

THE LODGES;

News and Notes from Various
Mystic Order—Omaha
Free Masons and
Their Work.

What the Brethren of the Tri-
ple Link Are Dis-
cussing.

Goat Hairs and Links.

THE FREE MASONS.

LOCAL LODGES.

Work in the various blue lodges of the city continues and a constant increase of membership is noted in each of the three bodies. Covert No. 11 has made excellent progress since the last change of officers. Interest in the meetings is increasing, and several candidates have been recently elected. St. Johns had work in the E. A. degree last Thursday, W. M. E. B. Carter occupying the east.

The fine qualities of Bro. G. W. Lininger as presiding officer are making themselves shown in Capital lodge, and are properly influencing both the officers and the membership. Whether as great a number of initiates will be received this year as formerly is doubtful, but it is certain that the precision and smoothness of the work will be greater than for a number of years past in every lodge of the city.

The Scottish Rite is advancing steadily in Omaha, and gaining new members at every regular meeting. On Saturday evening the fourth degree was conferred on one of our prominent merchants, and there will be work this evening in the fifth at the lodge room. The chapter of Rite Croix is preparing to work on a class at an early date, and to this end is collecting the necessary paraphernalia. There is some talk of organizing a council and consistory in the fall.

WORK ON THE SABBATH.

Some questions having arisen as to the feasibility of performing Masonic work on Sunday, Grand Master French, of Mississippi, made the following answer to a number of Masons in his state:

While Masonry is in no sense a religious institution, and makes no pretensions to save men's souls, yet Masons accept the Holy Bible as a rule and guide to their faith and practice. It lies upon the altar in every lodge room, and without its presence no lodge can hold a legal meeting. Let us see what is written in the book: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt not do any work."

"In this land of ours the first day of the week is set apart and recognized as the Sabbath. The civil law enforces a due observance of that day, and God forbid that it may ever be said that Masons in violation of Divine and human laws should ever find it necessary to hold any meetings upon the Sabbath—funeral occasions alone excepted—I am of the opinion that it would be improper and illegal to hold a regular communication upon the Sabbath. It would be better for the honor and good name of Masonry that the lodge should cease to exist."

GOAT HAIRS.

There are 57 Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in California. An increase of 187 members is reported during the past year.

Petaluma, Cal., has a new Masonic temple. The prince of Wales was initiated into Free Masonry in Sweden in 1808. In 1869 the rank of Past Grand Master was bestowed upon him. In 1874, on the resignation of the marquis of Ripon, he accepted the office of Grand Master, and was installed into office the following year. It is a singular coincidence that this event should have taken place on the very day on which, 137 years previously, the famous Bull of Pope Clement XII. had been fulminated against Free Masonry.

The last issue of The London Free Mason contains a eulogy upon the late Henry W. Longfellow, which feelingly expresses the high appreciation in which the works of the beloved American poet are held in England, many of which, it says, "are familiar on our lips as household words," and serve to adorn literature, culture, and give reality to virtue, and to assuage the sorrows of humanity. "Mr. Longfellow has been laid in his grave amid the respectful and reverential sympathy of the Anglo-Saxon world, which loves his words and knows the man." The article concludes with the beautiful lines, "In Memoriam," from Punch:

THE TRIPLE LINK.

THE PATRIARCHAL CIRCLE.

The "Patriarchal Circle" have at last taken the right course in introducing their new degree. They want it distinctly understood that it is no part or parcel of Odd Fellowship; that the degrees it confers are "independent," and are not "higher degrees," or any degree belonging to the I. O. O. F. The so-called "Select Knights, A. O. U. W.," might learn a useful lesson here. If the latter body had not persistently violated law and requests, and not have endeavored to foist themselves upon the public as conferring "degrees of the A. O. U. W.," and had dropped the illegal use of the initials of said order and stood

their own merits, long ere this they would have had the indirect support of the entire membership and their subordinates initiated in every state. There is nothing like being and doing right at the beginning of a new enterprise.

A NICE POINT.

A nice point has been raised in the east, and an important one, viz.: "Was there positive legislation that the business of subordinate lodges should be transacted in the third degree; and, if so, when was it into operation?" The following is the statement: Page 64 of The Daily Journal gives the report of the legislative committee, with a resolution that lodges should work in third degree on after July 1, 1882. This report laid over under the rule. On page 128 of the Journal this report was taken up. After various attempts to postpone, fix different times, etc., Representative Grunner, of Pennsylvania, offered two resolutions as a substitute, the first one of which was, "That in the judgment of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, the business of subordinate lodges should be transacted in the third degree," and the second one provides for altering the laws of the order to conform to the change, and having a report at next session. The first resolution was adopted, thereby admitting and recognizing the substitute, and nullifying the resolutions of the committee. The second resolution of the substitute was lost; and the point raised is, that the Sovereign Grand Lodge merely expressed an opinion, without positive legislation, and that if this opinion can be construed as law, there is no time specified when it shall go into operation, and, that though it may be inferred from the rejection of the proposition to postpone, that the time the committee named (July 1, 1882) was agreeable and intended, yet the substitute did away entirely with the resolution containing the date, and the failure to specify a date positively leaves the entire question unsettled.

