

Third.—In case of the absence or death of any of the original signers of a subordinate charter, is it competent for the *present* officers to write the names of the original signers upon the new copy, and with their own signatures attest the fact of their being a true copy of the original signatures?

My reply to these enquiries was as follows:

To the first, that there is no provision to furnish a subordinate body with two charters, except in case where the original one has become mutilated or destroyed.

Second.—That in granting a duplicate charter, the granting power cannot change or vary the phraseology of the original charter.

Third.—In granting a duplicate charter to take the place of one mutilated or destroyed, it should be signed by the officers of the body granting such duplicate, with an endorsement stating that the charter was issued in place of one granted at such a time, and which had become mutilated or destroyed.

Second.—It has been inquired of me "whether an officer of a Lodge whose regalia is in his chair in the lodge-room cannot enter without any regalia?"

The answer is contained in the charge book. No brother is entitled to enter or leave the lodge-room unless clothed in regalia. If an officer, and his regalia be in his chair in the lodge-room, he must enter in a scarlet regalia, if of that degree, and there exchange it for his official regalia.

Third.—A Grand Representative elect of this body inquires "if by withdrawing from his Subordinate Encampment to establish a new Encampment he forfeits his right to a seat in the Grand Lodge of the United States?"

My reply was, that according to a decision of the Grand Lodge of the United States a withdrawal card severs a member's connection with his Lodge, and if he be an officer of his Grand or Subordinate Lodge, such office becomes vacant. But that I did not understand this decision as applying to a Grand Officer elect. A Grand Representative elect is not a Grand Representative until his credentials have been accepted by the Grand Lodge of the United States.

Fourth.—To an enquiry "whether a Grand Patriarch has the power during the recess of a Grand encampment to suspend a Subordinate Encampment?" I replied that it is a subject for local law.

Fifth.—It has been inquired of me "whether upon the application of a number of brothers for membership by deposit of card, the Lodge has a right to ballot for the whole number collectively, or must each have a separate ballot?"

My reply was that it would be improper, if not contrary to general law and usage, to ballot collectively on a number of applications for