

advance, and one Comp. C. A. Simmons, now in Australia, is paid in advance nearly six years. Comp. Simmons is a very enthusiastic Mason, and a credit to the Order. Our members are located in many parts of Canada, the United States, Austria, India, Sumatra and Australia, and they will all be pleased to hear of the flourishing condition of Bruce Chapter, and I know that the Grand Z., M.E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, will be delighted to learn of our success as he so thoroughly well knows the position we were in one year and a half ago. We had a clean sheet to begin the year with, and if there is another chapter in the jurisdiction can say the same we should like to hear from them. A great deal of the credit for our success is due E. Comps. R. Scott and H. Mann, Scribe E. and Treasurer of Bruce Chapter.

Trusting you will be able to give this a place in your columns, and thanking you in anticipation, I remain dear Sir and Bro., yours fraternally,

JOHN SINCLAIR, Z.

Bruce Chapter, No. 53.

Craft Tidings.

AMERICAN.

In Ohio an initiate can not become a member of a Lodge until he can pass an examination in open Lodge on the third degree. In some other jurisdictions he is immediately besieged to join the Chapter and Commandery, and perhaps the Scottish Rite, and therefore has no time to give to symbolic Masonry until he has become surfeited with degrees and office in the "higher" bodies. Brethren should go slower, and then we shall not see so many Maltese and Teutonic cross jewels on the street that are never seen in Lodges. —*Trestle Board.*

St John's Lodge of Hartford, Connecticut, was chartered March 21, 1762, and in the light of the present day some of its by-laws commend them-

selves to modern lodges. One law reads: "If any of the brethren should be so devoid of shame as to disguise himself in liquor, or shall come disguised to the lodge, he shall pay a fine, ten shillings, lawful money, be dismissed for that night, and the next night he comes shall be severely reprimanded, and dealt by according to the law of Masons." Another reads: "If any of the brethren should be so imprudent as to swear profanely during lodge hours, he shall pay one shilling, lawful money, to the treasurer of the lodge, to be deposited in the fund for the relief of poor brethren." "Disguised" in the above sense is certainly a very delicate way of putting it.

In Georgia the Grand Master recently laid the corner-stone of the building being erected by the Red Men for an Orphan's Home. It is to be hoped that Grand Lodge after its next annual communication at which the question is to be considered, will lay the corner-stone of its own Home for widows and orphans.—*The Kansas Freemason.*

The Grand Lodge of New York is the owner of the apron worn by the Marquis de Lafayette when Knighted in Morton Commandery No. 4, N. Y., in 1824.

Wearing a modest bit of Masonic jewelry is right and proper. It is very often the means of forming pleasant acquaintances or lasting friendship. To meet the man who wears all he can pile on, and trapped out with as many jewels and badges as he has degrees, is very wearying and suggests nothing so much as a Sioux medicine man at a dog bake. —*The Kansas Freemason.*

Arizona is the smallest jurisdiction in the United States, having 11 lodges and 513 members. New York is the largest, with 730 lodges and 86,214 members. The largest lodge is Minneapolis No. 19, Minneapolis, Minn., 746 members. The largest average membership is in the District of Columbia, the lodges averaging 205 members.