

On the 11th ult. the brethren of Clifton, Ontario, met with a heavy loss through the destruction by fire of the buildings in which their lodge-room was located.

Masonry has survived the vicissitudes, the wars, and has witnessed the rise and growth of all the nations on the face of the globe.

MASONIC FUNERALS, as we all know, are neglected rather than attended. Would it not be well to adopt something like the by-law of a certain California Lodge, which requires all of its members who are well, and in the city, to attend a deceased Brother's funeral, or else pay one dollar for the luxury of absence?

Banks are authorized by law to cancel all counterfeit money offered them. If lodges had the authority to cancel all counterfeit material passed upon them in the way of Masonic tramps, they would slit many a nose, hamstring many a leg, and put horsehair into many a lying tongue. But, then, the law is in the way, and all we can lawfully do is to apply the apex of our boot to the basis of their bodies and so assist their departure.

There is, we are sorry to say, too much truth in the complaint as to want of courtesy and promptitude in the examination of visitors and in the nonchalant way they are left to themselves when admitted. We have been in the habit for years past of referring to these matters whenever we have officiated at an installation, and we do not despair of bringing about a better state of affairs.—*M. W. Bro. John W. Simons.*

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THE TELEPHONE AT THE MASONIC TEMPLE.—The stated meeting of Franklin Lodge, No. 134, A.Y.M., on Monday evening last, was an unusually interesting occasion. The lodge was visited by the members of Merchantville Lodge, of Merchantville, N.J., and a banquet in honor of the event was given by Bro. E. L. Fenimore, the Worshipful Master of Franklin. Upon entering the refreshment hall a wire attached to a telegraphic instrument was discovered by the party assembled, and upon inquiry it was stated that there would be an experiment on a newly-discovered telephone. After the songs, speeches, &c., incident to occasions of the kind, Prof. Fred. Schuellerman stepped to the front of the instrument and called the attention of those present to the fact that a short time since, at the Academy of Music, the telephone for the first time had been operated before a Philadelphia audience, and through the kindness of the Western Union Telegraph Company, arrangements had been made to repeat the experiment. After a great deal of clatter from the telegraphic instrument, the Professor informed the brethren that the line to New York was clear, when all attention was given, and all leaned anxiously forward to catch the first audible sounds. Soon faint notes from something resembling a Jew's harp were heard. After another severe struggle the dulcet strains of "Home, Sweet Home," stole softly through the hall, then suddenly broke off. After this grand success, and a vote of thanks to the Western Union, Bro. Schuellerman stated that while the experiment at the Academy was made with a battery consisting of one hundred cells, the one just made consisted of but one cell, and throwing up the curtain, it was discovered that Bro. W.-B. Warne (recently of the H. of C.), with a mouth organ in his hand, occupied a position at the other end of the line. Of course all present acknowledged themselves sold, and that too, on the last of April, but Bro. S. was warned that to make his telephone a complete success in the future he would have to test the credulity of the people outside of the membership of Franklin Lodge.—*Philadelphia Sunday Republic.*