

something about his personal history. He then said he and a neighbor of his had been engaged in buying and shipping horses from some place in the West to New York, where they had disposed of three car loads; had left New York at the same time, his neighbor taking the money and going by way of Washington, while he, after buying a ticket, and retaining money enough to pay incidental expenses, had taken the shortest route for home, and a short distance from where he then was, he discovered he had lost his pocket book, containing his ticket and all the money he had; the conductor had put him off at the last station above, and he had come the balance of the way on foot. He said he had not left the train from the time he got on until he was put off by the conductor. He was sure of that. Having a time card of the trains at hand, I showed him that the train he had been ejected from was the local train, and that it arrived at a certain point at 6 o'clock, P. M., and did not leave, going on, until next morning at the same hour. He discovered he was cornered, and made no reply. I gave him to understand that I had no doubt as to his being an impostor, and would not give him a cent, or continue the examination further. "He did not stand upon the order of going, but went at once," and he has never been seen in that vicinity since. To satisfy myself beyond a doubt, I wrote to the Secretary of the lodge to which he claimed to belong, and received a reply that no such man belonged to his Lodge, and he had never heard the name before. I also wrote letters to several Lodges along the line of the road, in the direction he had come, and found that he had applied to all of them, telling the same story, and with one exception, had received liberal contributions from the Lodges and brethren. Numerous like instances could be enumerated, but this will suffice to put our brethren in the "rural districts" on their guard, and perhaps be the means of saving them many a hard earned dollar. If this shall prove to be the case, I shall be amply repaid for sending you this desultory letter. ABoz.—*Masonic Advocate*.

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LIFE.—Life is a very great mystery. The question, "What is your life," comes very often, uncalled for, and, the question proves itself through the multitude of thoughts and memories, and clamours for consideration. "What is your life;" Am I making the best possible use of the opportunities of life as they are presented! Are you meeting the ends of your being, and discharging the high responsibilities resting upon you, in view of the positions you occupy in your Order and in the State? I ask myself the question, "How I, in youth, as an Entered Apprentice, industriously occupied my time in the attainment of useful knowledge; and in manhood am I applying that knowledge in a faithful discharge of the duties which I owe to God, my neighbor and myself?" Are we all so applying these lessons and duties, that we look forward to the time of age, in the hope of enjoying the happy reflections consequent upon a well-spent life, and wait our appointed time, when we shall be like ripe sheaves in the harvest time, gathered into the great garner of eternity.

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Let it be understood that a Mason is but another name for an upright, honest, virtuous individual. No increase of members can be a blessing to our Institution, unless this rule is adhered to. Our emblems, ceremonies and instructions, all say as much; why then should we be false to ourselves?