past Master of a lodge in this jurisdiction shall be eligible to any office in the Grand Lodge; Grand Chaplains, Grand Organist and Grand Tyler excepted. It is incompatible with the laws of this society for any brother to hold more than one office in the Grand Lodge at the same time.

6. Each permanent member of the Grand Lodge shall be allowed one vote and no more, and every lodge in this jurisdiction shall be allowed three votes and no more, in all elections in the Grand Lodge.

7. The M. W. Grand Master, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Senior Grand Warden, R. W. Junior Grand Warden, R. W. Grand Treasurer, R. W. Grand Secretary and R. W. Deputy Grand Secretary shall be elected by ballot by the members of the Grand Lodge present at each stated annual communication. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to constitute a choice. If there be no choice on the first ballot, then a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be confined to the three candidates who shall receive the highest number of votes. Should there be no choice on the second ballot, then a third ballot shall be cast, which shall be confined to the two candidates who received the highest number of votes on the second ballot.

The Grand Master shall appoint all the other Grand Officers.

8. The Grand Lodge shall have power—

First. To constitute new lodges by warrants under its seal and the signatures of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens, attested by the Grand Secretary.

Second. To establish a uniform mode of working throughout the jurisdiction, strictly adhering to the ancient landmarks, usages and customs of Masonry, which are on no account to be removed or violated.

Third. To require from the several lodges under its jurisdiction such annual dues as it shall deem necessary to be appropriated for the benefit of the Craft.

Fourth. To hear and determine all appeals, and decide in all disputes between lodges under its jurisdiction.

Fifth. To require such a fee as it may deem just and reasonable for granting a warrant to establish a new lodge.

Sixth. To make all by-laws, rules and regulations not inconsistent with this constitution.

9. No alteration or addition shall be made to this constitution unless proposed in writing, and supported by representatives of five lodges; and a fair copy thereof, certified by the Grand Secretary, shall be forwarded to all the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge for their consideration, until its next

annual communication, and such proposed alteration or addition shall not take effect unless there shall appear therefor the votes of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

1. The annual communication of this Grand Lodge shall be held at eleven o'clock A. M., on the first Wednesday after the third Tuesday in April, in every year; subject, nevertheless, to be changed as to time and date of meeting, by a majority vote of the Grand Lodge at its annual communication.

2. No brother, unless he be a member of the Grand Lodge, shall be admitted to the meetings thereof without permission of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. None but members of the Grand Lodge shall be allowed to speak to any question unless by permission of the Grand Master.

3. Each lodge shall, within one week after the annual election of said lodge, deliver to the Grand Secretary an exact return, signed by the Master and attested by the Secretary under the seal of the lodge, of the names and

titles of the officers, and the names of those who have become members since the last return; the dates of initiations, affiliations and rejections of candidates; the birthplace, age and occupation of candidates initiated or admitted during the year; the deaths, dismissions, suspensions, expulsions and reinstatements of members, and its usual time and place of meeting.

4. If any lodge shall neglect to send a representative for three successive annual communications, such lodge may be stricken from the list and its warrant declared forfeited; but, on application to the Grand Lodge, the warrant may be restored.

5. The officers of the Grand Lodge shall wear their official jewels while attending its communications. No Past Master or representative of a lodge shall be allowed to vote in the Grand Lodge without the appropriate clothing or the jewel of his station, except by permission of the Grand Master.

6. The expenses of the Grand Officers and the committees of the Grand Lodge, while in

attendance at its communications or while engaged in the performance of official duty, shall be paid out of its treasury.

7. No warrant shall be granted for the formation of a lodge but upon the petition of at least seven known and approved Master Masons, from whom the first Master and Wardens shall be nominated. The petition must be accompanied by a certificate from the lodge nearest to the place where the new lodge is proposed to be located, which certificate shall set forth that the applicants are duly qualified to become constituent members of a lodge; that the brethren chosen to be Master and Wardens of the proposed new lodge have exemplified the standard work to the satisfaction of said lodge; that each of the petitioners is in possession of a regular dimit or has given satisfactory evidence that the lodge of which he was last a member is no longer in existence, and that he is not in arrears for dues. Said lodge shall also certify that the petitioners have secured a suitable room in which to hold a Masonic Lodge. Said lodge may or may not recommend the forming of the proposed new lodge and may or may not express its opinion

upon the advisability of granting the dispensation asked for.

No warrant shall become operative until each of the petitioners shall have deposited a dimit, or other proper certificate, with the Grand Secretary, which dimits and certificates shall be delivered to the new lodge when constituted. 1921, pp. 282, 309; 1923, p. 462.

8. No dispensation or warrant for the formation of a new lodge shall be granted except upon the payment of fifty dollars, and no dispensation shall be granted to confer one or more degrees except upon the payment of twenty dollars, which shall be paid to the Grand Lodge.

9. Every lodge under this jurisdiction shall pay annually the sum of fifty cents for each and every member thereof in good standing at the time of its annual election; and also the sum of one dollar and fifty cents for each and every person raised to the degree of Master Mason in said lodge during the current year, and such payments shall accompany such annual return. There shall also be paid at the same time special assessments of five cents *per capita* as a contribution to the Grand

Lodge Charity Fund, and an additional sum of one dollar *per capita* as a contribution for the maintenance of the Masonic Home.

ARTICLE II.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

1. Immediately after the opening of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary shall place the ballot-box upon his table, wherein any member of the Grand Lodge may place nominations for any or all of the elective Grand Officers; which nominations shall be read for the information of the Grand Lodge, before proceeding with the election.

2. No brother shall be eligible to any office unless he be present to signify his acceptance thereof, or has authorized some one present to accept for him.

Balloting for the election of officers shall be conducted as follows:

Each District Deputy shall be seated with his district. The District Deputies shall collect the ballots of their respective districts in boxes provided for that purpose, and shall deliver

the boxes to the tellers, who shall count the votes.

In case of the absence or disability of a District Deputy the Grand Master is to appoint a brother of that district to perform the aforesaid duties.

The ballots of the Grand Lodge officers and those seated on the platform are to be collected by the Senior Grand Deacon, who shall deliver them to the tellers.

During the election of officers all visitors shall retire, except those who remain by express permission of the Grand Master.

3. The Grand Officers, when elected, shall be immediately installed into their respective offices, either in person or by proxy. The proxy of the Grand Master must be either the last or a former Grand Master.

ARTICLE III.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

1. The Grand Master shall have power to convene the Grand Lodge at any time when there shall appear to him a sufficient occasion. He may call on any officer or member for advice, assistance or instruction on any business

relative to the Craft. He is likewise invested with power to grant dispensations at his discretion, during the recess of the Grand Lodge. But dispensations for the purpose of congregating a sufficient number of brethren to form and open a lodge, and when opened to enter and make Freemasons, shall not be in force any longer than until the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge. In case of the absence or disability of the Grand Master, the duties of his office shall be discharged by the Deputy Grand Master, and in proper sequence by the Grand Wardens respectively.

2. The Grand Treasurer shall deposit all moneys of the Grand Lodge in a bank of deposit in this State, in the name of "The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey," and shall draw out the same only by the authority of the Grand Lodge, or by the Grand Master in the recess, by check or draft, countersigned by the Grand Secretary; and all surplus funds of the Grand Lodge ordered to be invested shall be invested in the name of the Grand Lodge as aforesaid, and shall not be assigned. He

shall also annually make out a detailed report to the Grand Lodge of all moneys received and paid out by him.

In case of the disability of the Grand Treasurer, from whatever cause, to perform the duties of his office, the Grand Master shall appoint some member of the Grand Lodge to act as Grand Treasurer during the incapacity or disability of the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Master shall be the judge of the incapacity or disability of the Grand Treasurer and as to his recovery from such incapacity or disability.

3. The Grand Secretary shall have custody of the archives. He shall keep fair records of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge. He shall keep a register for the particular purpose of entering all warrants, dispensations, and the name of every member of each lodge, together with the returns from the several lodges. He shall furnish the first-named person on every committee, as soon as possible, with a copy of the minutes and papers which relate to the business of such committee, for which he shall take a receipt; and the person so first named shall call the committee together, and be answerable

for the papers, which he shall return with the report. No warrant or instrument of writing from the Grand Lodge is authentic without his attestation and signature, and under seal, as the laws require. The general correspondence with the lodges and brethren over the whole world is to be conducted by him, agreeably to the voice of the Grand Lodge and direction of the Grand Master. He shall promptly furnish the Committee on Foreign Correspondence with the proceedings of other Grand Lodges for review, and forward to every lodge, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, reports of its annual proceedings. He shall receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the Grand Lodge, and pay over the same to the Grand Treasurer without delay. He shall report annually to the Grand Lodge the amount of money received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received; also the names of the lodges that have neglected to render proper annual returns. In case of the absence, disability or death of the Grand Secretary, the duties of his office shall devolve upon the Deputy Grand Secretary, who shall then receive the emoluments thereof.

4. There shall be appointed at each annual communication of this Grand Lodge, by the Grand Master-elect, a proper and competent member of this Grand Body, who shall be known as the Right Worshipful Grand Instructor, who shall be the custodian and conservator of the standard Masonic work of New Jersey, and whose instructions concerning the same shall be followed by the District Deputies and the lodges of this jurisdiction.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Instructor to impart the standard work of this jurisdiction to the District Deputies, and also to officers of lodges who may visit him for instruction therein.

5. This jurisdiction shall be divided into twenty-four Masonic districts, each of which shall be under the charge of a District Deputy.

6. The several districts shall be designated and District Deputies appointed and assigned by the Grand Master immediately after his installation.

7. It shall be the duty of each District Deputy, under the supervision of the Grand Master, to obtain and thoroughly commit to memory the standard work, as imparted by the

Grand Instructor, as soon as practicable after his appointment to office; and upon the occasion of his official visitation to each lodge assigned to his care he shall require the exemplification of the secret work, by the regular officers of the lodge, upon a substitute for a candidate, and shall correct all inaccuracies; to make an official visit to every lodge in his district at least once in each year; to examine the books and records of each lodge, and see that they are properly kept; to ascertain the state and condition of the lodges; to receive and secure the funds and property of any dormant or extinct lodge in his district, and immediately transmit the same to the Grand Secretary; to make report of his doings and of the general condition of Masonry in his district, with such particulars as he may deem necessary, and transmit such report to the Grand Master at least two weeks prior to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, or whenever required by him; and to perform such other duties and services as may be deputed or intrusted to him by the Grand Master.

8. The Grand Pursuivant shall be stationed inside the door and announce the names and

titles of all persons reported to him by the Grand Tyler.

9. The Grand Tyler shall guard the door of the Grand Lodge on the outside, report all brethren seeking admission, and see that none enter but such as are duly authorized and properly clothed. He shall serve summonses and perform all the customary service pertaining to his office.

10. The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Instructor and Grand Tyler shall receive such stated compensation for their services as the Grand Lodge shall direct.

ARTICLE IV.

CHARGES AND APPEALS.

1. Every charge brought before this Grand Lodge against any Master or Warden of a lodge shall be made in writing, specifying—first, the charge; second, the circumstances and acts upon which the charge is based. The Master or Warden so charged shall be furnished with a copy thereof by the Grand Secretary or his Deputy at least one month before the time appointed for the trial of the same.

2. All appeals shall be in writing, and shall contain the exceptions of the appellant to the proceedings and the action of the lodge appealed from, and shall be filed with the Grand Secretary. The appellant shall give notice to the lodge from whose action the appeal is taken, of his intention to appeal, at least one month before the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge; whereupon it shall be the duty of the Secretary of such lodge to file immediately, with the Grand Secretary, duly certified under his hand and the seal of the lodge, the charges preferred in the case, the whole of the evidence taken before the lodge or committee, and a copy of all minutes of the lodge which refer to the matter in controversy.

ARTICLE V.

ORDER AND RULES OF BUSINESS.

1. The Grand Lodge shall proceed to business at the hour and place appointed as soon as a representation from at least fifteen lodges on record is present.

2. The representatives of each lodge shall be seated together, lodges and Past Masters in

numerical order of districts, beginning from the east, the odd-numbered districts on the south side and the even-numbered districts on the north side of the Grand Lodge.

3. The Order of Business shall be as follows:

First. The reading of the minutes of the last annual and emergent communications.

Second. Reading of the address of the Grand Master and reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

Third. Consideration of reports of committees previously made and deferred.

Fourth. Reports of committees.

Fifth. Petitions.

Sixth. Miscellaneous business.

Seventh. Election of officers.

Eighth. Installation of officers.

Ninth. Appointment of the following Committees:

A Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, which shall report upon the granting of dispensations, the propriety of granting warrants to the recipients of such dispensations; and also all applications for warrants, and all cases of forfeited warrants.

A Committee on Printing, which shall act for the Grand Lodge in considering bids and awarding contracts for printing such matter as shall be ordered by the Grand Lodge.

A Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to which shall be referred all matters involving the relations between this and other Grand Lodges. This committee shall make a report or a review of the proceedings of other Masonic bodies with which this Grand Lodge is in communication, which shall be printed in the annual proceedings.

A Committee on Finance, to which shall be referred all recommendations and resolutions involving the appropriation of funds of the Grand Lodge.

A Committee on Audit, which shall examine into and audit quarterly the several accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, the Masonic Home and the Trustees of the Grand Lodge and report the result of such audit at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

A Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, to which shall be referred all propositions to alter, amend or add to the constitution, by-laws

and general regulations of the Grand Lodge, the code for trial of charges and the by-laws of lodges.

A Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which shall be referred all decisions of the Grand Master, and questions of Masonic jurisprudence. During recess of the Grand Lodge it may be called upon by the Grand Master for advice.

A Committee on Appeals and Grievances, to which shall be referred all appeals arising from charges preferred. It shall be the duty of this committee to determine, from the submitted record only, whether or not the appeal was regularly taken and perfected; that the lodge had jurisdiction of the persons, and that a Masonic offense was charged; and, if so, that the specifications stated facts which, if proven, constituted the particular offense charged.

The jurisdiction of the lodge, its conformity to the procedure specified in the code for trials being ascertained, the committee is to report upon the question of material error, either of law or fact, at the trial, to the detriment of the appellant. The lodge being the sole tribunal for the determination of issues

raised by or between individual members, its conclusions on questions of fact are not to be disturbed, unless contrary to the overwhelming weight of the submitted testimony; and on questions of law the action of the lodge should not be disturbed unless a denial of justice to one of the parties is apparent from the record of the trial. The committee is not to receive or pass upon additional evidence or hear *ex parte* statements of additional testimony not contained in the submitted record.

A Committee on Jurisdiction of Lodges, which committee shall have power to determine the territorial jurisdiction of each lodge whenever such jurisdiction is in dispute, subject, however, to the approval of the Grand Lodge, or, in the interim, of the Grand Master.

A Committee on Ritual, of which the Grand Instructor shall be chairman, which shall assist in the conservation of the Ritual and pass upon matters referred to it regarding its proper interpretation and rendition.

A Committee on Necrology, which shall make appropriate report upon the decease of members of the Grand Lodge.

A Committee on Grand Master's Address, to which the annual address of the Grand Master shall be referred for segregation and for recommendation for reference by topic, to appropriate committees, as subject-matter shall indicate.

