

vast difference between temperance and teetotalism. There is also a great distinction in upholding a good cause and making that cause dominate over others. Freemasons should endeavor to be temperate in all things, even in the use of intoxicants, and if they succeed in becoming teetotalers so much the better; but no section of the Craft has any right to impose conditions upon their brethren that interfere with their liberty, especially if those conditions are foreign to the tenets of our institution.

At the recent meeting of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, several amendments to the Constitution were proposed, among them, two that are worthy of production, as they show to what absurd lengths ill-advised brethren descend when they have a hobby. The first amendment proposed was:—

The business of saloon-keeping, or selling intoxicating liquors by the drink, whether as proprietor or clerk, is an offence against Masonry, and is punishable as other offences against Masonry.

This amendment shall not be deemed operative against those of the fraternity (being now in good standing in their respective lodges) who were engaged in such business at the time of their application for and election to membership in the Order, provided they so stated their occupation in their several petitions for membership.

Any subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction which shall knowingly violate the first section of this Article, by admitting to membership such person or persons as are therein described, shall forfeit its charter.

Any person whose occupation is such as described in the first section of this Article, who shall gain admission into any lodge in this jurisdiction by fraudulently representing his occupation to be other than it really is, shall be punished by expulsion.

Any brother not at this time engaged in such occupation as described in the first section of this Article, who shall hereafter become engaged in such occupation, shall be deemed guilty of a Masonic offence and punished by expulsion.

The other amendment was more sweeping, and reads as follows:—

Resolved, That to use intoxicating liquors as a beverage be deemed a Masonic offence, and punishable as other Masonic offences. Be it further

Resolved, That to own property and use, or rent said property to be used, as a place where intoxicating liquors are sold, to be used as a beverage, be deemed a Masonic offence and punishable as other Masonic offences.

Both amendments were referred to the committee on Jurisprudence, who recommended that they be left over for consideration at the next annual communication. In the meantime we presume the amendments will be widely discussed by the brethren in Kentucky.

A TOUCHING MASONIC INCIDENT.

A few years since I resided in one of the cities of Central New York, and while there was a member of one of the Masonic Lodges of the city. We had a brother who was a merchant doing a prosperous business, and was considered wealthy. He was beloved and respected by his brethren in the Lodge and by the entire community. He had attained to the Templar degree in Freemasonry and held several important positions in the Order. He attended closely to his business, and the confinement in the store after a time began to make inroads on a constitution not naturally strong, and by the advice of his friends he was induced to leave his business for a time and try and regain his health. He went into the country and stayed for some time among his friends, and when he returned appeared to be very much improved in health. But the disease was too strongly fastened upon him to be shaken off, and it was soon apparent to us all that the fell destroyer, consumption, would soon claim him as its victim. He continued to decline, and finally became so weak that he was unable to attend to his business, being compelled to dispose of his store and retire from active business. His family consisted of his wife and two sons;