

I have been unable to find any law prohibiting such agency, other than the wife of the brother, to sustain charges preferred against a member; but would suggest that caution be exercised in making too public a display of the action of the committee, whose duty it is to decide the issue between the Lodge and the accused.

I would respectfully call your attention to the report submitted by the Committee on Laws of Subordinates—viz: That the representative system as adopted last year be changed, each Lodge requiring only one representative (in order to relieve the Grand Lodge and Subordinates of the heavy tax at present imposed on their funds,) with power to cast the same number of votes as they are at present entitled to, and that this Grand Lodge pay the mileage and per diem of such representatives. Also, that the members constituting the Committee of Appeals be altered to five members, instead of one representative from each Subordinate, as at present, which was adopted. The Constitution requires that amendments thereto should have the sanction of two consecutive Sessions, before they can become legal. I am confident that by the adoption of the first clause of the report, this Grand Lodge would be enabled to reduce the per centage from its Subordinates. I would also suggest the propriety of locating the sittings of this Grand Lodge at some central place in this jurisdiction, at which place the Grand Secretary should reside, and receive such remuneration for his services as will be reasonable; from the fact that the correspondence of that office has materially increased, requiring much time to properly prepare the works and minutes of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge. Much of the prosperity and well-being of the Order depends on the efficient discharge of the duties of that office.

Several appeals have been placed in the Grand Secretary's hands, which will require the attention of the Committee on Appeals, before being submitted for your consideration.

Since your last communication I have issued a Warrant for a Subordinate Lodge at Blenheim, named Rond. Eau Lodge, No. 40—dispensation dated 21st March, 1860—which is submitted for your approval. From their report, dated June 30th, 1860, you will learn that their prospects are flattering; their returns give evidence of twenty-five members in good standing which is truly a good commencement.

From the D. D. Grand Masters appointed at your last Session, I have received the most cordial co-operation, exhibiting an untiring zeal for the promotion of order and good will among the members; exciting them to renewed energy in that cause which ameliorates the sufferings of mankind, and the furtherance of those principles which bind us to each other, by the influence of our appropriate motto, Friendship, Love and Truth. Their reports will be laid before you; and in commending them to your consideration as valuable documents, allow me to express to these officers my grateful acknowledgements for their assistance in the performance of my onerous duties.

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