A Committee on Unfinished Business, which shall report by title and subject any matter engaging the attention of the Grand Lodge, which, immediately preceding the close of an annual communication, has not been definitely concluded by action of the Grand Lodge.

A Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Returns of Lodges, and such special committees as may be required to discharge any special duties assigned by the Grand Lodge with a view to expediting its business.

A Committee on Library, which shall carefully consider a broader and more extensive exchange of Masonic literature between this and other M. W. Grand Lodges; prepare a catalogue thereof and to do whatever may be required to make of greater value and permanency the volumes now in possession of this Grand Lodge, and those which shall hereafter be acquired.

There shall be five Trustees of the Grand Lodge, one of whom shall be elected for five years at each annual communication. 1919, p. 296.

Vacancies in the office of Trustees created by the death, resignation or removal from the jurisdiction of an incumbent, shall be filled *ad interim* by an appointment by the Grand Master until the next annual communication, when an election shall be held for the unexpired term so vacated.

It shall be their special duty to care for, insure, preserve and maintain in proper repair the property in their charge. They shall have the management and control of the business and property of the Grand Lodge, and subject to the provisions of the statutes of New Jersey, to the act of incorporation, and to these by-laws, may exercise all the powers of the corporation.

They are authorized to invest the inactive funds of the Grand Lodge to any amount less than a remainder of three thousand dollars of the aggregate total of such funds, not presently required to meet existing obligations, or to defray immediately prospective expenditures already authorized; *provided*, that such surplus

funds may be invested in such bonds or public securities as those in which savings banks or fiduciary institutions of the State of New Jersey may lawfully invest funds; *but provided further*, that no loans or investments shall be made on real estate or mortgage thereon.

Each and every investment by the Trustees shall be made only after written resolution or permanent record of the same shall have been signed by the Trustees or a majority of their number and approved in writing thereon by the Grand Master.

When in the exercise of their best judgment and discretion the Trustees shall deem it wise and advisable to sell any or all of the securities or realty owned by the Grand Lodge, or when ordered so to do by the Grand Lodge, they shall do so to the best possible advantage.

Upon all committees the first named member shall be chairman, and the standing committees shall continue in office during the recess of the Grand Lodge.

4. The Standing Committees on Dispensations and Warrants, Constitution and By-Laws, Masonic Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances, and Ritual, shall each be composed

of five members. All other committees, appointed by the Grand Master, shall consist of three members, unless otherwise specified by vote of the Grand Lodge.

Record of the proceedings of each committee shall be kept and a full report of the same be made at the next annual communication.

It shall be the duty of every standing or special committee, to which any question or subject is referred for investigation or consideration, to embody in its report thereon a clear and concise statement of the subject-matter before presenting an opinion or comments pertinent to the same; and whatever recommendations the committee shall deem it proper to make shall be submitted, with its reasons for offering them, in the form of specific resolutions appended to the report for decisive action by the Grand Lodge.

5. The Grand Lodge shall meet at the hour on each day to which it shall have previously been called.

6. The Grand Master shall decide all questions of order and without debate.

7. When a brother rises to speak, he shall respectfully address the Grand Master, and if

he transgress the rules of the Grand Lodge, in speaking or otherwise, the Grand Master shall call him to order, when he shall immediately be seated, unless permitted to explain.

8. No brother shall speak more than twice to any question without leave; and when two or more rise at the same time, the Grand Master shall name the brother who shall first speak.

9. When the Grand Master is addressing the Grand Lodge, or putting a question, all debate shall cease.

10. No brother may vote on any question in which his personal interests are involved.

11. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall, before debate, be stated by the Grand Master; or, if in writing, it shall be read aloud by the Grand Secretary.

12. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received except to postpone, commit, or amend, and these motions shall be put in the order in which they stand.

13. A motion to amend, until decided, shall preclude all other amendments of the main question.

14. Any member may call for a division of the question where the same will admit of it.

15. No new motion which totally changes the subject-matter on which the original motion was intended to operate shall be entertained, under color of amendment, as a substitute for the motion under debate.

16. Any motion or resolution passed by the Grand Lodge may be reconsidered at the same communication.

17. All questions shall be put in the order in which they are moved; and in filling blanks the largest sum or quantity and the longest time shall be first put.

18. The government and control of the Masonic Home shall hereafter be entrusted to a Board of Governors consisting of five members, one of whom shall be elected for five years at each annual communication, except that the first Board of Governors shall be appointed by the Grand Master for terms of five, four, three, two and one year respectively. Vacancies in the office of Governor created by the death, resignation or removal of an incumbent from the jurisdiction, shall be filled *ad interim* by the Grand Master, until the next annual communication, when an election shall

be held for the unexpired term so vacated. It shall be the duty of such Board of Governors to obtain a proper building and surrounding property to be used as a Home for indigent or helpless Masons, their wives, widows and children. The mother of a Master Mason shall also be eligible for admission to the Home. To adopt all necessary rules and regulations for the government thereof; to prescribe the qualifications for admission to such Home and generally to exercise full control thereof, subject to the direction of the Grand Lodge. 1922, pp. 129, 157, 214; 1923, p. 432.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. The ancient regulation requiring the Master to have served as a Warden, shall be strictly enforced in this jurisdiction.

2. No brother shall be permitted to vouch for any person applying to visit a lodge, unless he has sat in open lodge with him as a Master Mason or has examined him under the direction of the Master.

3. No lodge working under this jurisdiction shall confer the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason upon any brother who has been initiated or passed (as the case may be) in any other lodge, unless the brother applying shall produce a recommendation or certificate of good standing from the lodge in which he was elected.

4. No lodge under this jurisdiction shall receive any petition for initiation or affiliation, except at a stated communication thereof. Such petition shall be referred to a committee

of investigation, which shall make diligent inquiry as to the character and standing of the petitioner, and report upon the same to the lodge at a stated communication, not less than four weeks subsequent to the date of the reception of the petition, and no ballot shall be taken upon such petition unless there be seven members present; nor, except by special dispensation, shall any candidate be advanced until four weeks have elapsed after receiving a degree, and he has exhibited suitable proficiency therein in open lodge. 1921, pp. 240, 310.

5. No lodge, whose territorial jurisdiction has not been defined, shall act upon a petition of any applicant for initiation whose residence may be nearer some other lodge under this jurisdiction, without the consent of such lodge, except lodges located in cities and townships which shall have concurrent jurisdiction in such cities and townships respectively.

6. No lodge shall confer the three degrees of Masonry for a less sum than thirty dollars, ten dollars of which shall accompany the petition; and no lodge shall require the payment of a fee for the affiliation of a brother.

7. A petition may be withdrawn with the unanimous consent of the lodge before the investigating committee has reported, but not afterwards.

8. In all cases of conferring degrees, and immediately thereafter, the appropriate lecture and charge or portion thereof appertaining thereto must be delivered.

9. No lodge shall make more than five Masons at one and the same communication, nor confer a degree on more than five candidates at a time.

10. A brother who has dimitted from a lodge, cannot again be made a member of that or any other lodge except by affiliation; and no brother shall be a member of more than one lodge at the same time.

11. There shall be no Masonic procession, other than funeral processions, without the consent of the Grand Master, or, in his absence from the jurisdiction, or incapacity, of the next highest Grand Officer.

12. Every lodge shall exercise all rights of discipline over Masons (not members thereof)

who reside in the immediate vicinity of such lodge, so far as relate to the conduct and behavior of such Masons while so resident.

13. Every lodge has the inherent right to make by-laws and regulations for its own government and concerns; *provided*, that such laws and regulations are conformable to the principles and landmarks of the Craft, and the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge.

14. Upon the demise of any lodge within this jurisdiction, the last Secretary and Treasurer of said lodge shall, within one month thereafter, surrender to the Grand Secretary all the books, papers, jewels, funds and furniture of the lodge so demised, to be deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge; nor shall any former member of said demised lodge in arrears for dues be affiliated with any other lodge until he shall have paid such arrears to the Grand Secretary.

15. Any member of any of the lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge (except an officer duly elected and installed, or an officer of the Grand Lodge), who shall be in arrears for dues twelve months, and who shall refuse or neglect to pay the same within three

months after demand thereof shall have been made by the Secretary of the lodge to whom the same are due and payable, may be suspended, after due and timely notice of a meeting of the lodge at which he may be heard in regard to his proposed suspension.

16. The election of officers shall be held by the several lodges under this jurisdiction, at the stated communication to be held on or immediately preceding the feast of St. John the Evangelist (December 27th), and in case such communication shall happen on the 24th or 25th of December, or on a Sunday, then such election shall be held at the stated communication immediately preceding such date; and the Secretary of each lodge shall, within one week after such election, report in writing to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary the names of the Master, Wardens and Secretary elected, with their post-office address.

17. No Master-elect shall enter upon the duties of his office previous to his having been duly qualified and installed in his own lodge.

18. In case of the suspension, expulsion or restoration of a member, either of the Grand Lodge or a lodge, two-thirds of the votes of

the members present shall be required by ballot (except in declaring degree of punishment to be inflicted after conviction by trial, which shall be by a majority ballot); *provided*, that in cases where non-payment of dues shall have been the sole cause of suspension, a majority of the votes (by ballot) of the members present shall be sufficient to restore.

19. The use of any book, document or paper, written or printed, or in cipher, purporting to be the secret ritual of Freemasonry, is absolutely prohibited.

20. In all cases not provided for in these by-laws and regulations, the Craft shall adhere to and be governed by the ancient Masonic regulations.

21. No alteration or addition shall be made to these by-laws and regulations unless proposed in writing. If seconded, the proposition shall lie over for the consideration of the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication; *provided, however*, that any such proposition may be acted upon at the same communication at which it is made, by unanimous consent.

CODE FOR THE TRIAL OF CHARGES.

(Adopted January 23d, 1879, with amendments to April 17th, 1924.)

When a member of a lodge, amenable to trial in a lodge, shall be accused of a crime or offense which, if proven, would subject him to Masonic discipline, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted in accordance with the following:

RULES.

1. The accusation shall be reduced to writing, specifying first the charge, which shall consist of a general statement of the offense charged against the accused brother; second, the specifications, which shall specify separately each act of the accused upon which the charge is based, each specification covering a single act or series of acts, constituting one offense, together with the time and place when

and where such acts were committed, as nearly as can be ascertained.

2. The charge and specifications shall be presented to the lodge having jurisdiction, at a stated communication, signed by a Master Mason in good standing, and if received by a vote of the lodge the Master shall forthwith and under the seal of the lodge, notify the District Deputy of the Masonic district in which such lodge is included, that charges have been regularly preferred against the accused brother, and shall serve or cause to be served upon the District Deputy, and upon the accused, personally, if practicable, otherwise by mail, directed to his last known place of residence, with the postage prepaid thereon, a copy of the charges and specifications, attested by the Secretary under the seal of the lodge, and in the same manner shall serve upon the accused and accuser a notice that the District Deputy will be present at a stated communication of the lodge, to be determined by him, to be held, in case of personal service, not less than ten, and in case of service by mail, not less than twenty days after service of such notice.

3. Such District Deputy shall attend at such communication of the lodge, upon at least ten days' previous notice, and shall have power, upon objection being made by or on behalf of the accused, or by any brother of the lodge or in his discretion, to strike out any charge or specification that he may deem frivolous, defective, insufficient or Masonically unlawful, either in form or substance. He shall then present the names of fifteen Master Masons of the Masonic district in which the accused resides, who are in good Masonic standing, and the accuser and accused, or if either the accuser or accused be neither present nor represented by counsel, or if, being present, either refuses to act, then some brother of the lodge, appointed by the Master to represent them, or either of them, shall each strike from such list four names, and the seven remaining names shall constitute the committee to whom such charges and specifications shall be referred, and who shall act as a jury to hear all the evidence offered by the accused, accuser and witnesses, and to determine the guilt or innocence of the accused.

4. The committee, all of whom must hear all the evidence, shall assemble, at a time to be designated at said communication by such District Deputy, in the room occupied by the lodge to which the accused belongs, or at some other convenient place to be selected by the District Deputy. The District Deputy shall be in charge of the hearings at such trial, and shall have power to reject any irrelevant or improper evidence that may be offered. The lodge to which the accused belongs shall appoint a competent brother to act as secretary, who shall keep a complete record of all the proceedings before such committee, including all the testimony offered in connection with the case, and such lodge shall pay the necessary cost of the services of such secretary.

If the accuser be neither present nor represented at such meeting, the District Deputy shall adjourn the hearing for one or more times, not exceeding eight days each, giving both parties at least two days' notice of such adjourned day. If the accuser be neither present nor represented at such adjourned meeting or meetings the District Deputy may report the charges and specifications back to the lodge

at its next stated communication; and if so reported they shall be forthwith dismissed; *provided, however*, that if the accused be neither present nor represented, the committee may proceed *ex parte*.

In case such District Deputy shall be personally interested in the controversy, or physically incapacitated from acting, the Grand Master shall commission, under his private seal, another District Deputy to conduct the trial. Such commission shall be filed with the Grand Secretary at the close of the trial.

5. No person shall be present during the investigation before the committee without its consent, except the District Deputy duly empowered, the Master of the lodge, the accuser or accusers, the accused, their counsel, a secretary and the summoned witnesses; except that the District Deputy may, in his discretion, at any stage of the proceedings, call upon some brother learned in Masonic law to advise him in the proper performance of his duties.

6. At the commencement of the trial the charge and specifications shall be read aloud by the secretary, and the accused, if present, shall be required to plead guilty or not guilty

thereto, and to each of them, as read, and his pleas shall be recorded by the secretary. If the accused be absent, or being present shall refuse to plead, the secretary shall enter a plea of not guilty, and the committee shall proceed to examine witnesses. At the request of either party all witnesses, except the one under examination, may be excluded from the room.

7. The parties interested shall have the benefit of counsel, if they desire; *provided*, said counsel shall be affiliated Master Masons in good standing.

8. In case a witness is not a Master Mason the testimony may be taken by the committee, the witness having been first sworn in their presence before some person, designated by the District Deputy, who is authorized by the laws of this State to administer oaths.

9. In taking testimony, interrogatories may be propounded either by the committee or the parties or their counsel, in the discretion of the District Deputy.

If either party desires the testimony of any person who resides, or is out of this State, or is unable to attend before the committee, such testimony may, at the discretion of the District

Deputy, be taken before any person authorized by the laws of this State to administer an oath in the place where the testimony is to be taken upon such notice to the opposite party as the District Deputy may direct; the person taking such testimony shall first take an oath or affirmation, fairly and impartially to take the same; the testimony of such witness, if not a Master Mason, shall be taken on oath or affirmation upon interrogatories to be then and there put by the parties or either of them, or any person authorized in their behalf, and such interrogatories and the answers thereto shall be reduced to writing by the officer taking such testimony, and shall be subscribed in his presence by the witness, and thereupon the same shall be certified, sealed up and mailed, or delivered personally to the District Deputy who is conducting the trial, by whom the same shall be opened and presented to the committee, who shall deliver the same with other testimony as hereinafter provided; *provided*, that the party applying for the examination of the witness shall first pay all expenses of taking and transmitting such testimony.