LINKS.

Grand celebrations throughout the United States will be the order of the day for the 28th of April. Many of the lodges of the National jurisdiction have endorsed the five cent Ridgely monument movement, and have contributed to the same. A general interest is manifested throughout the National jurisdiction, and the order will show a large amount of work done during 1882.

South Carolina pays its grand secretary \$50 a year. What does he do with so much money? The hall has opened already in New York, and the districts are nominating for grand officers. There are ten candidates for grand wardens, six for grand secretaries, seven for grand treasurers, four for grand representatives, and only a few districts heard from.

San Francisco, with a population of 233,000, has over 5,000 Odd Fellows, while Chicago, with 503,000 population, has but little over 4,000. Of the 204 members of the general assembly of Illinois 56 are Odd Fellows.

Grateful Women.

None receive so much benefit, and none are so profoundly grateful, as the few who have been cured of the many ills the sex is afflicted with. Many of the ailments peculiarly adapted to the many ills the sex is afflicted with. Many of the ailments peculiarly adapted to the many ills the sex is afflicted with. Many of the ailments peculiarly adapted to the many ills the sex is afflicted with.

The President's Coachman. Probably the most widely known face in Washington, says The Republican, is that of Albert, the president's coachman. Albert is as black as the ace of spades, as pleasant as a summer day, and as genial as Pommery sec. He was standing in the roadway in front of the white house yesterday afternoon, and The Republican smilingly saluted him and inquired: "Well, Albert, how do you like the horses?"

"What horses?" asked Albert, diplomatically. "The president's new team," said the scribe.

"Dey's worry good horses," replied the amiable Albert; "worry spirited and werry stylish."

"Are they as good as ex-President Grant's?" queried the man who represented the only newspaper in Washington.

"Dey's werry nice horses, but Gen. Grant's horses woz horses, an' no mistake. De off hoss of the present team ain't as good as he mought be."

"How do they compare with President Hayes' team?" asked the reporter.

"Humph!" laughed Albert; "would be purty hard fur to fine wusser horses than Mr. Hayes' 'cep'n' you get 'em outen a cyster. Dey was de wuz hosses I ever seen."

Just then the Georgetown fire engine came by on its way to Ryndel's fire, and Senator Kellogg's horse, which was being held by a stalwart darkey, began to jump around and display his heels.

"Good Lord A'mighty!" ejaculated Albert, "young Mister Arthur is out wid de buggy, and I do hope he wone come across dat dere injine."

"Why, Albert, isn't he a good driver?" asked the reporter.

"Purty good driver; boss, purty good driver; but I tell you, when a horse sees one of dese here steam injines, he jist wants to get away from dat der locality ez soon ez he can."

"How long have you been driving for presidents, Albert?"

"Fo'teen years last October."

"Is it a good place, Albert?" queried The Republican.

"Well, boss, it's a werry good place."

"Are presidents good people to work for?"

"Some of 'em is; but one what I knowed wuzn' ez good ez he mought be."

The Board Unloaded.

Charles Thompson, Franklin street, Buffalo, says: "I have suffered for a long time with constipation, and tried almost every purgative advertised, but only resulting in temporary relief, and after constipation still more aggravated, I was told about your Spring Bismarck and tried it. I can now say I am cured, and though I shall, however, always keep some in hand in case of the old complaint returning." Price 50 cents, trial bottle 10 cents.

The Absolute Despotism of Millions.

Philadelphia Press.

The prices of railroad securities for the next thirty days will be largely under the influence of the circumstance that Mr. Vanderbilt is to take a trip across the Atlantic, and Mr. Gould a run over his southwestern railroad park, which supplies and controls a tenth of the territory of the country under the theory of whose laws Jay Gould is held equal with the meanest of his fellow-citizens. The money article of The Press yesterday gave full space to the direct and immediate influence which the personal movements of these two men were likely to have on the stock market. So did all like articles written with an adequate conception of the actual influences controlling the current valuation of the greatest railroad system in the world. The price of the great commercial engine for the distribution of products and the promotion of intercommunication which history has seen, which thirty industrious years have built at a cost of \$5,000,000,000, whose yearly toll in traffic reaches \$600,000,000, which employs 500,000 men, and supports by the profit of its working the population of a great state, quivers and pulses as two men pass and repass on their spring jaunts of business and pleasure.

