

Secretary and left with him at the office of the Association at least two months before the annual meeting, or unless the Secretary has sent a copy of the proposed amendment to each member at least thirty days before the meeting. Section 20.

With regard to the right of the Association (the proper notices having been given) by the requisite majority to make the amendments mentioned in your memorandum, I am inclined to think that numbers one and two would be within the authority of the meeting.

The only difficulty arises owing to the office bearers having when filling their declaration assumed in it to deal with matters as to which, according to the provisions of Act 34, Vict. Cap. 32, Act 5, they had nothing to do, they could not override the provisions of the Charter permitting amendments in it to be made in the way pointed out by Section 20.

I do not think the office-bearers had any such power, and that Section 20 is still in force.

I would recommend, however, that the annual meeting should, if it adopt either of the amendments proposed, by resolution authorize the Board, if necessary in its opinion, to apply to the Legislature to ratify the amendments so that if it be deemed safer to get the Legislature to intervene, that course can be taken without waiting for another year.

I am inclined to think that either Plan No. 2 or Plan No. 3, mentioned in the Committee's Report, would be more in accordance with the scheme contained in the Charter, and therefore better than Plan No. 1.

I do not think it would be desirable to make the change proposed by your memorandum as No. 3 (with regard to disability).

As your Constitution and By-laws read, I do not think they extend to the case of disability arising from disease, which I am told is most to be guarded against and most feared, and as the adoption of that amendment would make a fundamental change in the contract entered into between the members by the adoption of the Constitution and By-laws, I think it would be very doubtful if it would be operative without confirmation by the Legislature.

I understand, however, that notice has not been given as to this amendment; if so, it cannot properly come up at the annual meeting.

I think the proxies should be general in their terms, leaving to each member to instruct his Representative what to do, or not, as he pleases, and that it is not advisable to suggest to the members as the Board could by the form of proxy proposed—the tying of the proxy's hands.

I think Section 10 of the Constitution confers ample authority on the Board to do what is asked as to By-laws. Query No. 4.

Yours truly,

W. R. MEREDITH.

To H. A. BAXTER, Esq.

LOCAL BOARD FOR 1877.

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OUR illustrious Brother, the Emperor of Germany, when he submitted to his father his desire to enter the Masonic Fraternity, was told that "he might without fear embrace Freemasonry, for the Freemasons had always given him proofs of their fidelity, attachment and obedience." This was related by the Emperor himself, in reply to an address upon the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his initiation at Belin, May 22, 1865.