10. The District Deputy shall have power to send for persons and papers on behalf of the parties interested, and to require the Secretary of the lodge to issue and serve such summons, in due form, as may be necessary for that purpose, and may adjourn the hearing from time to time in his discretion.

11. At the close of the hearings, and after the accused and accuser and their counsel shall have had an opportunity to discuss, before the committee, the guilt or innocence of the accused, the committee shall carefully consider, in secret, the evidence taken, and shall render a verdict of "guilty" or "not guilty" as to each of the specifications. Five (5) adverse votes shall be required to establish the guilt of the accused.

12. The testimony shall be reduced to writing and delivered to the Secretary of the lodge at the close of the examination, together with the information that the committee has found a verdict of guilty or not guilty as to each of the specifications.

13. If the committee shall find the accused not guilty, such verdict, when communicated

to the lodge, shall terminate the proceedings; but if the committee shall have found the accused guilty on one or more of the specifications, the members of the lodge shall be summoned to meet at the next regular communication of the lodge, or such subsequent communication as the lodge shall appoint, for the purpose of determining the degree of punishment to be inflicted upon the accused. Neither the accuser nor the accused shall be allowed in the lodge while such penalty is being determined.

14. When ready to proceed with the matter of determining the grade of punishment to be inflicted, the Master of the lodge shall cause the charge and specifications and the verdict of the committee to be read. 1923, pp. 380, 440, 463.

15. After counsel shall have been allowed reasonable time for argument for and against the accused, and for answering any questions that may be put by members of the lodge regarding any point or points in the testimony, the lodge shall, by a majority ballot (every member present being required to vote), declare the degree of punishment to be inflicted,

voting first on the highest grade of punishment named.

16. The grades of punishment shall be: first, expulsion; second, indefinite suspension; third, suspension for a definite period, but not exceeding two years; fourth, public reprimand; fifth, private reprimand.

In case the Lodge shall vote in favor of definite suspension, the time of such suspension shall be determined also by ballot, the ballot being taken, if necessary, on the following periods: Two years, one year, six months, three months.

17. The accused, the accuser, or any member of the Lodge aggrieved by the decision thereof, may appeal to the Grand Lodge, but such appeal must be perfected before the annual communication of the Grand Lodge then next ensuing; *provided*, at least one month intervenes between such decision and such communication. Otherwise the appeal may be to the second annual communication of the Grand Lodge succeeding such decision, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

FORMS.

FORM No. 1.

The Charge.

To the Master, Wardens and Brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Free and Accepted Masons:

CHARGE.—Brother A. B. is hereby charged with *immoral* and *unmasonic* conduct:

First Specification.—That the said A. B., on the first day of April, 1879, in the public street at Newark, in the county of Essex, was in a state of intoxication from immoderate and improper use of intoxicating liquor, in violation of his duty as a Mason, and to the scandal and disgrace of the Fraternity.

Second Specification.—That the said A. B., on the first day of April, 1879, at Newark, as aforesaid, and at various other times and places, in the year 1879, was intoxicated with strong and spirituous liquors, in violation of his duty as a Mason, and to the great scandal and disgrace of the Masonic Fraternity. H. W.

Dated Newark, April 10th, 1879.

FORM No. 2.

Notice to the Accused.

Brother A. B.: You are hereby notified that at a stated communication of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, held on the first day of May, 1879, the following charge and specifications were preferred against you, and duly received by the Lodge; and the District Deputy will be present at a stated communication of the Lodge, to be

held on the first day of June next, to select a committee to whom such charge and specifications will be referred.

Dated Newark, May 2d, 1879. C. D., Secretary.

[SEAL.]

[Here follows an exact copy of the charge and specifications.]

FORM No. 3.

Notice to the District Deputy.

R. W. John Jones, District Deputy of the Sixth Masonic District:

You are respectfully notified that at a stated communication of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, held on the first day of May, 1879, the following charge and specifications were preferred against Brother A. B., and were duly received by the Lodge, and due notice has been sent to said Brother A. B. to attend a stated communication of said Lodge to be held on the first day of June next, when a committee will be selected to try said charge.

Dated Newark, May 2d, 1879. C. D., Secretary.

[SEAL.]

[Here follows an exact copy of the charge and specifications.]

FORM No. 4.

Summons to Witness.

To E. F.: You are hereby summoned to be and appear before the Committee selected to take testimony in the matter of the charge preferred by Brother H. W. against Brother A. B. and duly received by St. John's Lodge, No. 1, at the rooms of said Lodge, on the first day of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to testify all and singular what you know in reference to

said charge and specifications, on the part of the accuser (or accused).

C. D., Secretary.

Dated Newark, June 10th, 1879.

[SEAL.]

FORM No. 5.

Report of the Committee.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Free and Accepted Masons:

We, the undersigned, the District Deputy of the Sixth Masonic District, and the committee selected to take the testimony in the matter of the charge preferred by Brother H. W. against Brother A. B., do respectfully report that, upon due notice to all the parties, we met on the first day of July, 1879, and thence from time to time upon like notice, and took the testimony of the witnesses who appeared, which we now herewith transmit to you.

"We find the accused innocent of the charge brought against him";

Or

"We find the accused guilty on the following numbered specifications, to wit: &c., &c."

JOHN JONES, D. D.

A. B.,	} Committee.
C. D.,	
E. F.,	
G. H.,	
I. J.,	
K. L.,	
M. N.,	

Dated, Newark, August 1st, 1879.

FORM No. 6.**Notice to a Convicted Brother.**

You are hereby notified that at a stated communication of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, held at Newark, on the 10th of August, 1879, you were, after trial, convicted upon the charge of unmasonic conduct preferred against you by Brother H. W., and the Lodge, by ballot, declared that as a punishment for your offence you be (expelled—indeinitely suspended—suspended for blank months—publicly reprimanded—privately reprimanded).

C. D., Secretary,
St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

Dated Newark, September 12th, 1879.
[SEAL.]

FORM No. 7.**Notice to the Grand Secretary of Lodge Action.**

R. W. —, Grand Secretary:

You are hereby notified that at a stated communication of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, held at Newark on the 10th of August, 1879, Brother A. B. was, after trial and conviction upon a charge of unmasonic conduct, punished by being (expelled—indeinitely suspended—suspended for blank months). Fraternaly yours,

C. D., Secretary,
St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

Dated Newark, September 12th, 1879.
[SEAL.]

FORM No. 8.**Appeal by the Accused.**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of New Jersey:

I hereby appeal from the action of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, upon the trial of the charge and specifications preferred against me by Brother H. W.

The following are the reasons for such appeal:

A. B.

Dated Newark, September 14th, 1879.

FORM No. 9.**Appeal by the Accuser.**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of New Jersey:

I hereby appeal from the action of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, upon trial of the charge and specifications preferred by me against Brother A. B.

The following are the reasons for such appeal:

H. W.

Dated Newark, September 14th, 1879.

Digest of Decisions and Interpretations of Masonic Law.

Authorized by Grand Lodge, 1923-1924.

The references in numerals under each paragraph denote the year and page of the annual proceedings from which the subject-matter has been epitomized.

ADVANCEMENT.

Advancement denotes the conferring of a degree after the first has been conferred. It is subject to the terms of the Fourth General Regulation.

1. No vote or ballot is necessary for the advancement of a candidate. 1865, p. 538.

2. A by-law requiring an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft to present himself within a specified time, for his remaining degree or degrees, is void. 1886, p. 63.

3. A member protesting against the advancement of an E. A. or F. C., cannot be compelled to give his reasons for such protest.

A lodge may disregard a protest against the advancement of a candidate. 1863, p. 306.

4. A lodge cannot, by vote, stay the advancement of a candidate beyond the regular time, but the Master may in his discretion refuse to proceed in a proper case. 1881, p. 383.

5. Any lodge within whose jurisdiction an E. A. or F. C. may reside, entered or passed in a lodge whose warrant has been surrendered, may confer the remaining degree or degrees upon him, on petition, the usual reference and a clear ballot; *provided, however*, such candidate shall have first procured from the Grand Secretary a certificate that he has been entered or passed as the case may be. If such a certificate cannot be procured the candidate must proceed *de novo*, as a profane. 1873, p. 635.

6. The examination of a candidate, as to his proficiency, must be held when the lodge is at labor on the degree in which he is to be examined. 1878, p. 258.

7. A candidate cannot be examined as to his proficiency in either of the degrees in one of the ante-rooms of a lodge, or in a remote part therein. 1922, pp. 136, 158, 224.

AFFILIATION.

Affiliation means membership in a lodge.

1. If an applicant for affiliation presents a regular dimit, but is not vouched for, and is unable to prove himself a Master Mason, he cannot be balloted for. 1868, p. 378.

2. Membership of an applicant for affiliation is complete when he has passed a clear ballot and presented a proper dimit or certificate approved by the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary. 1882, p. 60; 1913, p. 214.

3. An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft may not dimit from nor affiliate with a lodge. 1879, p. 487.

4. An unaffiliated Master Mason has the right to apply for affiliation with any lodge in this State regardless of his residence. 1880, p. 55; 1897, p. 71.

5. Members of lodges in this or in other Grand Lodge jurisdictions may apply for membership and be balloted for in lodges of this State; but to become members thereof they must present a proper dimit or certificate approved by the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary, and have passed a clear ballot.

1913, p. 214.

6. A petitioner for affiliation with any lodge in this jurisdiction must file his dimit in the lodge in which he has been elected within six months after the date of his election; otherwise such election shall lapse and become void. 1914, p. 121.

7. Form "C," as now printed, is adopted as the proper form of report of committee of investigation on a petition for affiliation. 1922, pp. 135, 158, 223.

BALLOT.

(Including Voting.)

The determination of all questions by members of lodges, to be decided by their votes, is by:

First. The secret ballot, by balls, or by balls and cubes, deposited in a box so constructed as to conceal the act of selection and deposit. Voting is conducted as prescribed on page 171 of the Lodge Manual (1924).

Second. By secret written ballot.

Third. The manual or voting sign.

SCHEDULE FOR VOTING.

The secret ballot.	<i>Necessary for affirmative result.</i>
1. Petitions for initiation.	Unanimous.
2. Petitions for affiliation.	Unanimous.
3. On waiver of jurisdiction over previously rejected petitioners.	Three-fourths.
4. On waiver of jurisdiction over unrejected petitioners.	Three-fourths.
5. Suspension of members for non-payment of dues.	Two-thirds.
6. Restoration of same.	Majority.
7. Award of penalty on conviction after trial.	Majority.
8. Restoration of suspended (except for N. P. D.) or expelled members to good standing.	Two-thirds.
The secret written ballot is used exclusively in electing lodge officers.	Majority.

The manual sign is used in voting on—

1. To withdraw petitions for membership before investigating committee has reported. Unanimous.
2. Request for dimit. Majority.
3. Request for an extension of time for initiation for an elected candidate. Majority.
4. Objection to initiation of an elected candidate. Majority.
5. All other questions. Majority.

1. The right of a Master Mason to vote in his lodge can be affected only by his suspension or expulsion. A lodge by-law prohibiting members from voting who are in arrears for dues, but not suspended, is void. 1875, p. 232.

2. If there be a legal quorum present (seven members of the lodge) the majority of those voting decides any matter of business, except when otherwise required by rule of Grand Lodge. 1887, p. 261.

3. After the report of the investigating

committee has been received by the lodge, the Master may, in his discretion, defer spreading the ballot temporarily during the communication, but no motion, having in view the final prevention of the ballot, shall be entertained. 1897, p. 184.

4. After the report of the committee has been received the ballot must be spread, whether the report be favorable or unfavorable. The ballot elects or rejects the petitioner, not the report of the committee. 1866, p. 71.

5. The committee on application for waiver of jurisdiction may report at any regular communication after making proper investigation and the ballot should immediately follow the report. 1897, p. 184.

6. The report of a majority of an investigating committee, upon a petitioner, is sufficient to authorize the Master to spread the ballot. 1866, p. 71.

7. In balloting for a petitioner every member present should be required to vote. 1869, p. 552.

8. The Master may excuse a brother from balloting when he is physically unable to do so. 1880, p. 55.

9. The refusal of a brother to vote, when required to do so, does not invalidate the ballot, but renders the offending brother liable to charges. 1880, p. 55.

10. Every ballot for membership or for suspension or restoration must be inspected by the Wardens before the result is announced by the Master. 1897, p. 184.

11. After a clear ballot and its announcement, the Master cannot order another ballot. 1885, p. 232; 1897, p. 171.

12. A black ball or cube previously overlooked, having been discovered immediately after a petitioner has been declared elected, the Master must forthwith retract his declaration and announce the ballot not clear. 1887, p. 261.

13. When a candidate is rejected and that result is announced, the ballot cannot be reconsidered. If but one black ball or cube be cast, the Master may once order a new ballot to be immediately taken. If two black balls or cubes are cast then the Master has no right to order a new ballot. 1865, p. 539; 1866, p. 71; 1912, p. 114.

14. When the result of a ballot for initiation or affiliation has been announced, the ballots must be immediately disarranged in the box by the Master. 1888, p. 54.

15. The ballot must be kept strictly secret. A brother violates its secrecy by stating how he voted, and should not be permitted to state his reasons for opposing a petitioner. No member may demand of a brother how he voted, or his reason for voting against a candidate, and no attempt should be made to discover who cast a negative ballot. 1872, p. 457.

16. It is unmasonic to vote against a petitioner except upon conscientious belief in his unworthiness. A ballot by proxy at the request of another is prohibited. 1871, p. 244.

17. A ballot once cast cannot be withdrawn. A decision reached by a secret ballot cannot be reconsidered by the lodge. 1880, p. 55; 1882, p. 60.

18. If an alarm be given at the outer door by a lodge member, while a ballot is being spread, the Master may in his discretion admit him and permit him to vote. Between the closing of the ballot on one petitioner and the spreading of the ballot on another, the Master

must admit all members of the lodge who have given the alarm. 1903, pp. 58, 82.

19. The discussion in the lodge as to the merits or eligibility of a petitioner is prohibited. 1887, p. 261; 1897, p. 172.

20. The Tyler, when a member of the lodge, has the right to cast his ballot on all occasions. 1878, p. 258.

21. Written ballots only are to be used in electing officers. If bearing more than one name, they are irregular and are not to be counted. Printed ballots are prohibited. In deciding questions by ballot, other than the election of officers, the secret ballot box with balls or with balls and cubes must be used. 1882, p. 60.

22. Blank pieces of paper are not to be counted as votes. In an election for officers, votes bearing the names of ineligible persons are to be regarded as blank ballots. A motion to empower a brother to cast the vote of the lodge in an election for officers can be entertained only by unanimous consent. 1887, p. 261; 1897, p. 175.

23. A motion instructing the representatives of the lodge to vote for certain named

candidates for officers in Grand Lodge, is out of order. 1883, p. 287.

24. If there is more than one petition to be balloted on, the ballot must be spread on each petition separately. Collective balloting is prohibited. 1920, pp. 55, 151.

BY-LAWS.

