## **News of the Lodges** and Fraternities

Masonic.

Rough Ashler Lodge No. 74, A. F. & A. M., Omaha Neb. Meetings, first and third Tuesdays in each month. J. H. Wakefield, W. M.; E. C. Underwood. Secretary.

Excelsior Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Thursdays in each month.

Zaha Temple No. 52, A. E. A. O. U. M. S., Omaha, Neb, Meetings the fourth Wednesday in each month. N. Hunter, Ill. Potentate; Charles W. Dickerson, Ill. Recorder.

Shaffer Chapter No. 42, O. E. S., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Friday in each month. Maggie Ransom, R. M. Elnora Obee, Secretary.

Keystone Lodge No. 4, K. of P., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Thursday in each month. N. Hunter, C. C.; Edward Turner, K. of R. S.

Omaha Lodge No. 2226, Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. Meeting nights, the first and third Thursdays of each month. Lodge rooms, 25221/2 Lake street. C. M. Johnson, N. G.; J. C. Belcher, Cor. Secretary.

### SOME FEW FACTS ABOUT BILLY KERSANDS

To the Editor of The Monitor:

In conversation with Ernest Hogan now deceased, he informed me that after coming in contact with every Negro comedian of his time, he nao come to the conclusion that Billy Kersands was the most original comedian the race had ever produced.

Be it known to his credit that, w'? the possible exception of one or two Negro comedians, every one is doing, or has done, some little stunt created by dear old Billy.

Billy was always setting good examples for brother performers. Managers say that Billy was the easiest star to handle they ever met. If the show was late in getting to a city, he was the first man to grab a trunk. Every time he left his dressing room it was fit for any one else to occupy, as he always swept it out and cleaned the furniture. He was the only Negro comedian that the white people of Dixie took special pride and interest in. They looked forward each year to see Billy perform his varied and versatile comicalities and antics. He was the originator of the famous "Essence of Virginia," a dance that has outlived all of the supposed high-class modern dances.

In appearance on the street, no man was neater. He was scrupulouslyexact as to personal cleanliness and appearance.

Now that he has gone to join that troupe of the many black stars of yesterday, may his memory live as a beacon light to lead those of tomorrow to the heights of honorable achievement in their chosen profession. Peace be to his ashes.

DAN DESDUNES.

Omaha, July 17, 1915. Rev. John Albert Williams,

Dear Friend:

I am much interested in The Monitor. It is a neat, interesting paper, and deserves success. I am sure it will be appreciated by your people and their friends everywhere. I enclose check for one year's subscrip-

Very truly yours, GEORGE A. MAGNEY.



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