

Again, the Tyler is allowed to leave the door of the Lodge. Petty differences, and even the business of the Lodge, are made matters of public discussion, with the inevitable result that *disgust* usurps the place of *respect*, and the Lodge languishes for the want of healthy seed.

But the most fruitful source of decay is to be traced to the careless selection of the Executive of the Lodge. Lodges are invariably found to be flourishing when none but *proved* and *well-skilled* Brethren are promoted. The contrary is just as invariably the case where indiscriminate advancement obtains.

The remedy in these cases speaks for itself ; but, in addition, I would recommend that more interest be taken in the general history of Masonry, outside of the mere exemplification of the beautiful work as laid down in our ritual. Here lies a vast and profitable field for investigation. In the hands of a well-skilled Brother, a lecture or essay on the History and Progress of Masonry would relieve the monotony of ordinary routine work, and to many would be the "open sesame" to an unknown country. With such complete works as are now extant, the epitomizing of such ought to be a matter easy of accomplishment. I earnestly commend the attention of the Brethren to this subject.

For the benefit of the outlying districts, I beg leave to recommend that a clause be inserted in the revised edition of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, either defining the geographical limits, or giving the names and numbers of the Lodges included in the several districts. The want of such is at times a source of considerable annoyance, as the only source of definite information is the office of the Grand Secretary.

I would also beg leave to recommend that the printed copies of the Proceedings of Grand Lodge for 5889, and each succeeding year, contain a list of all the Past Officers of this Grand Lodge. Again, the only source for information in this respect is Grand Secretary's office ; and I consider this Grand Lodge owes it to itself that a proper and comprehensive list of Brethren it has honored should be at its disposal.

I have endeavored, by means of correspondence and several visits, to carry out the wishes of Grand Lodge in regard to Excelsior