1. Any member may propose amendments to the by-laws of his lodge. 1880, p. 55.

2. Notice of a proposed change in the by-laws must be given to every member who can be reached before action is taken thereon by the lodge. 1880, p. 55; 1897, p. 172.

3. A proposed amendment to a by-law may be, at the time of consideration, further amended; *provided*, such new amendment does not radically change the original. 1898, p. 38.

4. The thirteenth General Regulation acknowledges the right of lodges to make their own by-laws; but it is required that all by-laws and amendments thereto shall conform to the proviso of that General Regulation, and to that end shall be submitted to and approved by the Grand Master before the same shall become effective. 1887, p. 261; 1895, p. 82.

5. A by-law requiring the Treasurer to pay lodge funds to its Trustees, or any other person, without the order of the lodge, is void. By-laws describing Masonic offenses, and prescribing penalties therefor, or requiring the Master to call a special communication of his lodge upon the request of any number of its members; or requiring the Master to order a new ballot when but one black ball has been cast, are beyond the power of the lodge, and are void. 1880, p. 55.

6. A lodge cannot suspend the operation of a by-law. 1868, p. 354.

CANDIDATE.

1. This Grand Lodge does recognize and always has recognized the eligibility of any man to be made a Mason who possesses the proper qualifications, without regard to his race or color. 1900, p. 150.

2. A petitioner for the three degrees of Masonry must be at least twenty-one years of age. 1895, p. 81.

3. Candidates must not be initiated unless they understand the English language. 1900, p. 63.

4. To be eligible as a petitioner for membership one must have been a *bona fide* resident for at least six months in the jurisdiction of the lodge to which he applies; provided, however, a lodge may request waiver of jurisdiction, when the petitioner for whom the waiver is asked has been a *bona fide* resident for at least six months within the jurisdiction of the lodge from which the waiver is requested. The subsequent removal of one so qualified does not deprive the lodge from whose jurisdiction he removes of the power to make him. 1865, p. 539; 1916, p. 132; 1920, pp. 54, 151.

5. A candidate who will not take an oath cannot be lawfully made a Mason. 1868, p. 383; 1897, p. 172.

6. An applicant for initiation must explicitly declare over his signature that he has or has not been previously proposed in any Masonic lodge. 1887, p. 261.

7. The Master, or in his absence the acting Master, is prohibited from proceeding with initiation unless he has positive knowledge of the physical competency of the candidate to literally conform to all the requirements of Ancient Craft Masonry. 1888, p. 54; 1897, p. 172.

8. Cases of visible physical defect shall be referred to the Worshipful Master of the lodge to which the candidates possessing them apply, for decision as to their eligibility, with the understanding that if there be any doubt in the mind of the Worshipful Master relative to any particular case, he may submit it to the Grand Master for his decision. 1886, p. 62; 1897, p. 172; 1923, pp. 355, 437.

9. A petitioner elected and failing to present himself for initiation within six months after having been requested to do so, shall forfeit said election, unless, by a vote of the lodge, taken previous to the expiration of said period, the time shall be extended. 1875, pp. 232, 242; 1920, pp. 54, 151.

10. A three-fourths vote is required to give permission to another lodge in this jurisdiction to receive and act upon the application for membership of a rejected petitioner; and the vote shall be by ballot. 1870, p. 51; 1907, p. 173.

11. After a petitioner has been elected, if objection is made to his initiation, it must be stayed and a committee of investigation appointed. After the report of the committee the lodge shall decide the question of initiation by a majority vote. If in the negative, the proposition fee must be returned. 1876, p. 424; 1897, p. 172.

12. If a petitioner is proposed and elected in Lodge No. 1, but fails to present himself for initiation within the required time, and later is proposed in Lodge No. 2, and rejected, all relationship between him and Lodge No. 1 is lost, and he stands, in relation to the first lodge, as if he had never been proposed and elected therein. 1863, p. 305.

13. When a lodge surrenders its warrant its members cannot affiliate without certificates from the Grand Lodge. For like reason, petitioners who have been rejected in that lodge cannot apply elsewhere within this jurisdiction for initiation without the consent of the Grand Lodge, if in session, or of the Grand Master in the interim. 1878, p. 258.

14. The Worshipful Master may confer on the same night the Entered Apprentice Degree upon five candidates, and the Fellow Craft Degree upon five others who had four weeks previously received the Entered Apprentice Degree; and the Master Mason Degree upon five others, if they had four weeks previously received the Fellow Craft Degree. He cannot, without special dispensation, confer all the de-

grees upon the same individual at the same time. 1907, p. 130.

15. A petitioner having been regularly proposed and elected in a lodge in this jurisdiction cannot be considered rejected should the lodge subsequently, by vote, refuse to give him his degrees and return the initiation fee. By so doing all claim between the lodge and the petitioner is absolutely lost, and he stands as if he had never applied for membership, and is at liberty to place his present petition elsewhere, subject to territorial jurisdiction. 1907, p. 131.

CERTIFICATES.

1. Neither the signature of a Master nor the seal of the lodge should be appended to certificates of good standing, other than dimits; those only excepted which are given to the family of a deceased brother and those which are issued for use in traveling. 1876, p. 424; 1897, p. 172.

2. A traveling certificate does not deprive the brother holding it of his membership in the lodge, nor relieve him from liability for dues. Its return, therefore, is not necessary

to enable him to exercise and enjoy all his rights as a member. 1865, p. 538; 1880, p. 55; 1897, p. 172.

3. Members of lodges in good standing are entitled to certificates for traveling purposes. An affirmative vote of the lodge is not requisite to its issue. Its validity will terminate at a fixed date, stamped thereon, not later than two years from the date of issue. 1882, p. 60; 1915, p. 265.

CHARGES.

1. Any member of a lodge in good standing may prefer charges against an offending brother in the lodge of which the accused is a member. It is not requisite (though desirable) that the accuser should be the aggrieved brother. 1870, p. 45; 1882, p. 60; 1922, pp. 134, 158, 223; 1923, p. 434.

2. It is not proper for a lodge to appoint a "committee of inquiry" to ascertain whether a brother is justly liable to charges. 1886, p. 63.

3. A lodge may decline to receive charges against a member, when in its judgment such charges are frivolous or not based upon Masonic reasons. This does not, however, debar

the brother making the charges from appealing to the Grand Lodge. 1892, p. 53.

4. When charges are preferred against a brother, and countercharges are made, separate committees must be named to take testimony in each case. On the report of either committee argument must be heard and judgment rendered thereon without regard to the other. 1882, p. 60; 1918, p. 150.

5. A brother may prefer charges against the Master of his lodge. If during the recess of the Grand Lodge, they must be referred to the Grand Master; otherwise to the Grand Lodge. 1874, p. 47.

6. Charges may be presented against a suspended Mason; but for other reasons than those for which he was suspended. 1871, p. 244; 1897, p. 172.

7. An affiliated Mason may prefer charges of unmasonic conduct in a lodge of which the brother presenting the charges is not a member. 1870, p. 45.

8. An unaffiliated Mason cannot prefer charges against a member of a lodge 1869, p. 552.

9. It is not necessary that all charges be made by the Junior Warden in his official capacity. 1866, p. 71; 1897, p. 172.

10. Charges may be presented against an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason for improper conduct committed either prior or subsequent to the time he was proposed for membership. 1882, p. 60; 1919, p. 365; 1921, pp. 240, 331.

11. Charges of unmasonic conduct cannot be acted upon at a special communication of a lodge. Charges which have been received by the lodge cannot be withdrawn. 1869, p. 552.

COMMITTEES.

1. Committees are appointed by the actual or acting Master. A resolution naming the members of a committee is out of order. 1877, p. 56.

2. When a committee fails to report within a reasonable time, it should be discharged and a new one appointed. 1876, p. 424.

3. The brother who proposes a candidate must not be placed on the committee of investigation. 1877, p. 56; 1897, p. 172.

4. The report of an investigating committee must be signed by a majority of the committee. 1878, p. 257.

5. The investigating committee should report in writing to the lodge, even if the original signed petition be out of their possession. 1880, p. 62; 1897, p. 172.

6. The formal presentation of the report of a committee of investigation must be followed by a motion to receive and act upon it. 1887, p. 261.

7. It is absolutely necessary, in all cases, that the committee of investigation call personally upon the petitioner and make diligent inquiry as provided in the fourth General Regulation, and satisfy themselves that the candidate has made truthful statements about himself, inquire into his physical condition, and if any physical defect is found, it should be reported at once to the Worshipful Master. 1907, p. 131.

DIMIT.

1. The relation between a lodge and a member is severed when an affirmative vote is given and recorded upon application for a dimit. 1870, p. 45.

2. In granting dimitts a majority vote of the lodge (not by ballot) is required. No dimit can be granted without the affirmative vote of the lodge. A majority have therefore the power to deny a dimit. Having the power, the question of right is with the consciences of the members. 1868, p. 378.

3. Master Masons only are entitled to receive dimitts; provision is made in the third General Regulation for granting a certificate under certain circumstances to a Fellow Craft or Entered Apprentice. 1875, p. 231.

4. Application for a dimit should be made either in writing, signed by the applicant, or in person in open lodge. No form for such application should be prescribed. 1880, p. 55.

5. A lodge has no right to require the payment of a fee as a condition of granting a dimit. 1880, p. 55.

6. A brother should not be required to give his reasons for asking for a dimit. 1881, p. 384.

7. The issue of duplicate dimitts is prohibited. Upon proof of the loss or destruction, the Grand Secretary, with the approval of the

Grand Master, may issue a certificate having the practical force of a dimit. 1882, p. 60.

8. A certificate which does not declare that the holder is in good standing, and that he has canceled all indebtedness to the lodge withdrawn from, and which does not bear his signature in the margin, cannot be considered a regular dimit; nor can the person presenting it be affiliated thereon in this jurisdiction. 1882; p. 60.

9. When a dimit has been granted, the brother's signature should appear in the margin thereof, prior to the certification and issue of the same by the officers of the lodge. 1899, p. 163.

10. A lodge cannot make it conditional that a brother must have removed from its vicinage to be entitled to a dimit. 1887, p. 261.

11. The Grand Lodge cannot grant a dimit from a lodge; but, under certain circumstances, may grant a certificate having the full effect of a dimit. 1870, p. 45; 1897, p. 172.

12. When an application for affiliation has been rejected, the dimit which accompanied the application must be returned, without any ad-

ditional writing or endorsement thereon. 1877, p. 56.

13. Dimits received and filed at the organization of a lodge become the property of the lodge when it is constituted. 1878, p. 258.

14. A dimit accompanying an application for affiliation becomes the property of the lodge when the applicant has consummated his membership. 1878, p. 258; 1913, p. 214.

15. Whenever a brother applying to a lodge for affiliation shall have been elected, the fact of such election, with the date and the name of the lodge to which elected, should be written across the face of the dimit, over the signature of the Master and the seal of the lodge. 1880, p. 57.

16. When a new lodge is warranted, the dimits or other proper certificates of the brethren composing it should be deposited with the Grand Secretary, to be delivered to the lodge when constituted. 1881, p. 384; 1921, pp. 282, 309; 1923, p. 462.

17. When accuser or accused gives verbal notice of an intention to appeal from the decision of a lodge in a case of trial on charges, a dimit cannot be granted to the accused brother

until the time within which a notice of appeal may be given shall have expired. 1890, p. 65.

18. Pending appeal, a dimit cannot be granted an accused brother. 1890, p. 65.

DISPENSATIONS AND WARRANTS.

1. A dispensation once granted is good until executed, unless it limits the time within which it is to be used, or is recalled. 1880, p. 55.

2. The warrant of a lodge, if arrested by the Grand Master, may be restored by him, or by the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication; but only to the brethren from whom it was taken. 1873, p. 614.

3. If the Grand Master refuse to issue a dispensation for a new lodge, the papers presented to him may be used in a similar application to the Grand Lodge. 1873, p. 615.

4. Applicants for a dispensation to congregate a new lodge become, when the dispensation is granted, and during its continuance, the Masonic property of the jurisdiction granting it. If the warrant is refused, they are entitled to the credentials deposited with the

Grand Lodge at the time of the application. 1881, p. 383; 1897, p. 172.

5. The proper construction of By-Law I., Sec. 7, is, that the lodge therein referred to recommends the applying brethren as proper persons to constitute a lodge, and as having secured a proper room in which to hold a lodge; not that they recommend the formation of the proposed new lodge. But the recommending lodge may, if it see fit, express its opinion as to the advisability of forming such new lodge. 1884, p. 45.

6. The issuance of a warrant to a lodge under dispensation does not necessarily involve the appointment of the same officers as those selected and named in the dispensation. 1887, p. 261.

7. For a dispensation to hold an installation at a time other than that prescribed by law, a fee of ten dollars must be paid. 1899, p. 137.

DUES.

1. A member's dues begin when he becomes a Master Mason. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts pay no dues. 1867, p. 235.

2. A lodge may remit the dues of members. 1873, p. 614.

3. No dues shall accrue against a suspended member during the period of his suspension. 1915, p. 292.

4. A lodge may remit part of the dues of a suspended member on written application for restoration. 1898, p. 38.

5. A by-law prescribing different rates of dues for various classes of brethren is void; *provided, however*, in the payment of life membership dues, regard may be had to the range in the ages of the brethren and a scale of dues for life membership, to be prescribed by the by-laws of the lodge, based on age, shall be permissible, *and provided, further*, that the sum required to be paid in advance for life membership shall not be less than the equivalent of ten years' dues. 1880, p. 55; 1924, pp. 171, 217.

6. A by-law of a lodge which exempts a certain class of members from all pecuniary contributions to its support is void. 1884, p. 43.

7. A member who has paid dues for 25 years consecutively in one lodge in this jurisdiction

may be exempted from future payment by a majority ballot. This exemption shall not bar the member from admission to the Masonic Home upon proper application. 1918, p. 153.

ELECTIONS.

1. In an election for officers, except the Worshipful Master, any member who receives the votes of a majority is elected, if otherwise qualified, whether previously nominated or not. 1882, p. 80. (The first General Regulation requires a Master to have served as a Warden.)

2. In the absence of a by-law bearing on the subject, the permitting or forbidding of nominations for office rests in the discretion of the Master. 1882, p. 68.

3. Any by-law prohibiting members in arrears for dues from being elected to or holding office, before they have been regularly suspended, is void. 1880, p. 55.

4. Elective officers of a lodge must be elected by written ballot. 1863, p. 305; 1870, p. 45.

5. A lodge has the right to transact other business than the election of officers on the night of the regular election. 1863, p. 306.

6. The annual election should be held at the stated meeting on the day of the feast of St. John the Evangelist (Dec. 27th), when a stated meeting of a lodge occurs on that day. 1878, p. 267.

7. A lodge may, by vote or by-law, exclude during the annual election of officers those who are not members, except members of the Grand Lodge. 1876, p. 424.

GRAND LODGE.

1. Every adopted resolution of the Grand Lodge is effective until revoked. 1873, p. 614.

2. The Master and Past Masters of a lodge, the warrant of which has been suspended, are not thereby deprived of their membership in the Grand Lodge. 1873, p. 614.

3. The Grand Lodge alone has the power to permanently deprive a lodge of its warrant. The Grand Master may suspend its operation until the next annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. 1873, p. 614.

