

The hour of burial drew nigh, there was no open grave, no freshly turned mound, no waving plumes, but the glorious flags of Old England folded the stranger and drooped mournfully over his head. ¶

The ship's bell pealed solemnly across the waves. All hands were summoned upon deck, and mournfully did the words fall upon the ears of all who heard them, "We commit this body to the deep."

Years have rolled on since that mournful hour, and the happy home of the Aubrey family is yet unbroken by change or death, more have been added to the little group, a lovely home is that. In the small ground appointed for a cemetery stands one marble monument, there is no sacred dust beneath it, waiting the Archangel's trumpet, for he whose death it commemorates lies far away in the arms of the Atlantic. Upon the face of that simple tribute is inscribed, "to the memory of our Brother who died at Sea."

This beautiful spot is a favorite resort of the little ones and their young companions, and Archie now grown into a handsome youth of sixteen is often urged to relate what he so distinctly remembers the tale of the burial at sea. The pale orphan Albert weeps, but soft arms are around him, warm lips upon his cheek, and gentle voices assure him of love, deep and true, and lasting for ever.

HARRIET ANNIE.

PARLIAMENTARY LAW, AS APPLIED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MASONIC BODIES.

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CHAPTER XXIII.

OF QUESTIONS ON CALLING FOR THE YEAS AND NAYS.

In all American legislative assemblies it is provided, that on any pending question a vote by yeas and nays may be called for; that is, that the vote of each member shall be openly given and recorded in the journal. The object of this proceeding is to secure the responsibility of the representative to his constituents, who are thus enabled to know how he voted, and to call him to an account, should he have voted contrary to the views or principles which he was elected to represent.

It is evident that there can be no necessity for such a proceeding in a Masonic Lodge, where every member is independent and responsible only to God and his own conscience for the votes which he may give. To call for the yeas and nays being, then, repugnant to the principles upon which the Masonic institution is founded, if a motion or call for that purpose were to be made, the Master of the Lodge should very properly rule it out of order.

But a different system prevails in conducting the business of Grand Lodges, which consist of representatives, responsible to a constituency whose instructions they are bound to obey. Hence in these bodies, a vote by Lodges, which may be considered as equivalent to a vote by yeas and nays, is allowed and sometimes prescribed by positive rule.

The calling in Grand Lodges for the vote by Lodges must in all cases, where the constitution of the body has provided no special rule on the subject, be governed by the general parliamentary law which regulates the vote by yeas and nays.

Any member may demand to vote by Lodges; and if there is a pro-