

MASONIC ITEMS.

The grandson of Bro. Robert Burns, Gilbert Burns Begg, who has long been in want, has been removed from the Glasgow City Poorhouse, and placed in comfortable quarters.

At the late session of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Missouri, at St. Louis, there was an attendance of 700 on the last day, the largest single day's attendance since the institution, sixty-two years ago.

Never use the black-ball spitefully. To do so is to introduce certain discord into the lodge. Many a Masonic body has lingered through years of uselessness from this cause.

We learn from a statement published in the columns of the *Masonic Record of Western India* that the total school fees paid by the Punjab Masonic Institution from its formation to the 31st December, 1881, amount in the aggregate to close upon 26,990 rupees. This sum has been expended on thirty-one children, of whom twenty-one are still receiving the benefits of the Institution. The ex-officio President and Vice-President are the R. W. Dis. G. Master (Lieut. Col. A. Stewart), and the Dep. Dis. G. Master (Bro. W. Adlard), the Hon. Secretary being Bro. R. B. Nightengall, Freemasons' Hall, Lahore.

The movement at Cleveland, Ohio, to raise \$50,000 for the Garfield Monument by subscriptions from the Grand Commanderies of the Knights Templar of the different States, equivalent to \$1 for each Knight in the jurisdiction, is meeting with success. Official communications have been already received from the Grand Bodies of half a dozen States pledging a proper sum, and similar responses are expected soon from the remainder of the States. In recognition of this fund the Knights Templar have been admitted to one-quar-

ter representation in the Garfield Monument Association, and will be given the privilege of directing a corresponding proportion of the inscriptions, insignia and other embellishments of the monument.—*Columbia Courant*.

It is now about twenty days since we heard Brother Theodore S. Parvin say that when he went to Iowa to stay, there was not a single Masonic Lodge in it, and he helped to organize the first one at Burlington on Nov. 24th, 1840.

On January 2d, 1844, a Convention was held, a Grand Lodge was organized with four constituent Lodges, in a Territorial Jurisdiction first permitted to be occupied by the whites in 1833, with a population in 1840 of only 43,112, increased 1,624,463 in 1880, now having 424 lodges, a membership of 19,342, assets to the amount of \$18,380.25, with the largest and best Masonic library in the world.—*Liberal Freemason*.

The Committee of Charity of the Grand Lodge of England, now the Lodge of Benevolence, though established during the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Richmond, owes its origin to his predecessor, the Earl of Dalkeith. It meets monthly for the administration of relief to distressed brethren, or their widows. It is ruled by a President, nominated annually by the Grand Master, and two Vice-Presidents, who, with twelve Past Masters, are elected annually by the brethren. W. Masters and Present and Past Grand Officers are *ex-officio* members of the same. Its funds are raised principally from capitation payments, in respect of all subscribing members of the Fraternity, at the rate of one shilling per quarter per member for lodges in the Metropolitan district, and sixpence per quarter for members of country and military lodges. The disbursements have latterly amounted to several thousands of pounds annually.—*Review*.