4. Neither the Past Masters, Master or Wardens of a lodge are entitled to be represented personally by proxy in the Grand Lodge 1877, p. 56; 1897, p. 173.

5. Any Grand Lodge or Grand Orient which ignores the Ancient Landmark of a belief in God as a prerequisite to initiation ceases to be a Masonic Body; and no person subsequently acknowledging the jurisdiction of such a body, or made under its authority, can receive Masonic recognition in New Jersey. 1879, p. 501.

GRAND MASTER.

1. A Grand Master may properly be expected to enter into official correspondence only with associate Grand Officers, Masters and Secretaries of lodges, who may write by order of the Master over the seal of the lodge. 1886, p. 63.

2. Opinions of a Grand Master, in the interpretation of Masonic law or landmarks, become established decrees and permanent rules for action only when adopted by the Grand Lodge. 1886, p. 63.

3. The Grand Master cannot authorize one lodge to use material belonging to another. 1872, p. 457.

4. The Grand Master has no power to heal or authorize the advancement of a person who

has received any of the degrees in violation of any ancient landmarks. Action thus taken is irregular. 1879, p. 487.

5. When the Grand Master becomes satisfied that a lodge is about to elevate to an official position a brother ineligible under the law to fill such station, it is within his power and it is his duty to prohibit the lodge from committing such a breach of Masonic law. 1889, p. 291.

INITIATION FEE.

1. That part of the initiation fee which accompanies the petition is a part of the funds of the lodge. When received by the Secretary it is to be paid by him to the Treasurer. 1900, p. 63.

2. If a lodge, for proper cause, refuse to advance a candidate, it is within its discretion to refund the initiation fee. 1863, p. 306; 1897, p. 173.

3. It is not lawful for a lodge to exempt a petitioner from the payment of the initiation fee. 1867, p. 235.

4. It is not regular for a lodge to receive a verbal or written promise to pay in lieu of an initiation fee. 1867, p. 235.

5. A lodge may not receive an initiation fee from a petitioner as a consideration for allowing him to present his petition to a lodge in another jurisdiction. 1875, p. 243.

INSTALLATION.

1. When a brother is regularly elected Master, objection to his installation cannot prevent it. 1874, p. 48; 1897, p. 173.

2. Regularly elected officers of lodges may be installed at an emergent communication called for that purpose. 1882, p. 60.

3. Installation of officers should be held in accordance with the provisions of the warrant of the lodge. 1890, p. 65.

4. If a warrant of a lodge requires the installation of its officers to take place "on or near St. John's Day," such installation, to comply with the warrant, should be no later than the first regular communication succeeding St. John's day. 1895, p. 81.

5. It is the duty of the Master to qualify his successor for installation. 1899, p. 137.

6. Officers of lodges under dispensation must not be installed. 1862, p. 193; 1897, p. 173.

7. A Master-elect must receive in his own lodge the qualifying ceremonial before he assumes the East; and none but Past Masters may be present at such qualification. 1864, p. 452.

JURISDICTION OVER CANDIDATES.

1. A lodge has exclusive control over material residing within its jurisdiction, but may grant permission to another jurisdiction to act upon a petition from such material. 1872, p. 457.

2. An application for waiver of jurisdiction over a profane must not be made until he has regularly applied for initiation in the lodge making such application. 1896, p. 68.

3. A petitioner for whom waiver of jurisdiction is asked must possess the same physical and other qualifications as are required for initiation by a lodge in this jurisdiction, and their eligibility must be determined in the same manner. 1899, p. 138.

4. When a request for waiver of jurisdiction is received by a lodge, it is the duty of the Master to appoint a committee of investigation, who shall interview the petitioner and

make the same examination and investigation as is required when a person petitions the lodge. 1905, p. 112.

5. A three-fourths vote, by ballot, shall be necessary to grant permission to another lodge to receive an application for initiation of an unrejected petitioner. 1876, p. 424; 1897, p. 173; 1918, p. 155.

6. Where lodges hold concurrent jurisdiction, it is unnecessary for a lodge out of such jurisdiction to obtain the consent of more than one lodge within it to receive and act upon the petition of an applicant residing therein. 1872, p. 457.

7. When, upon an application for waiver to one among a number of lodges having concurrent jurisdiction, consent is withheld, the action is final as to that petition, but does not govern a subsequent petition. 1875, p. 231; 1903, p. 86.

8. The rejection of a petitioner by a lodge having no jurisdiction over him does not debar him from presenting his petition to a lodge within the jurisdiction in which he resides. 1866, p. 71.

9. If the lodge which rejects a petitioner shall consent to his being made in another lodge, it waives all jurisdiction over him. The lodge in which he is eventually elected may grant permission to any other lodge to confer upon him the three degrees of Masonry. 1871, p. 253.

10. Action may not be taken upon a petitioner who has been rejected by or who resides in the Jurisdiction of another lodge in this State, without the consent of the lodge holding jurisdiction. 1882, p. 60.

11. When a candidate is elected in one lodge, and another lodge, upon request, confers the degrees, the candidate, when raised, becomes a member of the lodge in which he was elected, and the initiation fee belongs to that lodge. 1866, p. 71.

12. All correspondence between lodges of this and other Grand Jurisdictions relative to requests for waiver of territorial jurisdiction, or to the advancement of candidates, must be submitted to the Grand Master, before action is taken thereon. 1889, p. 290.

13. A seafaring man, without permanent residence, may make application for member-

ship at any port wherein he may sojourn. 1865, p. 539.

14. Application by a country lodge for permission to receive the petition of a resident of a city is to be made to only one lodge in that city. 1881, p. 384.

15. Penal jurisdiction shall be retained over rejected petitioners by the rejecting lodge so long as the rejected petitioner continues to reside within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and penal jurisdiction shall be terminated only by a *bona fide* removal from the State or the consent of the rejecting lodge. 1909, p. 131.

LODGES.

1. A lodge which has received its warrant from the Grand Lodge must be considered a regular lodge, unless the warrant is annulled. 1873, p. 614; 1897, p. 173.

2. Any assembly of men in the State of New Jersey, professing to be a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and not acting under a warrant from this Grand Lodge, or under a dispensation issued by the Grand Master thereof, is spurious and clandestine, and there-

fore destitute of all Masonic character or standing. 1877, p. 56.

3. The incorporation of lodges is prohibited. 1878, p. 258.

4. A Master has no power to omit a regular communication of the lodge. 1880, p. 55.

5. A communication of a lodge cannot be legally held in a place other than that designated in its warrant, except by dispensation from the Grand Master. 1882, p. 60.

6. For the opening or closing of a lodge, the transaction of business or conferring a degree, it is necessary that the Master or a Warden of the lodge shall be present in custody of its warrant. 1887, p. 261; 1897, p. 173.

7. A lodge cannot be regularly opened unless the warrant is present, except in the presence of the Grand Master. 1867, p. 235.

8. The Senior Warden, in an emergency, as in the case of the death, absence or sickness of the Master, so that his order cannot be had, may call a special communication of the lodge; and if the Senior Warden is similarly conditioned, as well as the Master, the Junior

Warden may exercise the same authority. 1871, p. 244.

9. No lodge in this jurisdiction has the right to appeal for pecuniary aid to other lodges, without the consent of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. 1869, p. 552; 1897, p. 173.

10. A lodge is under no obligation to pay bills for funeral or other expenses, unless incurred by express permission or direction of the lodge, or in accordance with some provision of its by-laws. 1877, p. 56.

11. A Grand Lodge of Instruction has all the functions of a regular lodge, except the power to transact business and make Masons; and must, therefore, be regularly opened and closed and duly tiled. 1886, p. 63.

12. A lodge of Master Masons appearing in a funeral procession should not accept a subordinate position to any other organization, and may not recognize any other organization as Masonic except lodges of Master Masons. 1871, p. 244.

13. The establishment of military lodges, and conferring upon them the power to open lodges and make Masons within the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges, is contrary to the

law of this jurisdiction. 1870, p. 45; 1897, p. 172.

14. A lodge cannot deprive a brother of his civil rights, such as a resort to courts of justice for the redress of injuries, nor compel him to first submit his complaint to his lodge for its action. 1880, p. 55.

15. When a lodge confers one or more degrees at the request of another lodge, it cannot exact a fee therefor, either from the candidate or from his lodge. 1887, p. 261.

16. It is not proper for Masons, as such, to participate in the dedication of any room or building, no portion of which is to be used for Masonic purposes. 1877, p. 56.

17. Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Masons may not participate in any Masonic ceremonial. 1907, p. 131.

18. No lodge shall hold more than one emergent communication for the conferring of degrees in one calendar day; and after having conferred any one of the three degrees twenty-four hours must elapse before the same degree may be again conferred. 1920, pp. 56, 154.

19. The use of loose leaf binders for the minute books of lodges is permitted. 1918, p. 163; 1920, pp. 56, 152.

20. It is optional with the Worshipful Master to permit smoking during the refreshment periods, but smoking is prohibited during the transaction of business and the conferring of degrees. 1922, pp. 133, 158, 224; 1923, pp. 379, 439, 463.

21. The members of a lodge should be informed of the contents of the report received from the Grand Secretary upon a petitioner for membership. 1922, pp. 135, 158, 225.

22. The holding of emergent communications on Sunday for the conferring of degrees is expressly prohibited. 1923, pp. 379, 439.

23. Lodges are required to use a standard form, as prescribed, for the annual reports of the fiduciary officers, same to be spread in full on the minutes of the regular communication of the lodge at which they are received and a copy sent to every member of the lodge. 1923, pp. 366, 438.

LODGE BUSINESS.

1. The number of Masons required to open and close a lodge is the number prescribed by the Ritual, one of whom must be the Worshipful Master, or either of the Wardens; but to do Masonic work, the presence of seven Masons is required, and for the transaction of lodge business, the presence of seven of its members, a

quorum, the number required to obtain or retain a lodge warrant, is necessary. 1903, p. 82; 1904, p. 56; 1921, pp. 241, 332.

2. Motions to "lay upon the table" and for "the previous question" cannot be entertained in a Masonic lodge. 1880, p. 55.

3. A communication from a lodge in which both the name of the Secretary and the seal of the lodge are printed is irregular and should not be received. 1881, p. 384.

4. If a special communication is called, due and timely notice thereof must be given to each member of the lodge, if possible. The notice must contain a statement of the business to be transacted at such communication. 1882, p. 73.

LODGE ROOMS.

1. It is not lawful for a lodge in this jurisdiction to permit any body of men, professing to be a lodge of Master Masons, but not recognized by this Grand Lodge or acting under a dispensation from its Grand Master, to meet in or use its lodge-room. 1879, p. 487.

2. A lodge-room intended only for tem-

porary occupancy must not be dedicated to Freemasonry. 1882, p. 60.

3. A lodge may not change its place of meeting without permission from the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. 1887, p. 261.

4. There is no Masonic objection to the use of lodge-rooms dedicated to Masonic purposes, by Royal Arch Chapters, Commanderies of Knights Templar and Councils of Royal and Select Masters. 1921, pp. 240, 332.

MASTERS.

1. The power of summoning the lodge is vested solely in the Master. 1875, p. 231; 1897, p. 174.

2. The Master of a lodge may at any time order a special communication, or change the time of one already ordered; but no business can be transacted at such communication except that for which it was called. 1865, p. 538; 1873, p. 615.

3. The Master only is authorized to appoint the subordinate officers of his lodge, and to fill any vacancy that may occur among such officers

by reason of death, disability, removal or wilful abstention from duty. The Master, however, can only fill such vacancy temporarily, unless such appointee be legally installed. When so installed he becomes a permanent officer. 1880, p. 55; 1922, pp. 133, 158, 223; 1923, p. 433.

4. If a member of a lodge object to the admission or continuance in the lodge of a visiting brother (officers of the Grand Lodge excepted), it is the duty of the Master to exclude such visitor. 1864, p. 466; 1873, p. 615.

5. The Master has the power to postpone action on any motion made before the lodge, but if he use this power improperly he is amenable to the Grand Lodge for misrule. 1871, p. 244.

6. The Master may refuse to sign an order for the payment of money, if, in his judgment, it is to be improperly applied. 1871, p. 244.

7. A Master has no authority to remove permanently an appointed officer who has been duly installed. He may, however, deprive any appointed officer who is guilty of any misconduct of his functions, and fill the office tem-

porarily at each communication of the lodge. 1877, p. 56.

8. A lodge may not prescribe the duties of its Master or Wardens. 1880, p. 55.

9. A Master has the right, before the minutes have been approved, to order the record of any matter of business transacted in the lodge expunged therefrom, for reasons, valid in his own conscience, and in the interest of peace and harmony, but he should exercise this right only in extreme cases and with the utmost caution. 1886, p. 63.

10. The Master has the right to insist that every member of the lodge shall vote upon every question presented, unless excused by a vote of three-fourths of the members present. 1866, p. 71; 1897, p. 173.

11. The Master cannot be required to give his reasons for the exercise of his discretion. 1880, p. 55.

12. The Master of a lodge under dispensation holds, after the expiration of the dispensation, the same rank in the fraternity that he did before the dispensation was issued. 1882, p. 72.

13. In the absence of the Master, the Senior Warden is authorized to occupy the East, and do all work appertaining to that station, except to install officers. 1868, p. 378.

14. The Master has the right to place either of his Wardens, or a brother from the floor, in the East, and permit him to confer any of the degrees. 1867, p. 235.

15. A brother who has been elected and served in a regular lodge as either Senior or Junior Warden in any jurisdiction is eligible for election as Master. 1868, p. 378.

16. The Master of a lodge under dispensation has the same rights and powers when presiding in the East, and is entitled to the same respect, as if he had been regularly elected and installed. 1865, p. 539.

17. It is not necessary that a Master of a lodge under dispensation should previously have been a Warden. 1871, p. 244.

18. The examination of a visiting brother may be made by the Master or a brother named by him for that purpose, at such time and place as he may select. 1870, p. 45; 1897, p. 173.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. Membership in a lodge cannot be gained except by a clear ballot. 1873, p. 634.
2. When raised to the degree of Master Mason, one becomes thereby a member of the lodge in which he was elected, whether he sign the by-laws or not. 1867, p. 235.
3. A lodge retains penal jurisdiction over a member who has been suspended. 1898, p. 38.
4. Records affecting the standing of a brother cannot be altered after his death. 1886, p. 63.
5. Lodges are permitted to charge life membership dues by the payment in advance of a sum which shall not be less than the equivalent of ten years' dues; *provided, however*, that the lodge shall adopt a by-law to that effect. In the payment of life membership dues, regard may be had to the range in the ages of the brethren, and a scale of dues for life membership, to be prescribed by the by-laws of the lodge, based on age, shall be permissible; *provided*, that the sum required to be paid in advance for life membership shall not

be less than the equivalent of ten years' dues. 1923, pp. 371, 438, 498; 1924, pp. 171, 217.

6. A brother in good standing, although a suicide, may still be accorded a Masonic burial, unless a trial for a crime which he is alleged to have committed is prevented by such suicide. 1882, p. 60.