These are the facts of life in a land where constitutional theory and the practice of legislation has done its long and leveling best to free men in the mass from the absolute control of irresponsible wills. The ordinary right and control over property, necessary to civilization and the foundation of progress, magnified in two great fortunes of \$200,000,000 and \$100,000,000, give powers which cast a shadow over the trade of a continent and away the profits of thousands, as the moon moves the tides by simple transit in its own set path. Used wisely and without ostentation these tremendous powers might avoid notice and escape criticism. They are not so used. Everybody knows that in the last six weeks Mr. Gould, by spreading his reams of bonded wealth before a few men; Mr. Vanderbilt, by loud professions, which his acts prove lie marked up prices in the market place of the western continent, and then, having reaped the profit of advance, marked prices down for another profit. The metropolitan traffic to which the streets of New York are sacrificed, the telegraph system of the country, its trunk lines, the great railroad systems of our great valley, the branching lines of the great Southwest, our transcontinental railroad, built by the Nation and given to its stockholders, all those in the last twenty months have been manipulated to the same purpose by two men, whose rights in the control of their property are sedulously protected by the community for whose profit and welfare their acts show little concern, save as such concern adds to their own accumulations.

We are only in the beginning of the exercise of this sweeping despotism. In 1850 \$2,000,000 was a great fortune; in 1860 \$5,000,000 was wealth; in 1870 four times this challenged attention; in 1882 eight eighths stand to the right of the wealth of Gould and Vanderbilt, and the controlling men over these enormous accumulations, one the accident of inheritance and the other the fruit of doubtful practices, is as absolute as the ownership of a bill which a man twists over his fingers. It is not possible that this should always last. The sacred right of every man to the fruit of his industry and the savings of his thrift lies at the very root and source of a sound civilization, but the time will come, and may be nearer than men imagine, when it will be seen that the rights which are safe for small fortunes become wrong in mammoth accumulations which roll up in their yearly progress. Taxation has already been used in California to prevent the aggregation of land in few hands. The same method may yet be employed to check the endless aggregation of dollars to the harm and evil of the community. An income tax, whose chief incidence would fall on enormous fortunes; laws to regulate the management of great properties, restricting their inheritance—in the absence of enough Judge Hilltons to around—any or all these are remedies within the reach of the community.

Rob it In.

Jacob Lockman, 274 Clinton street, N. Y., says he has been using Thomas' Electric Oil for rheumatism. He had such a lame back that he could do nothing, but one bottle entirely cured him. 20 clw

THE OLDEST INHABITANT.

Death of a Texan Who is Believed to Have Been the Oldest Man in This Country.

Santiago Ortiz, of Yalata, Tex., perhaps the oldest man in the United States, was called to his eternal home a few days ago. The El Paso Times says: "He was called the 'Tosman,' and his death is worthy of more than a passing notice. He was thought to be 113 years old, and up to the time of his death was remarkably strong and active. As an evidence of his brightness and vigor, it is told of him that on one occasion last year he desired to cross the river. For fear his 'burro' might not be equal to the task of swimming the river and bearing him as a burden on its back, the old gentleman boldly plunged into the stream, and holding on to the halter-ropes, led his 'burro,' which followed in his wake, and thus both of them swam the river, each 'on his own hook.'"

Don Santiago Ortiz was a guide for the king of Spain prior to 1880, and before Mexico had gained her independence and shaken of Spanish rule. He was familiar with the country from the Mississippi river to the City of Mexico, and was well known by all Americans who have lived on the frontier for the past fifty years. He was one of the original Pueblo Indians, and leaves only a son to mourn his death.

The old gentleman was a devout Catholic, and a few days before his death he visited him at his residence, and told him that he felt his end was near at hand. He wished to make his peace with his God and die. He received the sacraments, and was buried according to the rites of the church. Peace to his ashes.

In reference to the death, the following was written on by Yalata: Don Santiago Ortiz, more familiarly known, 'Tosman,' was a member

of the Taos tribe of Indians of Mexico, which tribe is now nearly extinct, and 'Tosman' was undoubtedly the last of the tribe north of the Rio Grande. The aged don up to the last retained most wonderful powers of memory, and, having been a great traveler of his day, saw and retained most vivid recollections of many of the most celebrities of the last century, among whom were President Washington, Commodore Perry, Thomas Jefferson, Aaron Burr, and many others whom he had seen in Washington and other eastern cities during a trip on which he was acting as body-servant to a Mexican officer.

"Tosman" was possessed of great strength and agility, and even after he had passed the centennial millstone would often amuse his friends by exhibitions most astonishing for one of his years. The Hon. Judge Baca, upon learning of his death, with that spirit of liberality for which he is so justly celebrated, started a subscription list among our merchants, who responded most liberally, to raise a fund to give all that is mortal of Don Santiago Ortiz honorable burial.



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