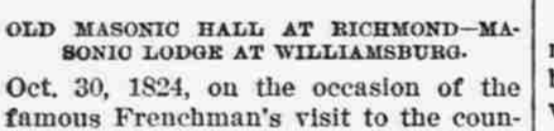


The First Masons In America.

MEMBERS of the Masonic order who visit the Jamestown exposition and take a side trip to Williamsburg, the successor of Jamestown as capital of the Virginia colony, may find on Francis street in that old town a very dilapidated frame house of two stories which should appeal to their sentiments as brethren in the order. It is the oldest building now standing in Virginia which has been used as a Masonic hall. This weatherboarded and weatherbeaten old house, with its brick chimney rising from one end and a funny little cupola sticking up from the middle of the roof ridge, was the first headquarters of Masonry in Virginia. Patrick Henry was a member of the lodge that held meetings there. The ancient building, which apparently was intended for a residence, has been unoccupied, and its crumbling window shutters have been closed for years. There is now some talk of putting the building in better order.

In that old house the first grand lodge of Virginia was organized. Elsewhere in Williamsburg the lodge has today a commodious modern hall, in which there is used an antique, richly carved mahogany chair which was presented to the lodge by Lord Botetourt, colonial governor. This chair was used by Washington at his first inauguration in New York city and by President Arthur on the occasion of the presentation of the monument at Yorktown.

In Richmond is a wooden building which is said to be the oldest in America built for Masonic purposes. Only one other Masonic building, in fact, antedated it, and that is no longer standing. The old hall in Richmond was completed Dec. 10, 1787. In this hall memorial services in honor of George Washington were held Feb. 22, 1800, several lodges uniting in a union meeting. A reception was tendered there to General Lafayette on



OLD MASONIC HALL AT RICHMOND—MASONIC LODGE AT WILLIAMSBURG.

Oct. 30, 1824, on the occasion of the famous Frenchman's visit to the country for whose freedom he had fought under Washington. According to the record, "Worshipful Brother Lafayette was unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge."

The Williamsburg building of course is much older than the Richmond hall, but it was not built for Masonic purposes. It is interesting to mention the fact in this connection that President McKinley when a captain in the Federal army was initiated into the Masonic order in Virginia. The story goes that Captain McKinley visited an army hospital near Winchester, where a Federal surgeon was attending some wounded Confederates. He observed that the surgeon handed sums of money to several of the Confederates.

"Why are you doing that?" McKinley inquired.

"Because they are Masons," was the reply.

This so impressed the future president that he went to Winchester and immediately made application for membership in the local lodge of Masons. After the war he transferred his membership to Canton, O., where he became a Knight Templar.

A majority of our presidents have been Masons. President Roosevelt was made a Master Mason by the lodge at Oyster Bay after he became vice president. Mr. Fairbanks also became a Master Mason after becoming vice president. President Roosevelt participated a few weeks ago in the laying of the cornerstone for the new Masonic temple in Washington. He has been elected to the chapter degrees of the New York rite.

President Washington was a noted Mason of his day. He joined the lodge in Fredericksburg, Va., across the Rappahannock river from his boyhood home, at the age of twenty-one, in 1753. The Bible Washington used in taking his Masonic obligations is still sacredly preserved by the Fredericksburg lodge. It was used in the cornerstone laying ceremonies at Washington June 8.

Andrew Jackson served as grand master of Tennessee. Garfield was one of the most active Masons who ever occupied the presidency. He was a member of Pentalpha lodge in Washington, and always took a deep interest in Masonic affairs.

DODGED THE ISSUE.

A Story About Lincoln and One of His Would Be Advisers.

The following story was told years ago by Mr. Dixon of Rhode Island, a Republican congressman of prominence in war days. It was when the war was still only half over and many people at the north felt that a more vigorous policy was demanded. There had been a meeting of prominent northern men, including governors of northern states. They passed resolutions that the campaign should be more aggressive and commissioned Mr. Dixon to call on Mr. Lincoln, tell him of the meeting and read to him a record of its conclusions. Mr. Dixon said that he undertook the task with a good deal of satisfaction and felt like a very large sized man when he went up to the White House one evening to deliver himself of his mission.

Mr. Lincoln listened without interruption to what Mr. Dixon had to say, a silence which added not a little to the impressiveness of the latter's eloquence. When Mr. Dixon was through Mr. Lincoln said to him: "Dixon, you are a good fellow, and I have always had a high opinion of you. It is needless for me to add that what comes from those who sent you here is authoritative. The governors of the northern states are the north. What they decide must be carried out. Still, in justice to myself, you must remember that Abraham Lincoln is the president of the United States. Anything that the president of the United States does, right or wrong, will be the act of Abraham Lincoln, and Abraham Lincoln will be the people he held responsible for the president's action. But I have a proposition to make to you: Go home and think the matter over. Come to me tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock, and I will promise to do anything that you by then have determined upon as the right and proper thing to do. Good night."

