

you have heard of the end of the boy that had an "if" to his name—he went where the woodbine twineth—up a spout.

But here comes in the "joke"—alas, poor Tisdall! We are willing now to pay

### ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN GOLD,

for any man living, dead, or expected to live, or expected to die, who can by any testimony that would be received in any court of Masons or anti-Masons, who will prove that Frederic the Great of Prussia ever signed the so-called Scotch Rite Statutes of 1786 or ever saw them. In fact, we will give the largest kind of a reward to anybody who shall refute and answer the *evidence* we have already furnished, that Frederic not only did not sign these Statutes, but that his signature thereto, is the basest forgery that was perpetrated in the 19th century. Furthermore, we have proven, that Frederic was not only diametrically opposed to any such degrees, but absolutely CONDEMNED THEM.

We had formed a high opinion of Bro. Tisdall, the Masonic editor of *Pomeroy's Democrat*, as a straightforward Masonic writer who did not deal in superlative nonsense, but, we must say, that of late we have "let down" on him a little, and when he came out with the above, it was "the straw that broke the camel's back," and now we say emphatically, (and we mean no foolishness by it either), that if Bro Tisdall can produce the *reliable* evidence that the signature of Frederic the Great was not forged to the Statutes of 1786, and that the date of those Statutes is not a forgery then, he can draw on us for ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN GOLD, and until he can do that, we want no special pleadings and no explanations, *ex parte* and no tirades nor backbiting. We want "good work and square work" and we will not accept any work of impostors. It is an outrage on the Masonic fraternity and a falsification of history that a paper with the tremendous circulation of *Pomeroy's Democrat* should be used for the dis-emination of such Masonic nonsense under the head of "Masonic intelligence."

It is pretty near time that such misrepresentation was stopped. The craft have been gulled and bamboozled by all sorts of false statements, of so called "Masonic history" about long enough, by persons claiming the right of position to tell the world all sorts of stuff, and to this whole business, "THE FREEMASON" has been opposed from beginning to end and intends to be, as long as we have anything to do with it.

We believe in telling the TRUTH and "nothing but the truth," hence the opinion of this paper is taken as that which amounts to something. If our opinion is asked upon any question, we give it *according to the law*, whether we agree with the law or not, but there is not money nor official positions enough to hire us to bend the knee to any power on the planet Earth, to say what we do not know to be a fact. Sycophancy has no place on our editorial staff, and we intend to plunge the lancet to the hilt into all masonic exercises, whether nurtured by friend or foe. We know no motto but the TRUTH, and we will stick to that till the last plank of life is swallowed up in the abyss of death. As for that "official pipe" it must be mighty *strong* by this time—and in fact we will bet the cigars that Frederic never saw the meerschaum in question.—*St. Louis Freemason.*

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### At Rest.

Drowned in the Lachine Rapids, Bro. George Spaight, late of the *Montreal Gazette*, aged 33 years.