

How is this thing to be obviated? The fault is with the officers, especially the presiding officers of the subordinate Councils—with us, who are the representatives of these Councils. We fail by precept and example to commend our beloved Order to those without the S. V., and to inspire our select with interest in the beauty and attractiveness of these degrees when properly presented. We fail in an imperative duty, in enforcing a solemn by-law to meet at stated times. If we are unable to have a quorum otherwise, our number complete, we should have recourse to the summons, and thereby exact attendance. And if we fail in this, it is better, much better, to surrender the charters. Let us by all means "maintain and support our by-laws," and other regulations to which we are solemnly pledged. We should not fail to have our stated assemblies, practice in the ceremonies of opening and closing and in the exemplification of the work, when there is no material upon which to work, and soon, very soon, the indifference and want of interest referred to will give way to interest and zeal in the cause.

There is no such thing as standing still in Masonry—we must go forward and improve, or must retrograde. If our Councils, of which we are the representatives and presiding officers, are dying or inactive, we are to blame. There is too much intrinsic worth and beauty in Cryptic Masonry not to be made attractive when properly set forth. There is nothing in Masonry that excels these degrees in beauty, impressiveness, or Masonic lore. We should therefore, not only make them so attractive as to be sought after, but so inspire those already in the S. V. with such interest as to render it difficult rather not to have present at each of our stated assemblies our number, "three times nine."

And permit me Companions, to add, that if the officers of the different Councils will learn well the ritual and faithfully perform their duty, they will not only themselves appreciate this rite, but their members will also. Let each one of us, then, on this occasion renew our vows, repledge our faith, and go forward determined to labor more faithfully in the S. V. until our work is complete.

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PRESENTATION.—Pursuant to an unanimous resolution of the St. Paul's Lodge, No. 107, Lambeth, passed at the regular October Communication, W. Bro. J. M. Banghart, W. M., Bro. W. H. Bartram, S. W., and W. Bro. James O'Connor, P. M., had manufactured a neat and fine Past Master's Jewel at W. D. McGloghlan's jewellery establishment, London, Ontario, and on the twenty-first day of October last waited upon W. Bro. Odell, P. M. of the Lodge, at his residence, in Westminster, and presented him with the Jewel, in the name of the Lodge, together with an address, engrossed on parchment, and signed by them, expressive of the good feeling of the brethren in which W. Bro. Odell is held, both personally and on account of his efficient and untiring services to the Lodge.

W. Bro. Odell in accepting the present addressed the brethren as follows:

WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:—In accepting this beautiful present, I must return you my most sincere and heartfelt thanks. I must assure you that nothing could have given me more pleasure than being the recipient of this testimonial, not for its intrinsic value, but for the prior motive, which, I am aware, has prompted the donors in presenting it. It shows there still exists a certain degree of good feeling towards your humble servant for past services rendered this Lodge. Brethren, it is some six years since I became connected with the Fraternity and that of St. Paul's Lodge, No. 107. Since that time I have at all times endeavored to elevate the standard of Freemasonry, to advance the interests of the fraternity in general, and more particularly that of St. Paul's Lodge, No. 107; although I must say that my labors in connection with this Lodge has sometimes been attended with some considerable pain and very great difficulties over which I had no control, notwithstanding, those difficulties which have intercepted me in the discharge of my duties. I have persevered in regularly attending the Lodge, and I am proud to stand before you to-night and hear you say that I have always discharged my duties faithfully. Brethren, I feel as though I had scarcely done my duty to the Lodge, if I have. I am confident I have done nothing more. In justice to the members of this Lodge, I must thank you all for the courtesy, good feeling, and assistance, which, at all times, have been bestowed upon me in the discharge of my different and respective offices, and more particularly to our present Worshipful Master, J. M. Banghart. Worshipful Sir and Brethren, I must again thank you for this testimonial, assuring you that it will always be considered and cherished by me as one of the most highly prized gifts of my life, and when the Great Architect of the Universe shall have called me from this sublimary abode, it will be retained with the same due respect by the remaining members of my family. I shall conclude by wishing our Lodge the same prosperity in the future which has attended it in the past.