



On Monday morning May 13 about 8 a. m. the sad news flashed over the jurisdiction that Brother John H. Burrill, Past Master of Pythagoras Lodge No. 9 and Past Grand Master of this jurisdiction had been summoned before the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, and many were the expressions of sorrow for the loss the craft had sustained and sympathy for the widow and orphans. This distinguished Mason was born in the year 1838 at Culpeper, Va., was initiated into the mysteries of our Order March 21, 1871 in Pythagoras Lodge, U. D. Passed to the degree of Fellow Craft March 29th 1871 and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason March 29th 1871. In the first election of officers under the warrant granted the Lodge he was the Senior Warden December 4th 1871 and Worshipful Master December 1872, which position he held for one year. In December 1880 he was again elected Master and served one year. Brother Burrill, in all business transactions with his Lodge, maintained an unquestionable reputation for strict integrity. He was also a prominent character in the Grand Lodge, being elected Junior Grand Warden in 1874, Deputy Grand Master in 1877 and 1897 and Grand Master in 1898. In Royal Arch Masonry he was a member of St. John's Chapter No. 7 and in Knighthood a member of Mount Cavalry Commandery No. 4; in both of these organizations he was exalted to the highest positions in their Grand and Subordinate bodies. He was also a 33° Mason and an active member of the Supreme Council. The funeral services were held at the 15th Street Presbyterian church under the auspices of the Grand Lodge. Rev. Grimke delivered a very able address on the life and character of the deceased; appropriate music was rendered by the choir. The funeral services of the Knight Templars were performed at the church by the Right Eminent Grand Commander R. S. Watts, assisted by the Eminent Commander W. H. J. Malvin of Mount Cavalry, Sir Knight Severson acting as the Prelate; after which the body of our lamented brother was tenderly borne out of the church by his associate Past Grand Masters and the funeral procession moved toward Woodlawn, his last resting place. Standing by this grave we are consoled by our belief that while death has cut down our Brother, Companion and Sir Knight, he has been gathered into that everlasting Spring and Summer Land where our fathers have gone before us into the splendor and glory of the greater mysteries, where the bond of fellowship is rendered perfect. "Peace to his ashes, rest to his soul."

Past Deputy Grand Master James L. Johnson declares that he can pick a team from Pythagoras Lodge that can take the jewel from an picked team in the jurisdiction. What has Brothers Cardoza and Turner to say about this?

Prince Hall Lodge held a very enthusiastic meeting on Thursday. The attendance was good and the gathering a pleasant one. She voted never again to sheath her sword until she had victory perched upon her banner. Brother L. D. Wilkerson in the course of his remarks declared that the pen was mightier than the sword. What pen Brother Wilkerson? Do you mean the Secretary's pen?

Dr. W. Bruce Evans, Junior Warden of Social Lodge, has been appointed Principal of the Manual Training School (colored.) We extend him our hearty congratulations.

Deputy Grand Master Malvin has taken apartments in the Alabama Flats 2108 Ward Place, n. w., which are now being fitted in accordance with his well known taste. Watch the Alabama Flats after May 30th and may see what you desire to know.

The meeting of Queen Esther Chapter on Friday night last was a very enthusiastic one; the work of the new officers under the efficient management of their Patron Ills. James O. Bamfield was, to say the least, excellent. The Patron spoke of the proposed jewel contest and declared that the Matron of Queen Esther must be the first to wear it.

During the past two weeks thirty-six Master Masons have subscribed to The Colored American. Let the good work go on. Brother Cooper merits the support of the entire craft.

Brother Joe Newman of Felix Lodge is the proprietor of a barber shop located at the southeast corner of 3rd and D streets, s. w. His work is of the highest order and the craft should by their patronage show him that Masonry means more than the wearing of a pin or button. Give Brother Newman support.

It is quite amusing to go the rounds and see the many flates being constructed for every office from the Grand Tyler to the Grand Lodge to the Tyler of the Subordinate Lodge, all of which will be smashed to pieces in a few moments when December comes. Yet no better proof is needed to show the healthy condition of the craft in jurisdiction.

It is indeed a difficult matter to harness Brother J. W. Cole of Prince Hall, but once harnessed, he will pull with such power that it will awaken the echoes from old Widows' Sons of Georgetown to young Datcher in South Washington.

Time was when it was necessary that the windows of the Masonic Temple should be barred by heavy blinds for protection but that time has long since past and these relics of ancient days should be removed at once and the several lodge rooms made possible of ventilation during the hot summer months now fast approaching. Brothers Watts, Coleman, Gleaves, Bailey and Malvin please act once.

Work to be done: Social first degree May 24th, Felix first and third degree, May 27th Widows' Son second degree, May 30th. Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Brothers J. W. Hutchinson of Felix, J. W. Freeman of Social, J. C. Nalle of Eureka, were visitors at the office of The Colored American on Saturday and congratulated Brother Cooper on the Masonic column.

At a recent gathering of the Grand Lodge the Grand Master had to fill every office save that of Grand Secretary by appointment, which I claim to be a great reflection upon the craft. Brethren should not accept and should not be elected to positions in Grand or Subordinate bodies that they do not intend to fill to the best of their ability.

Much has been said through this column relative to the delapidated condition of the new chairs placed in the Lodge room. We hope that this evil will be remedied or the old benches replaced. Where is Brothers Mays, Cole, Turner, Malvin and Nalle.

The Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star will convene at Masonic Temple Tuesday, May 28. Business of importance to be transacted.

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