7. All persons made Masons under the authority of a warrant issued by the Grand Lodge and in accordance with the landmarks of the Fraternity are legally-made Masons. 1874, p. 614.

8. An unaffiliated Mason should not be accorded a Masonic burial. If circumstances justify a dispensation for such purpose, it may be granted. 1875, p. 231.

9. A brother guilty of any violation of the moral law is liable to charges. 1877, pp. 22, 56.

10. Brethren who recommend or vouch for petitioners, and Committees of Investigation who, in their report, make statements which they do not know to be absolutely true, are guilty of a Masonic offense. 1895, p. 12.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. The issuing of chain letters containing a promise of personal reward or threat of injury is prohibited; also solicitations for pecuniary contributions, unless approved by the Grand Master. 1916, p. 90; 1917, p. 338.

That part of this article, prohibiting solicitations for pecuniary contributions, refers to solicitations of any form or for any purpose, whether an appeal is made for money, or for the sale of bonds, shares, bricks, coupon books, stocks, chances, or any other purpose, if made in the name, or for the pecuniary assistance, of a lodge. 1922, pp. 136, 158, 225.

2. The attention of lodges is directed to the desirability of maintaining adequate insurance upon their property. 1917, p. 229.

3. The roll of lodges in the printed proceedings shall contain the names of the officers and the Past Masters only. 1918, p. 132.

4. November fourth of each year is established as a day of commemoration of the Masonic birthday of Brother George Washington, and the lodges of our Grand Jurisdiction

tion are invited to celebrate the occasion on or near that date in as fitting and impressive a manner as possible. 1922, pp. 124, 157.

OFFICERS.

1. An officer of a lodge, duly elected or appointed and installed, cannot resign or dimit during his term of office. 1870, p. 45; 1872, p. 457; 1924, pp. 109, 134, 176.

2. A trustee of a lodge may be elected a Warden. 1874, p. 47.

3. The Tyler of a lodge need not be a member thereof, but must be a member in good standing of a lodge in this jurisdiction. 1878 p. 258; 1897, p. 174; 1918, p. 132.

4. A Secretary may not lawfully receive, credit, or report as money paid to him, on lodge account, a check dated in advance, a due bill, or a promissory note. 1886, p. 63.

5. The Treasurer of a lodge must deposit its funds in a bank in the name of the lodge, and may not disburse any part thereof upon the order of the Master without the consent of the lodge. 1886, p. 63; 1916, p. 90.

6. Any member of a lodge, who is in good standing and physically qualified, is eligible to the office of Senior Warden. 1886, p. 63.

7. All officers of our Grand Lodge and subordinate lodges who have charge of lodge moneys or securities, shall be bonded in one policy to the Grand Lodge, to be apportioned and charged to the various lodges, according to the amount of insurance required by each; such policy to also cover possible losses by bank failures, if desired. 1911, p. 137; 1920, pp. 52, 109.

8. No officer of this Grand Lodge, during his term of office, can be lawfully excluded from any lodge in this jurisdiction. 1879, p. 487.

9. If the warrant of a lodge withdrawn by the Grand Master is returned by the Grand Lodge, the officers of the lodge to whom the warrant is returned will act as such until their successors are elected and installed, as provided by the General Regulations, unless the lodge is authorized by dispensation to hold an election. 1873, p. 615; 1897, p. 174.

10. District Deputies have no authority to issue dispensations, authorize funeral or other processions, or decide questions of Masonic law. 1878, p. 258; 1897, p. 192.

PAST MASTERS.

1. A Past Master is one who has been regularly elected and installed to preside over a lodge of Master Masons. 1882, p. 60.

2. Past Masters affiliated with lodges in this jurisdiction, who have been elected and have served as Masters in other jurisdictions, have the same rights and privileges as those who have served as such in this jurisdiction. 1871, p. 244.

PETITIONS.

1. An applicant must personally fill in the blank spaces in his petition and sign it. Unless so prepared the petition shall not be received by the lodge. 1870, p. 45; 1876, p. 424; 1891, p. 300.

2. Petitions for initiation or membership must be signed by at least two Master Masons, members of the lodge to which the petition is addressed. 1880, p. 55.

3. When a petition for initiation or membership is formally presented to a lodge, it becomes the duty of the Master to appoint an investigating committee without the action of the lodge; but no committee shall be appointed on the petition of an applicant on whom a waiver of jurisdiction is required, until the waiver shall have been granted. 1883, p. 287; 1923, pp. 379, 440, 462.

4. A petition or a report thereon has been formally "presented to the lodge" when it has been read in open lodge. 1878, p. 258.

5. A petition should be retained by the Secretary. The report of the Investigating Committee shall not be written thereon. 1880, p. 62.

6. A petition for membership, while in the hands of the Secretary, before being presented to the lodge, may be withdrawn; after being presented to the lodge it may be withdrawn before the committee reports by unanimous consent. 1871, p. 244; 1897, p. 174.

7. A person petitioning a lodge which does not hold jurisdiction over him may withdraw such petition, without the vote of the lodge,

provided such withdrawal take place before the lodge holding jurisdiction shall have acted upon the request for waiver. 1900, p. 63.

REJECTION.

1. Upon the rejection of a petition the Master shall permit no discussion. 1872, p. 457.

2. The Secretary shall notify a rejected petitioner at once of his rejection, and the proposition fee shall be returned. 1875, p. 231.

3. When a rejected applicant desires to apply again for membership, a new petition must be presented. 1887, p. 261.

4. The rejection of an applicant for affiliation does not affect his Masonic standing, nor does it confer upon the rejecting lodge power to bar his application elsewhere. It is not proper, in such cases, to give notice of the rejection to other lodges. 1878, p. 258.

5. It is not the duty of the Secretary of a lodge to notify other lodges of the rejection of a petitioner. 1865, p. 538.

6. When a lodge has rejected the petition of an applicant, and refused consent to his being made in another lodge, the matter is concluded

so far as that petition is concerned. Application for waiver may not be renewed until after a new petition is presented. 1871, p. 252.

RESTORATION.

1. No dues can be required from a reinstated brother suspended for non-payment of dues, except such as had accrued at the date of his suspension. 1865, p. 538.

2. A lodge may restore an expelled member without the consent of the Grand Lodge. 1870, p. 46.

3. A suspended or expelled Mason must apply in writing through the Secretary for reinstatement. Such application, except in cases of suspension for non-payment of dues, shall lie over until the next stated communication, and due notice be given to the members of the lodge. On receipt of an application for restoration to membership from an indefinite suspension or expulsion, for un-masonic conduct, a committee should be appointed to report to the lodge (before its action on the same), upon the conduct of the petitioner during his exclusion from membership. 1880, p. 55; 1907, p. 130.

4. In cases of restoration of brethren to good standing, the Grand Secretary should be at once notified of the fact, with date of restoration, which should be entered opposite the name of the restored brother on the records of Grand Lodge. 1886, p. 63.

RITUAL.

1. The use of a printed or written ritual in conferring degrees is a violation of Masonic obligations, and is prohibited. 1866, p. 72.

2. A lodge should always be opened upon the Master Mason degree before work is performed in a preceding degree. 1865, p. 539.

3. It is unlawful to change the adopted forms and ceremonies of Ancient Craft Masonry to make them binding upon a particular candidate. 1867, p. 235.

4. Lodges shall use no other than the standard Ritual in the English language; and all records of minutes and proceedings under the Code of Work shall be kept in that language. 1918, p. 154.

5. The practice of inviting officers from other jurisdictions to exemplify their work on

actual candidates tends to promote confusion, and is prohibited. 1877, p. 56.

SUMMONSES AND NOTICES.

1. A summons must be in writing or print, issued by order of the Master, signed by the Secretary, and authenticated by the seal of the lodge. A verbal summons, given by the Master, is equally binding upon the brother to whom it is given. 1867, p. 235; 1897, p. 174; 1882, p. 60.

2. A newspaper notice is not a legal summons. 1878, p. 258.

3. It is improper to print the names of suspended or expelled Masons in circulars issued by lodges. 1877, p. 56.

4. The use of postal cards or unsealed notices in summoning a lodge or transmitting Masonic information is prohibited. 1874, p. 48; 1897, p. 174; 1898, p. 118.

5. The Secretary, with the approval of the Master, may issue printed notices to members, to be sent in sealed envelopes, containing names of candidates proposed for membership; date of voting thereon, and memoranda of contem-

plated Masonic work. In every such notice there should be incorporated a warning to the effect that all information therein contained is confidential and intended only for the members of the lodge by which it is issued. 1899, p. 163; 1919, p. 364.

6. The publication and distribution of printed circulars advocating the election of any brother to office is contrary to the spirit of Masonry and the traditions of our Craft, and is absolutely forbidden. 1907, p. 132.

SUSPENSION.

1. Suspension of a member takes effect immediately upon the announcement of the requisite vote, without reference to approval of the minutes. 1885, p. 232.

2. Members of lodges (except elected officers thereof and officers of the Grand Lodge) more than twelve months in arrears for dues, upon whom written demand for payment has been made by the Secretary, by notice mailed to their last known places of residence, may be suspended in accordance with the requirements of the fifteenth and eighteenth General Regulations, notwithstanding the notice be returned

as an undelivered letter. 1874, p. 47; 1878, p. 254; 1887, p. 261.

3. A trial is not necessary to authorize suspension for non-payment of dues. 1881, p. 384.

4. It is unlawful to suspend a member for non-payment of dues at a special communication. 1872, p. 457.

5. An elected officer of a lodge may be suspended from office only by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. 1881, p. 383.

6. An officer of the Grand Lodge cannot be suspended by a lodge during his term of office. 1887, p. 261.

7. A brother irregularly suspended cannot be reinstated, but the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may, when appealed to, declare such suspension inoperative. 1882, p. 70; 1897, p. 174.

8. Definite suspension expires by its limitation, and expiration restores the suspended brother to all rights and privileges held before suspension, without further action by the lodge. 1882, p. 60.

9. A brother, while suspended for non-payment of dues, cannot visit any lodge. 1864, p. 464.

10. Suspension does not relieve the suspended brother from his Masonic obligations, nor does it deprive his lodge of jurisdiction over him. 1897, p. 174.

11. When a brother suspended for non-payment of dues tenders to the Secretary the amount of his indebtedness, the money should be received and a receipt given for the same. It would not be proper for the Master to order the money returned in case the lodge refused to reinstate the brother. 1872, p. 457.

12. The names of all suspended or expelled Masons, with date of suspension or expulsion, must be forthwith forwarded to the Grand Secretary, and by him entered in a book to be kept for that purpose, at all times open for inspection by the brethren. No other notification of suspension is required. 1886, p. 63; 1897, p. 172.

13. A notice in the following form, "Brother _____, your dues to _____ are \$ _____," when accompanied by a copy of

the fifteenth General Regulation, is a sufficient demand to authorize action upon the suspension of a brother for the non-payment of dues. 1882, p. 69.

14. A brother may not be suspended for non-payment of dues if prior to the date specified for action by the lodge, in accordance with the fifteenth General Regulation, he pay such arrearage. Dues which may have accumulated against the brother since the issuance of said notice or demand is a matter for subsequent consideration, and requires a new notice issued. 1907, p. 131.

TRIALS.

1. No brother shall be suspended (except for non-payment of dues), nor expelled, except after due trial and opportunity to defend himself. 1887, p. 261; 1897, p. 174.

2. A member of a lodge, or an unaffiliated Mason, is subject to the penal jurisdiction of any lodge within whose territorial limits he may reside. Where lodges have concurrent jurisdiction, a member is liable to his own lodge; an unaffiliated Mason, to any one of them. 1886, p. 71.

3. A member of a lodge in this State residing within another jurisdiction, if guilty of unmasonic conduct, may be punished by the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides. 1875, p. 231; 1897, p. 174.

4. A lodge has the right and power to expel a member without the concurrence of the Grand Lodge. 1870, p. 46.

5. A Masonic trial should be brought at once after the appointment of the committee. It is the duty of the District Deputy in charge to convene the committee appointed to conduct a Masonic trial at a time and place to be designated by him. (Code, Rule-No. 4.) In case of his neglect or refusal to do so within a reasonable time, the Master of the lodge should report the fact to the Grand Master, and the offending District Deputy may be removed from office for failure to perform his duty. In case the committee or a majority of them refuse or neglect to attend at the time and place specified by the District Deputy, it is in his power to discharge the committee, after which a new one may be appointed in the manner specified in the Code. The brethren refusing or neglecting to perform the duty de-

volving upon them as such committee are liable to charges. 1892, p. 66; 1897, p. 192; 1918, p. 150.

6. District Deputies have authority to use, for the accommodation of the committee, the rooms occupied by the lodge in which charges are pending. 1882, p. 60; 1897, p. 192.

7. The Master of a Lodge in which charges are pending must ascertain at what time the District Deputy can attend before giving the notice required by Article 2 of the Code. 1892, p. 59; 1897, p. 192.

8. Conviction in a civil court does not obviate the necessity for a Masonic trial. 1876, p. 424.

9. A committee selected for the trial of a brother upon charges has no power to alter in any particular the charges or specifications referred to them. 1887, p. 261; 1897, p. 174.

10. A lodge cannot try an officer of the Grand Lodge during the term of his office. 1872, p. 458; 1897, p. 174.

11. A lodge may not try its Master or a Warden during the term of his office. After

the expiration of his term he may be tried for an offense other than official misconduct; for this he is amenable only to the Grand Lodge. 1872, p. 458.

12. All proceedings relating to the suspension, expulsion or restoration of a member must be taken at stated communications. 1873, p. 634.

13. It is not the duty of a lodge to procure counsel for an accused brother. 1870, p. 45.

14. If a committee appointed pursuant to the Code for Trial of Charges neglect its duty or refuses to serve, a new committee must be appointed in the manner designated for the original appointment. 1881, p. 384.

15. Every brother is presumed to be innocent until he is proved guilty. 1867, p. 235; 1897, p. 174.

16. A member convicted of a Masonic offense for which no penalty is inflicted remains in good standing. 1881, p. 384.

17. Charges may be presented against an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason for improper conduct committed either prior or subsequent to the time he was proposed

for membership. 1882, p. 60; 1919, p. 365; 1921, pp. 240, 331.

18. A Past Master under charges may not demand that the committee be composed exclusively of Past Masters. 1886, p. 63.

19. The evidence of an expelled Mason may be received in a Masonic trial, but he may not act as counsel. 1872, p. 457.

20. The accuser may not call upon the accused to substantiate the charge. The accused may testify in his own behalf, and the accuser or his counsel has the right to cross-examine him. 1875, p. 231.

21. A confession of guilt is competent evidence in a Masonic trial. 1880, p. 55.

22. A Master Mason's testimony should be taken upon his honor and the obligation of a Master Mason. 1876, p. 424.

23. When the accused is unable to be present in person, his testimony may be admitted in the form of a legally executed deposition. 1886, p. 63.

24. A member of a committee appointed under the Code for Trial may be called to testify. 1887, p. 261.

25. No member who has not heard the verdict of the committee read in open lodge should be permitted to vote upon the punishment of a convicted brother. 1880, p. 55; 1882, p. 69; 1918, p. 150.

