

Bro. Johnston and, expressions of success to No. 357, the company broke up.

Lines suggested on the No. 357 of Waterdown Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at the dedication of the Masonic Hall, Waterdown, and installation of officers.

Three welcome, all assembled here to-night!

All to the number that so well defines,

Expecting now our standing in Masonic Craft,

Easy to scan, it is the initials of these lines.

Ere it had been determined all was darkness then,

Happy and bright, its figures now show forth

No longer. Upon our memory firmly fixed

Number and name, which we will prove of sterling worth.

Divide it into parts, you plainly may behold,

Regarding those who *Ride* the Lodge, the chosen three.

Each step ascending to the place where they preside

Effusing *Light*, guiding and blending all in harmony.

And the next stage—singular that it should be

Noted by those who *Had* our loved retreat from harm.

Denoted by the noble orders architecture gives

Fellow Crafts join boldly here without alarm.

In order comes the last, but not the least,

For it embraces all an *Initiate* makes the mystic tie

That binds each brother Mason and the Craft,

Which, teaches them to live, as well as how to die.

Surely, with name and number we will all agree

Each time we meet; or, when we go from hence.

Valour, relief and truth and love our motto be.

Eager to show forgiveness, slow to take offence

Nor even mar the harmony, of *Seven, Five* and *Three*.

JAS. M. MONIES, JR.

Waterdown, Nov. 23.

Non-Attendance.

One of the queries propounded by a correspondent, and contained in our October No., was: What proceedings can be taken against a member of a Lodge who systematically refuses or neglects to attend Lodge meetings. We replied to the Query, and stated what proceedings could be taken against a delinquent member; but at the same time gave it as our opinion that it would be unwise to attempt to strictly enforce the rules requiring constant and regular attendance at the meetings of the Lodge. The following extract, from an article in the *Masonic Journal*, contains an expression of our sentiments on the subject:—

"Some of our most excellent contemporaries are exercised concerning the alarming prevalence of non attendance among the members. Various plans are suggested to arrest the evil, some of them practicable,

some of them not so much so. The general idea (and the best one) is to make the meetings interesting. Win the brethren to the Lodge, by offering them *wages* and they will come. Fellow-masons work for wages, and ought not to be suffered to go home from the Lodge dissatisfied. It is said (or at least we are going to say it was) that on one occasion a member of the first Lodge at Jerusalem, (Mikneiah Lodge, perhaps was the name of it), openly expressed his dissatisfaction at the wages he had received. King Hiram, who made it a point to keep the Tyler's door closed until he was sure every brother had received his wages, addressed the dissatisfied Craftsman in these thrilling words, *alhamdu lillathhi fee issemevat*, or as all our readers are not familiar with the noble language of the Phoenicians we translate it. "Now Obed-edom Hashupa, what's the matter with you?" The brother replied that "his shekel had a hole in it; and it wasn't full weight, and the grocery keeper who sold him his corn, wine and oil wouldn't take pierced coins only at a discount." Then the upright King of Tyre soundly rebuking the Grand Treasurer, whose name was Mattithiah, or words to that effect, commanded a shekel of *full weight* to be paid to O. H. "that he might not go away dissatisfied." This was done and to his dying day O. H. was a satisfied Mason. We may probably have gotten the particulars of this thrilling incident slightly mixed; but there is the shekel with the hole in it yet, and there is the tomb where Hiram was buried and here is the very same society teaching the very same lesson to this day, "to pay the craft their wages if aught is due and see that none go away dissatisfied." So that story has a good foundation if we (who made it out of whole cloth) do tell it!

"Various plans have been suggested to win the Brethren to attend the Lodge. Lectures and readings and concerts and side-degrees have all been tried with success. That man, Brother —, that sweet singer whom they used to call "Chenabiah, Chief of the Levites who was for song, and instructed about the song, because he was skilful" used to give four concerts a year for several years for the purpose of winning the members to attend Lodge. Old Dr. —, very old and very lame, used to have his day, "the second Saturday in every month"—how well we remember it—for instructing the brethren in the degrees. The great majority of the brethren made it a point to attend, and the regular meetings were fully attended. Brother the Rev. — always gave a new side-degree at every meeting. Where he got them, nobody knew. Very likely he made them himself. But they pleased and they instructed, and the records show that the attendance was full.

"Leaving out the infirm, and those who have invalids in their families, and the few