

I have issued special dispensations for the following purposes: One to confer degrees at a shorter period than authorized by our constitution, two to appear at an entertainment in Masonic costume, one to elect a secretary, and two to instal officers.

Bro. James M. Butcher was suspended by Victoria Lodge, No. 2, of which he was a member, on the 23rd July, 1879, for alleged unmasonic conduct. He took an appeal to the Grand Lodge, which was laid before the committee on grievances and appeals, but owing to the resignation of Bro. Adam Murray the chairman of said committee, it was referred to the board of general purposes. The board appointed a committee from their number to investigate the case. Their report will be found on the minutes.

On the 23rd October last, Bro. A. H. McPherson, a member of Victoria Lodge, No. 2, forwarded an appeal to the Grand Lodge, against the ruling of the Worshipful Master of said Lodge in declining to put a motion to the Lodge. This appeal was also referred to the board of general purposes.

DECISIONS.

I have given two decisions during the year, and I now report same for your consideration:

1st. A brother who has been indefinitely suspended can be restored to membership by a majority vote of the Lodge at any regular communication, notice having been given at a previous regular communication that a motion to that effect would be made.

2nd. The friends of a brother who died while under suspension for non-payment of dues cannot by paying his dues entitle him to masonic burial.