

all, make your lodge-room homelike, your ritualistic accompaniments attractive, every rank artistic in its settings, and perfect in its rendition—then call in the entertainment fiend, and ask him to look "on this picture and then on that"—then keep it up.

Oh, had our readers been with us at Kansas City, in 1892, up in that hall, on the night when Lima Lodge, No. 91, exemplified the new ritual before the Supreme Lodge, and heard, out of the perfect stillness, the author of the part, Brother Walter B. Ritchie, deliver the monitorial injunction—would they tell us that such cannot inspire and enthuse, and lead to greater interest?—but if there be any "doubting Thomas," let him apply the remedy suggested—he will soon be convinced.

One more word in connection with this subject—it is in regard to the opening and closing ceremonies. There is no justification, absolutely none, for the officers of a lodge reading their parts from a book—every lodge should insist on the memorising of these parts—if necessary the officers should be shamed into it. When the writer of these words was a boy, he had daily to commit to memory a great deal more; otherwise he heard and felt "the patter of the shingle," and all that day was "sadder when he sat;" that's about all the comment and illustration we have to offer on the latter phase of the ritual question.

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#### THE PYTHIAN GOAT.

When a man begins to weary of his honeymoon at home,  
And he feels a trifle leary of the scenes he used to roam,  
When he longs for recreation and to spend an idle groat.  
Then he files his application—to the K. P. Goat.

When "the boys" have looked him over and concluded that he's "game,"  
And no black balls are discovered in the ballot on his name,  
He's informed that he's elected, and he dons his Sunday coat.  
And prepares to be inspected by the K. P. Goat.

Then his wife's distress he softens with his "business out of town,"  
And his quaking nerves he stiffens—with a call on Jonas Brown,  
And he gets his last instruction upon how to "swear by rote,"  
With a stunning introduction—to the K. P. Goat.

Ah, it makes him very "friendly" to receive his first degree,  
And he smiles so very blandly when he meets a real K. P.  
And they give the grip as, winking, they adjourn by mutual vote,  
Just to celebrate by drinking—to the K. P. Goat.

But his business keeps on raising in the line of "foreign trade,"  
And it doesn't seem surprising when another call is made,  
And he has to leave the city, by the evening

train or boat,  
While he sings a second ditty—to the K. P. Goat.

But he's getting to be more "careful" when he's had the second rank,  
When his wife grows scared and tearful at his antics queer and crank,  
And he mutters while he's sleeping—though the words die in his throat—  
As he dreams he hears the bleating—of the K. P. Goat.

Then at last he gets his courage to the proper sticking point,  
And he braves the whole entourage of the bloody K. P. joint,  
And declares himself as ready for the test on which we dote,  
And be placed and braced and steady—for the K. P. Goat.

Now I'll have to draw the curtain on the scenes that follow here,  
Though of all things this is certain that he shows no sign of fear;  
But a Brother and a hero as all gallant knights will vote,  
Though his heart went down to zero—at the K. P. Goat.

When at last his wife's suspicions can no longer be allayed,  
And his little impositions and excuses all are played,  
He's compelled to make confession how he ripped his Sunday coat,  
And he vows it's the impression—of the K. P. Goat.

—Judge George D. Emory in  
"Pythian Advocate."

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A communication from Grand Chancellor Young, of Ohio, asking the co-operation of this Domain, in securing from the Supreme Lodge a cipher key to the Ritual, came before the Grand Lodge, and after some discussion was laid over until the next session.

A communication from the Grand Domain of Missouri, on reduction of the expenses of the Supreme Lodge, was also laid over for one year.

The Grand Lodge, by resolution, was instructed to recommend to each subordinate lodge that the best available brother be secured for the office of M. of F., and that he be paid a small salary for his services, having for its object the lessening of suspensions for N. P. D. in this Grand Domain.

New charters were granted Royal, No. 6, and Granite, No. 16, in lieu of the old charters destroyed in the recent disastrous fire at New Westminster; also to Gold Range Lodge, No. 26, Revelstoke—the baby lodge of this Domain.

[The balance of the proceedings will be published in our next issue].

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Quality is of more importance than quantity. A lodge with one hundred live, active members is of more use to the Order than a lodge of four hundred members having about ten per cent. of attendants.—"Keystone Pythian."