

ACACIA LODGE—DUPLICATE CHARTER.

The original Charter of Acacia Lodge, now No. 8, having been destroyed by fire on the 6th day of December last, I directed the G. Secretary to issue from the Registry of Warrants, a Duplicate Charter to the members of the Lodge, to enable them to meet regularly and continue their work.

DEPARTURE FROM THE CONSTITUTION.

In one case only during the year have I authorized a departure from the constitutional period of one month between the degrees; and this was a case in which a brother petitioned to be raised to the degree of M. M., after an interval of 28 days from his receiving the 2nd degree.

RESTORATION.

Pointed out that in accordance with the Constitution, a brother suspended for non-payment of dues can be restored only by the payment of all arrears due at the time of suspension.

LODGE JURISDICTION.

Interpretation of Sec. 42, Chapter 14.

Finding that the interpretation of Sec. 42 is still an open question which has never come before Grand Lodge, as to whether the 10 miles jurisdiction in every direction shall be held to be "as the crow flies," or ten miles of actual travel, I must give my decision that the ten miles shall be held to be ten miles of actual travel by the ordinary means of communication. The object of this clause of the Constitution being, as I understand it, that within a given travelling distance, an individual shall, if he join any, join the nearest Lodge; beyond that distance, if his zeal prompt him to become a mason, it shall be left to himself to choose his own Lodge, the increased distance, and consequent tax upon time, &c., being a guarantee of his good motives.

In this jurisdiction, sparsely settled, and with a deeply indented coast line, ten miles in an air line might mean thirty by road;—a manifestly unfair distance at which to claim jurisdiction.

J. W. LAURIE,
Grand Master.

On motion the address of the Grand Master was referred to a special committee consisting of W. Bro. J. Poyntz, R. W. Bro. L. Johnstone, and R. W. Bro. C. Crewe-Read.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER'S REPORT.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master submitted the following report of his Official Acts during the absence of the M. W. Grand Master from the Province.

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