26. When a penalty has been prescribed in pursuance of a ballot regularly taken, the verdict cannot be set aside for alleged misapprehension of the degree of punishment thereby inflicted. 1887, p. 261.

27. If the brother acting as counsel for the accuser or accused is a member of the lodge, he is not thereby deprived of his right to vote upon the punishment of the accused. 1894, p. 59; 1918, p. 150.

28. The accuser who is to take part in the selection of the committee for taking testimony should be notified of the time and place of the meeting for the selection of such committee. 1892, p. 59.

29. A member of a lodge in good standing, one of the principals in a trial held on charges preferred in a sister lodge, or who is counsel for one of the principals, has the right of admission (if vouched for) to the communica-

tions of the lodge at which any of the proceedings concerning such trial are being held. 1888, p. 54.

VISITORS.

1. A Mason unaffiliated for more than six months cannot visit a lodge in this jurisdiction. 1897, p. 137.

2. A brother desiring to visit a lodge (if not vouched for) should be granted an examination, if his admission is not objected to. 1874, p. 47.

3. A visitor must prove himself to be a Master Mason or be regularly vouched for as such. 1887, p. 261.

4. The presentation of a card certifying as to the good and regular standing of the brother; giving the date up to which his dues have been paid; signed by the Secretary, under the seal of the lodge; bearing the brother's signature, written by himself; with the certificate of the Grand Secretary and the seal of the Grand Lodge, attesting the regularity of the lodge issuing it, will be required of a visitor, unless he be vouched for.

All members in good standing are to be provided with such certificate, prepared by the Grand Secretary and furnished to the lodges at actual cost of printing and distribution. 1905, p. 101; 1909, p. 124; 1920, pp. 55, 110.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

Proceedings 1840, page 305.

1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of New Jersey regards the Grand Lodges of the several States and Territories of this Union, which have been heretofore recognized, as holding exclusive jurisdiction within the limits of those States and Territories; and will regard any attempt to violate this principle in this or any other State or Territory as an innovation in the established regulations of the Fraternity, tending to its destruction.

Proceedings 1843, page 334.

2. *Resolved*, That the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are hereby expressly forbidden to introduce within their lodges any spirituous liquor, wine or beer.

Proceedings 1858, page 279.

3. *Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Master be, and he hereby is, authorized to appoint, at his discretion, Grand Representatives to the various Grand Bodies recognized by this Grand

Lodge, whose duties shall be to cultivate a more friendly intercourse between the several Grand Lodges, but without any official authority to act in behalf of this Grand Lodge, unless by its special order, and that said Representatives be subject to removal at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

Proceedings 1868, page 381, and 1914, page 124.

4. *Report of Special Committee on Masonic Clothing:*

“Collars for Grand Officers shall be of the chain pattern, composed of metallic discs, gold-plated one inch and one-sixteenth in diameter, thirty-one in number, connected by links, two for each, which will separate the plates one-quarter of an inch at the nearest point. Upon each of these plates, in relief, shall be a representation of one of the symbols of Freemasonry. A single plate one and a half inches in diameter with the design of the seal of the Grand Lodge similarly inscribed thereon will connect the chain at the bottom, and from this the jewel of office will be suspended.

“The jewels shall be made of French metal, heavily plated with gold, the outside measure-

ment of which shall be three inches; the wreath surrounding the jewel to be made of raised or frosted work, set upon a plain ground half an inch wide.

“Apron shall be of plain white lambskin, lined with purple silk, fourteen by sixteen inches in size, with border of purple silk one inch in width; flaps to be five inches in depth, with similar border; corners to be made square.

“Aprons and collars of lodges shall correspond in size with those of the Grand Officers. Those of the officers shall be of plain white lambskin, devoid of all symbols, lined with material of the same color as that of the border, which shall be of blue silk one inch in width on apron and flaps. They shall have blue cord and tassels. Others to be of lambskin, or white linen, lined with material of the same color. Collars to be of the same pattern as those of the officers of the Grand Lodge, but of silver or silver-plated metal. The jewels to be made of silver or silver-plated. The sides of the square to be three inches long and half an inch wide. The other jewels to be of corresponding size.”

Proceedings 1873, page 641.

5. *Resolved*, That no bills shall hereafter be paid unless the different items are fully specified.

Proceedings 1875, page 237.

6. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to forward to the library of the New Jersey Historical Society a complete copy of the Journal of the Grand Lodge, including the History of Freemasonry in New Jersey, and that this order shall apply to the Journal of the present and all future sessions, until otherwise ordered.

Proceedings 1881, page 393, and 1917, page 324.

7. *Resolved*, That all decisions contained in the Digest that have been overruled by subsequent action of the Grand Lodge are annulled, and may be omitted from all subsequent publication thereof. Decisions hereafter made shall be printed in type of the same size and on paper of the same size as that of the Digest, and sent by the Grand Secretary to the lodges for insertion in their copies thereof.

Proceedings 1886, page 66.

8. *Resolved*, That in making up the minutes of the annual proceedings of the Grand Lodge

the Secretary shall not print the name of the member of any lodge who has been suspended for non-payment of dues and has been restored prior to the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Proceedings 1887, page 258.

9. *Resolved*, That before a candidate is balloted for it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the lodge to which he has made application to ascertain from the Grand Secretary if he has been previously rejected, suspended or expelled by any lodge in the State of New Jersey. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to furnish such information upon application.

Proceedings 1888, page 73.

10. *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Secretaries of lodges to report to the Grand Secretary thirty days before each annual communication the death of each Past Master during the year, together with date of initiation, passing, raising, election to Masonic office and such other facts as would be of interest to the Craft.

Proceedings 1888, page 73.

11. *Resolved*, That aprons to be worn by Past Masters shall be of plain white lamb-

skin, fourteen by sixteen inches in size; flaps to be five inches in depth; corners to be made square; lined with purple silk and trimmed with purple band one inch wide, and shall be worn on all Masonic occasions within this jurisdiction.

Proceedings 1889, page 290, and 1894, page 63.

12. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master shall have power to appoint a private secretary, who shall receive a salary of five hundred dollars per annum.

Proceedings 1891, page 288.

13. *Resolved*, That the petition of a rejected applicant cannot be renewed until the expiration of four weeks from the time of rejection. Lodges may, by a by-law, enlarge the above-stated time.

Proceedings 1892, page 60

14. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of the Secretary of a lodge, on the presentation of a petition for affiliation, to immediately correspond with the lodge from which the applicant dimits to ascertain whether or not he has been a member of said lodge.

Proceedings 1892, page 65.

15. *Resolved*, The several lodges in this jurisdiction are required, from and after the receipt of the annual proceedings of this communication, to secure from the Grand Secretary all blank petitions and reports of investigating committees thereon.

Proceedings 1893, page 58.

16. *Resolved*, That when a petitioner for initiation has been balloted for and rejected, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the lodge to report promptly to the Grand Secretary the name and address of the person so rejected. The Grand Secretary shall record the names and addresses of all rejected petitioners, with the names and numbers of the lodges by which they have been rejected.

Proceedings 1896, page 81.

17. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Grand Lodge that the public installation of officers of lodges is contrary to the spirit and teachings of the Fraternity, and is hereby prohibited.

Proceedings 1898, page 99.

18. *Resolved*, That hereafter the necessary expenses incurred by the District Deputy and

by the committee selected to take evidence in a trial of charges shall be paid by the lodge which has received the charges.

Proceedings 1899, page 136

19. *Resolved*, That the control of the Manual be vested entirely in the Grand Lodge, and that the sale of them be made through the Grand Secretary's office.

Proceedings 1899, page 152, and 1920, pages 47, 108.

20. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary, with the consent of the Grand Master, be permitted to employ such help from time to time as may be thought necessary at such rates of compensation as conditions may require.

Proceedings 1901, page 134

21. *Resolved*, That new by-laws of lodges or amendments thereto shall, subject to the approval of the Grand Master, be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

Proceedings 1902, page 45.

22. All by-laws or amendments thereto shall be sent to the Grand Secretary and be by him transmitted to the proper committee, which, after examination, shall forward them to the Grand Master.

Proceedings 1903, page 115; 1920, page 129; 1921, page 284.

23. (a) That concurrent jurisdiction be granted to all lodges in the cities of Newark and East Orange and the towns of Irvington, Belleville and Nutley.

(b) That concurrent jurisdiction be granted to all lodges in the city of East Orange and the towns of Bloomfield, Belleville and Nutley.

Proceedings 1907, page 196.

24. That the lodges and Past Masters be seated in numerical order of districts, beginning from the East, the odd-numbered districts on the south side of the lodge and the even-numbered districts on the north side of the lodge.

That each District Deputy shall be seated with his district. The District Deputies shall collect all ballots of their respective districts in boxes provided for that purpose, and shall deliver the boxes to the tellers, who shall canvass the votes.

That in case of the absence or disability of a District Deputy the Most Worshipful Grand

Master shall appoint a brother of that district to perform the above duties.

That the ballots of the Grand Lodge officers and those seated on the platform be delivered to the Senior Grand Deacon, who shall deliver them to the tellers.

That during the election of officers, all visitors shall retire, except those who remain by express permission of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a sufficient number of ballot boxes to be used for the purposes as above set forth.

Proceedings 1908, page 102.

25. That reports of all rejections, suspensions, restorations and expulsions, and the names of dimitted and affiliated brethren, be immediately reported by the lodges to the Grand Secretary.

Proceedings 1910, pages 137, 148.

26. That when a degree is conferred upon more than one candidate at the same time officers are authorized to render the ritual in the plural number.

Proceedings 1911, page 134.

27. All securities in which Grand Lodge funds are invested shall be in its name and shall be kept in safe deposit vaults approved by the Grand Master.

Proceedings 1912, page 124.

28. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be designated as the officer in charge of the principal office of this Grand Lodge, upon whom service of process may be made; and, further, that such reports of annual election of officers and trustees or directors be made to the Secretary of State, as required by law.

Proceedings 1915, page 265.

29. *Resolved*, That half-tone reproductions of the various temples now erected by the lodges and used for Masonic purposes only, and of such temples of like character as may hereafter be erected, be published in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Proceedings 1915, page 294.

30. *Resolved*, That it is the desire of the Grand Lodge that the Worshipful Master of each lodge during the term of his office make it his duty to visit the Masonic Home at Burling-

ton and report to his lodge the result of his observation on such visit.

Proceedings 1916, page 90.

31. *Resolved*, That portraits and tablets presented to the Grand Lodge commemorative of deceased brethren be placed in the hall or corridor of the Masonic Home.

Proceedings 1917, page 290.

32. That copies of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge be furnished only to those members of the Grand Lodge who notify the Grand Secretary within thirty days following the Annual Communication of their wish to receive a copy thereof, and that the edition printed be limited to the number necessary to fulfill this requirement, together with a reasonable margin to cover possible contingencies.

GRAND LODGE CHARITY FUND.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

Proceedings 1892, page 58.

“First. That a special assessment of five cents per capita be levied annually on each and every member of the lodges within this jurisdiction, such assessment to accompany the annual returns of the lodges.

“Second. That the funds now deposited with the Trenton Trust and Safe Deposit Company constitute the nucleus of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund, to be kept invested as a permanent Charity Fund forever. That the annual grants of relief shall be made by the Grand Lodge Charity Fund Committee from the five-cent per capita tax, together with moneys that may be granted by the Grand Lodge for that special purpose, and such amounts as shall be donated or bequeathed by any of the brethren to this fund. All unexpended balances from any source remaining at the end of any Masonic year, including unex-

ended balances now on hand, shall be added to the permanent Charity Fund to be invested as aforesaid. All interest derived from the permanent fund shall be added each year to the principal thereof.

“Third, The fund, as above constituted, shall be under the management and control of a committee consisting of the M. W. Grand Master and two members of this Grand Lodge, to be annually appointed, who shall be known and designated as the Grand Lodge Charity Fund Committee, and who shall make full report annually to the Grand Lodge of all of their transactions.

“Fourth, That no moneys shall be disbursed by said committee from said Charity Fund except upon the application from a lodge, which application shall be signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary, under the seal of the lodge; and the decision of the committee upon any case so presented to them for relief shall be absolute and final.

“Fifth. That the Grand Lodge Charity Fund Committee shall have power to make such by-laws as may seem to them wise and

prudent for the government, maintenance and disbursement of this fund.”

Proceedings 1920, pages 52, 145.

“*Sixth.* Any excess of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund over ten thousand dollars shall be paid to the Masonic Home treasury (Permanent Fund), from time to time, as such excess may accrue.”

MASONIC HOME.

ARTICLE 18, OF THE BY-LAWS.

(See page 33.)

Proceedings 1897, page 180; 1922, pages 129, 157, 214; 1923, page 432.

The government and control of the Masonic Home shall hereafter be entrusted to a Board of Governors consisting of five members, one of whom shall be elected for five years at each annual communication, except that the first Board of Governors shall be appointed by the Grand Master for terms of five, four, three, two and one year respectively. Vacancies in the office of Governor created by the death, resignation or removal of an incumbent from the jurisdiction, shall be filled *ad interim* by the Grand Master, until the next annual communication, when an election shall be held for the unexpired term so vacated. It shall be the duty of such Board of Governors to obtain a proper building and surrounding property to be used as a Home for indigent or helpless Masons, their wives, widows and children. The mother

of a Master Mason shall also be eligible for admission to the Home. To adopt all necessary rules and regulations for the government thereof; to prescribe the qualifications for admission to such Home and generally to exercise full control thereof, subject to the direction of the Grand Lodge.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

Proceedings 1898, page 67; 1918, page 132; 1920, pages 44, 107.

1. That the Grand Lodge Permanent Charity Fund be set aside as the nucleus of a permanent fund for the support of the Home, and that all amounts which may hereafter become payable to that fund be disposed of in the same manner. All such funds to be invested and the income paid to the Home Committee for the support of the Home.

2. That the resolution heretofore adopted at the last annual communication regarding the "Home," be amended so as to provide for the admission thereto of wives of indigent Masons.

3. That hereafter, in addition to the dues now paid by the lodges, each lodge be required to pay to the Grand Secretary, at the time of

filing its annual report, the sum of one dollar for each member in good standing of such lodge. Sums so received to be paid to the "Home Committee," to be used for the maintenance of the Home.

Proceedings 1898, page 95.

4. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Masonic Home shall have and exercise entire supervision over the affairs of said Home; shall have power to appoint all employes to be employed therein; to fix their compensation and discharge them at pleasure; to purchase all supplies and other articles necessary to be used therein; to audit and to pay all bills incurred in said Home for all expenses connected with the administration thereof; and also to bind out, indenture or otherwise put at work all orphan children in the limits of said Home in their discretion. The Maintenance Fund shall at all times be subject to the draft of the chairman and treasurer of the Home Committee.

5. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master shall have power in his discretion to appoint a committee of women, who shall have and exercise a general oversight over the domestic affairs

of said Home, with authority to advise with and make recommendations in relation thereto to the Home Committee only.

Proceedings 1899, page 137; 1900, page 153, and 1920, pages 44, 107.

