

part of the members to take possession of their own property, contrary to the wishes of the landlord." This extraordinary conduct led to an enquiry before the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, on April 12th, 1827, "when, after all parties had been heard, the landlord was admonished, and he also admitted himself to have been in error in acting in the way he had done." The landlord (Brother Smith tells us) was in an angry mood, on finding the "limbs of the law" were powerless, and told the members to take all that belonged to them. The brethren took him at his word *there and then*, and a general stampede ensued. Each brother became an honorary carrier or porter, and soon all the furniture and other properties of the lodge were removed. The Entered Apprentice, who had been accepted that evening, was peculiarly unfortunate in the choice of furniture, for he took one of the Warden's candlesticks, "*in which the pound candle was yet burning, and carried it alight through the street.*" He probably thought it was always burning, fire being one of the elements of Rosicrucianism. Whatever he thought, another element entered into the affair, for the current of air "caused the grease to melt, which flowed in a copious stream down his coat," making it necessary for some components of the earth and of water to be called into operation to cleanse his suit of clothes. The whole of the effects were removed that evening in a manner we expect unique in the history of Masonic lodges.

The foundation stone of the hall was laid in Masonic form by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Brother R. M. Beverly, May 7th, 1827. Unanimity was not quite in the ascendancy at the time, for we find for members were expelled in one night. The vacancy thus caused was more than filled in by nineteen new members being accepted at the following meeting, but it is a sad blot on the records of any lodge to find so many notes of discord. The first meeting of the lodge was held in the Masonic hall September 19th, 1827, and a commemorative banquet was served October, 3d, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master "being on the throne." New by-laws, passed July 31st, 1828, by the Provincial authorities, put an end to any more unseamly altercations, for the stringent code of laws made matters go on smoothly. January 19th, 1830, was started the "*Humber Lodge Fund of Benevolence*," which, from a small beginning, has become a most prosperous institution in the town and port of Hull. Brother Smith observes as to this, "What effect this fund may have had in recommending this lodge to the notice of parties desirous of becoming Masons, and keeping them together afterwards, I leave it for you to judge; one thing is perfectly plain, that from the half dozen old men who made Masonry an excuse for meeting together, principally for purposes of social enjoyment, the lodge has risen to a height of almost unexampled prosperity amongst the provincial lodges of the country." At the present time the "Benevolent and Pension Fund amounts to about £5,000, and the annual income (including the fees and subscriptions payable in part from the Lodge funds) is upwards of £400. Every member of the Lodge has to be a member of the fund, and pay the stipulated subscriptions. Temporary relief may be granted not to exceed *ten pounds* in one year to the same individual, and sums are paid on the decease of a member (varying according to period of membership) to the legal representatives. A pension of sixteen pounds a year is also granted to indigent members who have attained the age of sixty-five, or earlier, if circumstances so warrant. Membership of the fund is forfeited on the committal of felony "or other crime amenable to the laws of the kingdom, or on being excluded under any of the rules of the Lodge."

The value of the Masonic hall and furniture is about £2,500, and the Lodge has also a "*Poor Fund*" for the education of children of deceased members and casual relief; also for the purpose of aiding local benevolent institutions not of a Masonic character, as well as to grant donations to our regular Masonic charities. An "*Independent Sinking Fund*" completes the list, and trustees for all these are elected by the Lodge. The membership is now about two hundred and fifty.

In conclusion, we cannot but render testimony to the faithfulness with which Bro. Smith has written the history of the Humber Lodge, for apart from the faulty introduction, we admire the care and fidelity traceable throughout the little book. The progress of the Lodge for the last quarter of a century, we must reserve for another time.—*Voice of Masonry.*

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The Grand Lodge of Kentucky held its Annual Communication at Louisville, Oct. 17-20, and elected the following officers: Bros. R. M. Fairleigh, of Hopkinsville, G. M.; C. H. Johnson, of Henderson, D. G. M.; Jake Rice, of Louisville, G. S. W.; Thos. S. Pettit, of Owensboro. G. J. W.; A. G. Hodges, of Louisville, Grand Treasurer; John M. Todd, of Louisville, Grand Secretary. v