Mr. Dixon left the White House feeling even larger than when he entered it, assured that the president put a higher value upon his abilities than he himself supposed. Dismissing this pleasant thought, he consulted with himself as to what would be done when the responsibility fell on him to decide the policy of the president of the United States. Many suggestions occurred to him, but one after another was dismissed as for some reason out of the question. When morning light broke he had not determined upon his course, upon the policy which he was to impose upon the president. He decided he would not go to the White House that morning. He did not go the next day or the next.

Indeed, three weeks went by before he saw the president. Then it was at a reception at Secretary Seward's, and Mr. Dixon tried to get by in the crowd without attracting special attention. But the long arm of the president shot out, grabbed Dixon and dragged him one side. "By the way, Dixon," said Mr. Lincoln, "I believe I had an appointment with you one morning about three weeks ago." Mr. Dixon said he did recall a mention of something of the sort. "Where have you been all these weeks?" asked the president. "Here in Washington," said Mr. Dixon; "but, to tell the truth, Mr. President, I have decided never to keep that appointment." "I thought you would not when I made it for you," was Mr. Lincoln's comment.

It makes a big difference when a man has the say, when the responsibility rests individually on him, as to what he will do or refrain from doing.

The Eye of the Crook.

Now, you may or may not know it, but the confidence man of tiptop attainments cultivates the control and expression of his features with as much care as does the professional beauty—this for the reason that his looks are among his most valuable assets. For the first stage in "turning a trick," whether this be done in a Broadway hotel or a downtown office building, is for the operator to get a hold on the confidence of his victim by impressing him with his (the former's) frankness and honesty through the medium of his steady gaze, cheery smile and sincerity of expression in general. But "wise" people are not taken in by these things. Apart from all else, those who have had much to do with criminals—whether mugged or unmugged—will tell you that there is such a thing as the "crook eye," which invariably gives its owner away. It is, as I once heard a clever detective put it, "an eye behind the eye"—a something sinister peeping out from the bland and childlike gaze which the "con" turns on his prospective gull.—Josiah Flynt in Success Magazine.

The Feminine Touch.

"You can always detect the aesthetic note in the eternal feminine," said the observant bachelor. "There is just as much difference between the sexes as there was in that old era when the foxy Ulysses devised his trick to pick Achilles out from a bevy of Greek maidens. The other morning I was walking down Broadway to my office when I noticed a scrubwoman coming from her early task in one of the big buildings in the financial district. In her hand she carried a newspaper that she probably had picked out of one of the waste paper baskets. When she got in front of an excavation for a big building she stooped and picked up a piece of two inch plank about a foot and a half long. She stopped and wrapped the newspaper around that board and made a bundle as neat as a box of candy, and trudged along. A laboring man might not have carried that piece of board home, but he wouldn't have thought of making a package so neat that it gave no idea of its prosaic but useful contents."—New York Press.

CUT THEM ALL OUT.

The Enemies One Is Likely to Meet In His Vocabulary.

"In the dictionary of fools we find 'I can't' very often, plenty of 'ifs' and lots of words like 'luck' and 'destiny' and phrases like 'If I only had time or a chance like other people!'"

Did you ever think that many of the words and phrases which you constantly use are your real enemies, that they leave their hideous pictures and black shadows in your mind?

How many times have you been kept from doing a good deed by such phrases as "Oh, I can't do that," "I am afraid that that will not turn out well," "Oh, I know I can't do that," "Somebody else can do that a great deal better," "I am afraid to try," "I haven't the courage," "I fear I shall take cold or catch some disease if I do this or that?"

I believe that those two words, "I can't," have ruined more prospects and have kept more ability doing the work of mediocrity than any other two words in our language.

"I am afraid of this or that" is a terrible hinderer, a terrible blighter of ambition, a cooler of enthusiasm.

All achievement and all efficiency depend upon initiative, and that is easily killed by the fear words, the words which express doubt and uncertainty.

"By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."—Success.

VALUE OF WALKING.

Benefits to Be Derived From This Form of Exercise.

There is hardly an instance of a long lived man who has not been for the best part of his life a brisk walker and for some reason or other has had to take exercise pretty well every day. Ridding is all very well and so are other exercises, but there is nothing like a good walk, because it stimulates the blood and the muscles and necessities being in the open air.

If those who complain of being stout would only think of this and never omit a daily constitutional they would be amply rewarded. It will keep them young and their figures presentable.

It is simply a remedy that no one needs to. Sitting about in the open air is all very well and is far better than sitting in the house, but it does not keep you in good health.

It is quite another thing to over-fatigue oneself. There is nothing better than to get into a healthy perspiration by walking. It is just like drinking a glass of cold water in the morning. It is so simple no one believes in it.

This may not suit everybody, but those it does suit it will keep in health.—Pittsburg Press.

