

April last I received a letter from Malone Lodge asking for a dispensation to bury Brother B. with Masonic honors in case of his death, which was imminent. The old brother had been a member of that Lodge for more than twenty years, and half that time its Worshipful Master, but had dimitted and moved into the jurisdiction of Jefferson Lodge, and affiliated with it and was suspended by it for nonpayment of dues, and was thus under suspension. \* \* \* It was hard to refuse the dying request, but Masonry compelled me to do it." Comment is unnecessary. We drop the veil. Thus was Parvin's father buried and thus are good men drawn from our ranks. We hire bands of music to bury the opulent profligate, if his dues are paid; we refuse to grant the prayer of a dying, honest, faithful servant, if he is poor and has not paid his dues. It would be wrong—a sin, we presume—to drop a tear upon, or cast a sprig of acacia into the grave of a pauper brother. No! publish his name to the world, and brand him as suspended. Fie upon such Masonry.

The Grand Master of Alabama, M. W. Bro. Henry Clay Tomkins, to his credit be it said, thus discourses upon suspension for non-payment of dues. "We view with anxiety and alarm the increasing annual loss to the Fraternity resulting from this mode of unlodging Masons, causing also dimits for fear of suspension, claimed by parties whose incomes are diminishing. It commenced by hundreds, and now aggregate thousands annually. Such suspensions are easily effected, generally without trial or even summons, under stringent if not inflexible Lodge rules. These by-laws authorizing such deprivation of Masonic rights, are often cruelly enforced. We know of cases where wise and true Masons have suffered from the overstrict enforcement of such laws, and doubtless could the facts be ascertained, many of the recent suspensions for N.P.D. are cases where poverty alone caused

the dereliction. Shall good Masons be disgraced for such cause? Verily, we fear the almighty dollar has closed the eyes of Dame Charity." This is all too true.

A MAN in Nevada who has hurt himself and limps, cannot be made a Mason. What if he is suffering from bad chilblains or troublesome corns? Humbug! Grand Master Bown, of Texas, decided: "An E. A. who had been elected to receive the F. C. degree, was the victim of a railway accident, resulting in a partial stiffness of the hip, but it was so that he could be 'placed in position.' I decided that he could not be advanced; I think I should have added 'while in that condition,' as I have since learned that he had a fair prospect of recovery." This is certainly "high toned" nonsense. Grand Master Foster of Tennessee decided that the loss of "a left hand was not a bar to initiation," whilst in another jurisdiction, Colorado, the question of a "rupture" came up. It was left an open question, to be guided by circumstances. We shall have a mole and a wart next. Some of these Landmark (?) men are wonderful fellows. We advise to disqualify when the ears are too long.

Union Lodge, G. R. C., London, on the 12th ult. elected E. R. Robinson, W.M.; O. J. Bridle, S.W.; D. Schwitzer, J.W.; R. B. Walker, Treas.; A. C. Stewart, Sec.; Rev. Bro. Dimmick, Chap.; F. J. Hood, Tyler. Immediately after the election of officers, the Lodge, at the hands of Bro. E. R. Robinson, prescuted the retiring Master, Bro. L. G. Jarvis, with a magnificent and costly silver tea service consisting of seven pieces, and valued at \$100. An address was also read by W. Bro. Robinson, which was feelingly and suitably replied to by W. Bro. Jarvis. Nearly all present, to the number of fifty-two, then repaired to Bro. Campbell's, where an ample spread was made in Frank's usual style. The supper was presented to the Lodge by the officers elect. The chair was occupied by Bro E. R. Robinson, and the vice-chair by Bro. O. J. Bridle.

Sharon Lodge, A. F. & A. M., has a Silver Cornet Band of eleven pieces.