

agent of his Lodge, and the proper custodian of its funds, and to refuse benefits under such circumstances, would not be consistent with the just and liberal spirit of our Laws.

The Grand Lodge decided that when the law of the Lodge required payment of dues to the Secretary, a payment made to the Treasurer, who withholds it, does not bind the Lodge.

The following decisions were made by the Grand Lodge upon reports of Committees, to whom the subjects were referred. That when local laws require a majority of two-thirds present to be necessary to expel, that member excused from voting must be counted as present, and in fact as voting in the negative.

That when the By-laws of a Lodge limit the Candidates on a second ballot to the two highest on the first ballot, all votes cast for other Candidates on the second ballot are void.

That a Grand Lodge is not liable for the indebtedness of one of its defunct Subordinates, arising out of advances made by a Lodge in a Sister jurisdiction to one of its sick members, unless it appears that assets sufficient to discharge the debt belonging to the defunct Lodge, come into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge.

That when a brother without the term pass-word shall apply for admission to his own Lodge, the Noble Grand shall, after he has been satisfied of the good standing of the brother, direct his admission.

None of the proposed amendments to the Constitution were adopted.

I also attended the Session for 1860, which commenced its sittings in the city of Nashville, Tennessee; on the 17th September. The R. W. Grand Sire was not present, and the chair was filled during the session by the R. W. Deputy Grand Sire, Edward H. Fitzhugh, of Virginia. The debates were unusually lively, contested, and extended, and brought out, in full relief, the promptness, the perspicacity, firmness and courtesy which distinguished the presiding officer.

#### DECISIONS MADE.

The following decisions, applicable to the branch of the Order which I represent were made:

Where the Degrees are conferred by a regular Degree Lodge, separate from the Subordinates, the application of the brother desiring the degree must be acted upon in his Subordinate Lodge by such members only as have taken the degree applied for. If the application is granted, a certificate of the fact is given to the applicant, which certificate being presented to the Degree Lodge, authorizes it to confer the degree.

It is not legal to ballot upon the application to have the Rebekah Degree conferred upon brothers' wives when objections are made. The Degree of Rebekah is conferred on the wives of scarlet members in good standing, as a matter of course.

It is not competent for a Subordinate Encampment, or Lodge, to insert in its Constitution a provision that a member who may draw a final card, shall have the privilege of depositing the same in said Lodge within a specified time, by a simple vote of the Lodge, instead of a ballot vote, as in the case of initiating members. The laws of the Order clearly provide *the way* in which a person may regain membership upon card, and a Lodge granting a final card has no more power to depart from that *way* when the person holding that card seeks to