Help the Editor.

An Oklahoma editor puts forth this plea: "My friend, help the editor in his wide eyed search for news. When your friends come to you, if you are not ashamed of it, tell him; when your wife gives a tea party, if you will have recovered from the effects of the gossip, drop in with the news; when a baby arrives fill your pockets with cigars and call; if you go to a party, steal some of the good things and leave 'em with the item in our sanctum. If your wife licks you, come in and let us see your scars and tender sympathy through the paper. If your mother-in-law has died, don't be bashful about it; give in all the commonplace news. In short, whatever makes you feel proud, sad, lonesome or glad submit it to our twenty-four carat wisdom and see our matted lock part and stand up on end with gratitude, which will pour from every pore with moisture from a dew besprinkled earth."—Topeka State-Journal.

The Bird Got Wise.

A gentleman by way of a joke placed a golf ball in the nest of his ancient parrot. Polly sat with exemplary patience on her novel egg and appeared pretty nearly heartbroken when the weeks went by and she found herself unrewarded. At last she could stand it no longer. A terrible screeching brought her owner downstairs at 4 o'clock in the morning.

"What's the matter, Polly?" he asked as he noticed that the bird's beak was chipped through trying to get at the interior.

"Matter!" screeched Polly. "Great Scott, I'm bunkered!"—London Telegraph.

Pedestrian Rights.

Only in Great Britain, so far as I know, does the law hold that a foot passenger has an equal right to the highway with the wheeled traffic and that it is the duty of the driver of the latter to avoid at all costs the former, even if he has to do so at considerable inconvenience and often danger. In other countries, on the contrary, it is the duty of the pedestrian to give way to the wheeled traffic.—Atlanta Constitution.

Poor Old Sol!

An astronomer says that an enormous dark planet is rushing toward the sun and that the impact, which is to take place in a few thousand years, will be frightful. Great Caesar! If that's the case, Old Sol stands a good chance of having the spots knocked out of him.—Morristown Times.

What Ma Said.

Little Girl (to lady visitor)—Please, Miss Jawerer, let me see your tongue. Miss J. (surprised)—Why, my dear? Little Girl—Why, ma said you'd no end of a tongue.—London Sketch.

We never enjoy perfect happiness. Our most fortunate successes are mingled with sadness. Some anxieties always perplex the reality of our satisfaction.—Cornelle.

ASK your stenographer what it means to change a typewriter ribbon three times in getting out a day's work.

The New Tri-Chrome Smith Premier Typewriter

makes ribbon changes unnecessary; gives you, with one ribbon and one machine, the three essential kinds of business typewriting—black record, purple copying and red.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

To James D. Wright, non-resident defendant: You are hereby notified that on the 22nd day of August, 1907, Alice Wright filed her petition against you in the district court of Red Willow county, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which are to obtain a divorce from you on the grounds that you have willfully abandoned the plaintiff without good cause, for the term of three years last past, and for the custody of Iola Wright, a child born the issue of said marriage. You are required to answer the said petition on or before Monday, the 24th day of September, 1907.—8-23-07. ALICE WRIGHT, Plaintiff. By Starr & Reeder, her attorneys.

To George Lillie, non-resident defendant: You are hereby notified that on the 12th day of August, 1907, Annie Lillie filed a petition against you in the district court of Red Willow county, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which are to obtain a divorce from you on the grounds that you have been guilty of extreme cruelty toward this plaintiff and that you have willfully abandoned the plaintiff, without good cause, for the term of two years last past. You are required to answer the said petition on or before Monday, the 23rd day of September, 1907.—8-16-07. ANNIE LILLIE, Plaintiff. By Starr & Reeder, her attorneys.

No. 8823.
NOTICE OF AUTHORIZATION.
Treasury Department,
Office of Comptroller of the Currency,
Washington, D. C., August 5th, 1907.

WHEREAS, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "THE MCCOOK NATIONAL BANK," in the City of McCook, in the County of Red Willow, and State of Nebraska, has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of Banking;

Now, Therefore, I, Thomas P. Kane, Deputy and Acting Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that "THE MCCOOK NATIONAL BANK," in the City of McCook, in the County of Red Willow, and State of Nebraska, is authorized to commence the business of Banking as provided in Section Fifty one hundred and sixty nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

In TESTIMONY WHEREOF, witness my hand and seal of this office this Fifth day of August, 1907.

T. P. KANE, Deputy and Acting Comptroller of the Currency.

First: August 9, 1907. Last: October 11, 1907.

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Late Autumn Trips West: Low rate excursion tickets to Colorado, the Rockies and Big Horn mountains will remain on sale during September; the low rate round trip tickets to Pacific coast will not be on sale after September 15th.

Homeseekers' Excursions: See the west with its 1907 crops. Western farm lands, including irrigated lands, are constantly advancing in value, better locate now.

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