6. *Resolved*, That each initiate, each affiliate from a foreign jurisdiction, or who was not a member of a lodge in this jurisdiction on the 1st day of January, 1897, upon affiliation, and each suspended or expelled Mason who was expelled or suspended prior to January 1st, 1897, upon his reinstatement shall be required to pay, in addition to all other fees or charges, the sum of ten dollars, to be applied to the uses of the Masonic Home as directed by this Grand Lodge.

Lodges are required to make it clear to initiates that the Masonic Home fee is in addition to the initiation fee of the lodge.

Proceedings 1900, page 99; 1918, page 132, and 1920, pages 44, 107.

7. *Resolved*, That the amounts received from initiates, now fixed at ten dollars, shall be applied with the per capita tax of one dollar, in the first instance, to the support of the Home,

any balance remaining unexpended at the end of each year to be turned into the permanent fund.

Proceedings 1901, page 128.

8. *Resolved*, In order to simplify the collection of fees from candidates for the three degrees of Masonry, it shall be permitted for any lodge in this jurisdiction to increase its initiation fee by a sum sufficient to cover any requirement of the Grand Lodge in effect at the time for the maintenance of the Masonic Home, such lodge to make immediate payment from its treasury of the necessary amount for the support of the above-named institution.

Proceedings 1902, page 116.

9. *Resolved*, That some day in the year be set apart, under the direction of the Grand Lodge, to be known as Donation Day, to the Masonic Home.

Proceedings 1905, page 100.

10. *Resolved*, That a day in each year be designated and known as Visitors' Day to the Home, when brethren are requested, as far as possible, to visit and inspect that institution.

Proceedings 1905, page 102.

11. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge is hereby authorized at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge to appoint a Chaplain for the Masonic Home, who shall, under the direction of the committee, have charge of all the religious exercises at the Home, and exercise the usual functions of pastor to the inmates; the expenses incurred by him in the performance of those duties to be paid from the Maintenance Fund.

Proceedings 1920, pages 46, 108.

12. The Order of the Eastern Star shall be allowed a representation on the Committee of Ladies having oversight of the domestic affairs of the Masonic Home.

LANDMARKS.

The following ten landmarks are the result of the committee's work after a year's investigation and reported on at the annual communication, March 11th, 1903:

(For report of committee, see proceedings 1903, pages 107 to 114, inclusive.)

GOD—

1. Belief in God as the Great Architect and Supreme Ruler of the Universe.

THE GREAT LIGHT IN MASONRY—

2. The acceptance of the revealed Word of God as the rule and guide for our faith and practice, and its visible presence in every lodge.

THE GRAND MASTER—

3. The Grand Master is elected by the Craft, and holds office until his successor is duly installed. He is the *ruler* of the Craft and is, of right, the presiding officer of every assemblage of Masons as such. He may, within his jurisdiction, convene a lodge at any time or place and do Masonic work therein; may create lodges by his warrant, and arrest

the warrant of any lodge. He may suspend, during his pleasure, the operation of any rule or regulation of Masonry not a "Landmark." He may suspend the installed officers of any lodge and reinstate them at pleasure, and is not answerable for his acts as Grand Master. He may depute any brother to do any act in his absence which he himself might do if present.

THE LODGE—

4. A Masonic lodge must have a Master and two Wardens, and when convened for Masonic work must be duly tyled.

THE CANDIDATE—

5. No person can be made a Mason unless he be a man free-born, of mature and discreet age, of good character and reputation and having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art or of being advanced to the several degrees. nor unless he apply for admission without solicitation and take upon himself the Masonic obligations. Nor can he be admitted to membership in a Masonic lodge except upon a secret ballot by the brethren of that lodge.

THE BRETHREN—

6. Masons, as such, are equal; possess the right to visit every lodge or assembly of Masons where their presence will not disturb the peace and harmony of the same, and to appeal to the General Assembly of Masons, or its substitute, the Grand Lodge, whenever aggrieved by any act of a lodge.

MASTERS AND WARDENS—

7. The Master of a lodge, before his election as such, must have served as a Warden. He and the Wardens are elected by the members of the lodge, but hold their offices, by virtue of the warrant of the Grand Master, until their successors have qualified. They are his representatives in the lodge, and are not, therefore, responsible to the lodge for their official acts, nor can they be tried or disciplined by the lodge during their term of office.

JURISDICTION—

8. Every Mason, for Masonic purposes, is subject to the jurisdiction of the lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides.

SECRECY—

9. The legend of the third degree; the means of recognition; the methods of conferring degrees; the obligations of those degrees and the ballot of every brother are and must continue to be inviolably secret.

DEGREES—

10. Ancient Craft Masonry includes only the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees.

THE CHARGES OF A FREEMASON

EXTRACTED FROM

THE ANCIENT RECORDS OF LODGES BEYOND SEA, AND OF THOSE IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND, FOR THE USE OF THE LODGES IN LONDON.

TO BE READ

At the making of NEW BRETHREN, or when the MASTER shall order it.

CHARGE I.

Concerning GOD and RELIGION.

A *Mason* is obliged by his Tenure, to obey the moral Law; and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid *Atheist*, nor an irreligious *Libertine*. But though in ancient Times Masons were charged in every Country to be of the Religion of that Country or Nation, whatever it was, yet 'tis now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that Religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves; that is, to be *good Men and true*, or men of Honour and Honesty, by whatever Denominations or Persuasions they

may be distinguished; whereby Masonry becomes the *centre of Union*, and the means of conciliating true Friendship among Persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance.

CHARGE II.

Of the CIVIL MAGISTRATE *Supreme and subordinate.*

A *Mason* is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion, so ancient Kings and Princes have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their Peaceableness and *Loyalty*, whereby they practically answered the cavils of their Adversaries, and promoted the Honour of the Fraternity, whoever flourished in Times of Peace. So that if a Brother should be a Rebel against the state, he is not to be countenanced in his Rebellion, however he may be pitied as an unhappy man; and if convicted of no other

crime, though the loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his Rebellion, and give no Umbrage or Ground of political Jealousy to the Government for the time being; they cannot expel him from the *Lodge*, and his Relation to it remains indefeasible.

CHARGE III.

Of LODGES.

A *LODGE* is a Place where *Masons* assemble and work. Hence that Assembly, or duly organized Society of Masons, is called a *LODGE*, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its *By-Laws* and the *GENERAL REGULATIONS*. It is either *particular* or *general*, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the Regulations of the *General* or *Grand Lodge* hereunto annexed. In ancient Times, no *Master* or *Fellow* could be absent from it, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, until it appeared to the *Master* and *Wardens*, that pure Necessity hindered him.

The Persons admitted members of a *Lodge*, must be good and true Men, free born, and of

mature and discreet Age, no Bondmen, no Women, no immoral or scandalous Men, but of good Report.

CHARGE IV.

Of MASTERS, WARDENS, Fellows, and
Apprentices.

All preferment among *Masons* is grounded upon real Worth and personal Merit only; that so the *Lords* may be well served, the Brethren not put to Shame, nor the *Royal Craft* despised: Therefore no *Master* or *Warden* is chosen by Seniority, but for his Merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and every Brother must attend in his Place, and learn them in a way peculiar to *this Fraternity*: Only *Candidates* may know, that no *Master* should take an *Apprentice*, unless he has sufficient Employment for him, and unless he be a perfect Youth, having no Maim or Defect in his Body, that may render him incapable of learning the *Art*, of serving his *Master's* LORD, and of being made a *Brother*, and then a *Fellow Craft* in due time, even after he has served such a Term of Years as the Custom of

the Country directs; and that he should be descended of honest Parents; that so, when otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the Honour of being the WARDEN, and then the *Master* of the *Lodge*, the *Grand Warden*, and at length the GRAND MASTER of all the *Lodges*, according to his Merit.

No Brother can be a WARDEN until he has passed the Part of a *Fellow Craft*; nor a MASTER until he has acted as a *Warden*, nor GRAND WARDEN until he has been *Master* of a *Lodge*, nor GRAND MASTER unless he has been a *Fellow Craft* before his Election, who is also to be nobly born, or a *Gentleman* of the best Fashion, or some eminent *Scholar*, or some curious *Architect*, or other *Artist*, descended of honest Parents, and who is of singular great Merit in the Opinion of the *Lodges*. And for the better, and easier and more honourable Discharge of his Office, the *Grand Master* has a Power to chuse his own DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, who must be then, or must have been formerly, the *Master* of a particular *Lodge*, and has the Privilege of acting whatever the GRAND MASTER, his *Principal*, should act, unless the said

Principal be present, or interpose his Authority by a Letter.

These Rulers and Governors, *supreme* and *subordinate* of the ancient *Lodge*, are to be obeyed in their respective Stations by all the Brethren, according to the *old Charges* and *Regulations*, with all Humility, Reverence, Love and Alacrity.

CHARGE V.

Of the MANAGEMENT of the CRAFT in working.

All *Masons* shall work honestly on working Days, that they may live creditably on *holy Days*; and the time appointed by the Law of the Land, or confirmed by Custom, shall be observed.

The most expert of the *Fellow Craftsmen* shall be chosen or appointed the *Master* or Overseer of the *Lord's* work; who is to be called MASTER by those that work under him. The *Craftsmen* are to avoid all ill Language, and to call each other by no disobliging Name, but *Brother* or *Fellow*; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The *Master*, knowing himself to be able of Cunning, shall undertake the *Lord's* Work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his Goods as if they were his own; nor to give more Wages to any brother or *Apprentice* than he really may deserve.

Both the *Master* and the *Masons* receiving their Wages justly, shall be faithful to the *Lord*, and honestly finish their Work, whether *Task* or *Journey*; nor put the Work to *Task* that hath been accustomed to *Journey*.

None shall discover Envy at the Prosperity of a Brother, nor supplant him, or put him out of his Work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no Man can finish another's Work so much to the *Lord's* Profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the Designs and Draughts of him that began it.

When a *Fellow Craftsman* is chosen *Warden* of the Work under the *Master*, he shall be true both to *Master* and *Fellows*, shall carefully oversee the work in the *Master's* Absence to the *Lord's* Profit: and his Brethren shall obey him.

All *Masons* employed, shall meekly receive their Wages without Murmuring or Mutiny, and not desert the *Master* till the Work is finished.

A *younger* Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the Materials for want of Judgment, and for increasing and continuing of *Brotherly Love*.

All the Tools used in Working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No *Labourer* shall be employed in the proper Work of *Masonry*; nor shall FREE MASONS work with those that are *not free*, without an urgent Necessity; nor shall they teach *Labourers* and *unaccepted* Masons, as they should teach a *Brother* or *Fellow*.

CHARGE VI.

OF BEHAVIOUR, viz. : *In the LODGE while CONSTITUTED.*

1. You are not to hold private Committees, or separate Conversation, without Leave from the *Master*, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the *Master* or *Wardens*, or any Brother speaking to the

Master; Nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the *Lodge* is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming Language upon any pretence whatsoever; but to pay due Reverence to your *Master*, *Wardens*, and *Fellows*, and put them to worship.

If any Complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the award and Determination of the *Lodge*, who are the proper and competent Judges of all such controversies (unless you carry it by *Appeal* to the GRAND LODGE), and to whom they ought to be referred, unless a *Lord's* Work be hindered the mean while, in which case a particular Reference may be made; but you must never go to Law about what concerneth *Masonry*, without an absolute necessity apparent to the *Lodge*.

BEHAVIOUR *after the LODGE is over and the BRETHREN not gone.*

2. You may enjoy yourselves with innocent Mirth, treating one another according to Ability, but avoiding all Excess, or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his Inclination, or hindering him from going when his Occa-

sions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an *easy and free* Conversation, for that would blast our Harmony, and defeat our laudable Purposes. Therefore no private Piques or Quarrels must be brought within the door of the *Lodge*, far less any Quarrels about *Religion*, or *Nations*, or *State Policy*, we being only, as *Masons*, of the *Catholic Religion* above mentioned, we are also of all *Nations*, *Tongues*, *Kindreds* and *Languages*, and are resolved against ALL POLITICKS, as what never yet conducted to the Welfare of the *Lodge*, nor ever will. This *Charge* has been always strictly enjoined and observed; but especially ever since the *Reformation* in BRITAIN, or the Dissent and Secession of these Nations from the *Communion of ROME*.

BEHAVIOUR *when Brethren meet without Strangers, but not in a LODGE FORMED.*

3. You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other *Brother*, freely giving mutual Instruction as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from

that Respect which is due to any Brother, were he not a Mason: For though all *Masons* are as *Brethren* upon the same *Level*, yet *Masonry* takes no Honour from a Man that he had before; nay rather it adds to his Honour, especially if he has deserved well of the Brotherhood, who must give Honour to whom it is due, and avoid *ill Manners*.

BEHAVIOUR in *Presence of Strangers not MASONS.*

4. You shall be cautious in your Words and Carriage, that the most penetrating Stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the Honour of the *Worshipful Fraternity*.

BEHAVIOUR *at HOME and in your Neighborhood.*

5. You are to act as becomes a moral and Wise Man; particularly, not to let your Family, Friends, and Neighbours know the *Concerns* of the *Lodge*, &c., but wisely to consult your own Honour, and that of the *ancient Brother-*

hood, for Reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your Health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from Home, after Lodge hours are past; and by avoiding of Gluttony or Drunkenness, that your Families be not neglected, or injured, nor you disabled from Working.

BEHAVIOUR *towards a Strange Brother.*

6. You are cautiously to examine him, in such a Method as Prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant false *Pretender*, whom you are to reject with Contempt and Derision, and beware of giving him any hints of Knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine *Brother*, you are to respect him accordingly; and if he is in want, you must relieve him if you can, or else direct him how he may be relieved. You must employ him some days, or else recommend him to be employed. But you are not charged to do beyond your Ability, only to prefer a poor *Brother*, that is a *good Man and true*, before any other poor People in the same circumstances.

FINALLY, All these CHARGES you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated to you in *another way*; cultivating BROTHERLY LOVE, the Foundation and Capstone, the *Cement and Glory* of this Ancient *Fraternity*, avoiding all Wrangling and Quarrelling, all Slander and Backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest Brother, but defending his Character, and doing him all good Offices, as far as is consistent with your *Honour and Safety*, and no further. And if any of them do you Injury, you must apply to your own or his *Lodge*; and from thence you may appeal to the GRAND LODGE at the *quarterly Communication*, and from thence to the *Annual GRAND LODGE*, as has been the ancient laudable Conduct of our Forefathers in every nation; never taking a *legal Course* but when the case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly advice of *Master and Fellows*, when they would prevent your going to Law with *Strangers*, or would excite you to put a speedy Period to all *Lawsuits*, that so you may mind the *Affair* of MASONRY with the more Alacrity and Success, but with respect to *Brothers* or *Fellows* at Law,

the *Master* and *Brethren* should kindly offer their *Mediation*, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending *Brethren*; and if that submission is impracticable, they must however carry on their *Process*, or *Lawsuit*, without *Wrath* and *Rancor* (not in the common way) saying or doing nothing which may hinder *Brotherly Love*, and good *Offices* to be renewed and continued; that all may see the *benign Influence* of MASONRY, as all true *Masons* have done from the *Beginning* of the *World*, and will do to the end of *Time*.

AMEN, SO MOTE IT BE.

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