

Commander Dr. J. M. Deacon, Vice Chancellor W. H. Laughlin and Prelate Kerr, (who, by the way, were able at their second meeting to confer the Ranks of the Order without the use of ritual), are all earnest, honest workers, and are entitled to great praise for placing this Lodge in the front rank. It afforded me much gratification to have this Lodge, one month from its organization, fully equipped with supplies, which have all been settled for promptly. To-day the Lodge is clear of debt, has funds on hand, and I trust a bright future before it.

I may here state that Frontier-Lodge, No. 4, has at present over one hundred members, and bids fair to become the second largest Lodge in membership in our Jurisdiction. When this is coupled with the fact that the two Lodges in the valley of the St. Croix charge \$15 for the three Ranks, it might be well for the Grand Lodge to consider the advisability of making that sum the minimum throughout the jurisdiction. If a lesser sum is desirable, it appears strange that our three oldest Lodges, located in large centres, should not make greater progress with their \$10 rate of initiation. I am convinced that no decrease in the number of applicants would follow the adoption of a \$15 minimum fee.

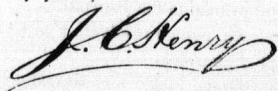
I am pleased to be able to report to Grand Lodge that By-laws have been adopted by every Lodge in the Jurisdiction, and a plentiful supply is now in each Castle Hall. The delay in getting these printed had much to do in keeping Pythianism almost at a standstill up to and including the first half of the present year.

During the year I have received several Pythian papers, for which the publishers have my thanks.

The correspondence of this office is on the increase, requiring much time to do justice to all concerned. How far I have accomplished my work is not for me to say; but I desire to put on record my appreciation of the great help I have received from my predecessor in office, Brother Arthur W. Adams, who thoroughly understood the duties of the office, and was ever ready to give advice and assistance.

In conclusion, I desire to offer thanks for the many courtesies shown me, officially and otherwise, during the past year. My relations with officers of other Grand Lodges, as well as those of our own Grand and Subordinate Lodges, for the period just closed, have been highly gratifying. Never since I became a member of the Order have I striven more zealously to help the cause than during the past year. I trust that my actions may meet with your approval.

Fraternally yours,



G. K. of R. and S.