

and was the Senior Warden of Darcy lodge while working under letters of dispensation. He dimitted from Darcy lodge February 10th, 1870, and affiliated with Solomon's Lodge, No. 46, withdrawing therefrom in 1879, that he might resume membership in Darcy Lodge. Unfortunately the dimit granted lacked proper attestation, and pending its validation and return from Solomon's Lodge, God called him."

"February 14th, 1881, a dispensation was granted Madison Lodge, No. 93, to honor with Masonic burial the earthly remains of Brother Mathias L. Burnett. Brother Burnett was raised in Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, in the year 1812, and, dimitting therefrom, became a warrant member of Chatham Lodge, No. 33, located at Madison. Its demise on the 9th of November, 1824, left him unaffiliated. His impaired health and advanced age (seventy-five years) at the time Madison Lodge was warranted, debarred him from affiliating with it. He died at Madison, on 13th February, ultimo, in the ninety-third year of his age, having lived a good and true Mason for nearly three score years and ten."

"April 25th, 1881, Caldwell Lodge, No. 59, received a dispensation to bestow the funeral rites of Freemasonry on the body of Brother George Bowman. Brother Bowman was made in Essex Lodge, No. 44, on the 22nd of January, 1823. Essex Lodge was stricken from the roll of Lodges November 8th, 1842, and the deceased became thereby non-affiliate. After fifty-eight years of faithful service in Masonry, he died April 23rd last, aged nearly eighty-three years, and his remains were tenderly committed to earth by the Brethren of Caldwell Lodge. The long and honorable record of these brethren, their advanced age, and the extreme circumstances attending their non-affiliation, certainly warranted the exercise of the prerogative of the Grand Master, and there was no hesitation in granting the dispensations prayed for, as there is none in placing this simple tribute to the memories of well spent lives in the records of the Grand Lodge."

NEW JERSEY, 1882.—Grand Master Martin decided that a Brother who, at the time of death, is in good and regular masonic standing, should not be denied masonic burial because he died by his own hand.

MARYLAND, (semi-annual) 1882.—Grand Master Tyson says: "I desire to call the special attention of the brethren to the subject of masonic funerals, as it has come to my knowledge that the ancient usages of the Fraternity have not in all cases been strictly adhered to. Grand Master Latrobe says, (Nov. 1873) 'The practice in Maryland has been for the Masons to conduct *all* masonic ceremonies, whether at funerals or elsewhere, *exclusively*, not joining with any other body in that respect.' This is undoubtedly the true masonic usage. It does not (of course) exclude church services, but no member of any other society should participate with the Masons as pall-bearers or otherwise; and the ceremony of the Masons, as the *oldest* of all fraternities, should always be fully completed before that of any other society begins."

This is all that the Grand Master has to say authoritatively on the subject, but I will take the liberty of adding, that in my own opinion it is simply nauseating to see (as we frequently do) the ceremonies of