

THE CLARION. THE FRATERNITIES.

The Masonic Grand Lodge will meet at Jackson on the second Wednesday in February, 1883, being the 14th of the month. It will be the sixty-fifth Annual Communication. The Grand Chapter will meet on the Monday preceding.

The Grand Secretary of the Masonic Grand Lodge has offered a prize jewel for the best prepared return for 1882. The points of excellence to include: 1st, promptness in forwarding; 2d, accuracy, as tested by balance sheet; 3d, correctness and plainness in the spelling of names; 4th, the fewest number of suspensions; 5th, the greatest number of reinstatements. The Grand Master will be requested to appoint a committee to report and make the award during the session of Grand Lodge.

Summit Lodge, No. 231, has issued a circular soliciting contributions to a Masonic Library, and has already met with considerable encouragement. Every Lodge ought to follow this good example.

Never destroy a Masonic book, pamphlet or newspaper. If you have no use for it pass it on to Bro. Speed at Vicksburg, who will find a place for it in some Masonic library, where it is wanted.—Masonic Mutual.

The address of Bro. G. Y. Freeman, Deputy Grand Master, at the laying of the corner stone of the new Methodist Church at Jackson, is said to have been the best as well as the shortest ever delivered, in the jurisdiction, on a similar occasion.—Masonic Mutual.

ODD FELLOWSHIP.

The last compiled exhibit of the numerical strength of the Order of Odd Fellows, showed a total membership of 475,048, an increase of 19,005 over the previous year. The total relief dispensed amounted to \$1,831,171.88, an increase of \$135,192.16 over previous year.

The following are among the most important decisions rendered by the Grand Sire at the 58th annual session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge held in Baltimore, in September, 1882:

A brother was elected Noble Grand, served five months, and resigned on account of business engagements. Was again elected Noble Grand, and served five months, when he was again compelled to leave the city; the Lodge, however, granted him leave of absence. Is he entitled to the honors of Past Grand? Answer.—He is.

A brother is elected Noble Grand, serves a majority of nights, and is then given leave of absence for ten weeks by the Lodge. Is he entitled to the honors of Past Grand? Answer.—He is.

Is it legal for a Subordinate Lodge to limit the payment of benefits to thirteen weeks, or any other time? Answer.—It is not.

After benefits have accrued can a lodge, by its action, reduce the amount? Answer.—It can not.

Is it legal to refuse to pay benefits until one week after a brother has been reported sick? Answer.—As the Sovereign Grand Lodge has proscribed such a rule for the subordinates under its immediate jurisdiction, and such a provision is almost universal in the Order, it may be considered as established that a subordinate has a right to provide that benefits shall not be paid for the first week's sickness of a member.

To suspend or drop a member for the non-payment of dues, the time fixed by law must be regarded, and not the amount due. A brother clear of the books on the 1st of January, for instance, can not be suspended or dropped until a year thereafter, no matter to what amount his dues may accumulate in the intermediate time, by fines or otherwise.

A card of withdrawal having been granted to a member of a lodge, and before its expiration charges are duly preferred against him, and the card annulled, and the brother, after trial, was acquitted, his position in the lodge is the same as if the card had never been granted.

Can a brother hold both offices, Recording Secretary and Treasurer of a Subordinate Lodge? Answer.—In the absence of any legislation by the Sovereign Grand Lodge on the subject, I decide, on principle, that a brother cannot hold the two offices at one and the same time.

The Knights of Honor, Knights of Pythias and similar Associations have demonstrated that men have confidence in each other, and that the members thereof get full value for all they pay. In the Masonic Mutual Benefit Association of Mississippi, we do not propose having any "surplus funds" or "assets" to waste, or misapply; no investments in bonds or buildings; no rent to pay, no salaries, except a very moderate compensation to the Secretary, who does all the work, and no other expense except for necessary printing and postage.

The venerable Thomas Palmer, Past Master of Pearl Lodge, No. 23, who is one of the oldest Masons and one of the oldest fathers in the United States, attended the celebration of St. John's Day, at Canon City, Colorado, on the night of the 27th of December. He had sent to this writer for a copy of Dr. Rob. Morris' poem, "We met upon the Level, and we part upon the Square," which he wanted to read on the occasion, because of its excellent sentiments, and the fact that Bro. Morris had been a member of Pearl Lodge, in Jackson, before he acquired distinction as a famous traveler and writer. We may add that the same poem was recited at the banquet of Pearl Lodge on the same night was read in Canon City. Its author is now a resident of Lagrange, Ky.

The banquet to which the Masonic fraternity sat down on the night of the 27th, was one of the most sumptuous, sociable, and in all respects enjoyable that has ever been spread in the Masonic hall. There was a fine attendance, including Deputy Grand Master Freeman, Past Deputy Grand Master Oliver Clifton, and one of the lesser lights.

A Child's Sympathy.

from the Boston Congregationalist.] A little girl, some 3 or 4 years old, had been corrected by her mother somewhat severely. In the same family was another little girl of 81 years, staying temporarily, whose mother was not living. As soon as the two were alone this elder one expressed her sympathy for the culprit as follows: "I'm sorry for you. My mamma is in heaven. Don't wish your's was!"

A DISTINGUISHED EX-MISSISSIPPI POLITICIAN IN A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.

C. E. Furlong in a New Role.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.

A breach of promise case of unusual interest will be tried in this city next month. The defendant is Gen. Chas. E. Furlong, said to be an intimate friend of Gen. Grant. The "woman in the case" is Miss Sophie Allen, about twenty-two years of age, and residing with her mother in this city. She alleges that on April 24, 1880, the general promised to marry her within a reasonable time, but failing in this she brings suit, claiming \$20,000 damages. In the papers filed by her attorneys, Miss Allen says she met Gen. Furlong for the first time at the house of a friend at Saratoga Springs. He was then a guest at one of the hotels, and a resident of Vicksburg, Miss. He was reputed to be a man of wealth, and high social position, and as their acquaintance ripened she was pleased at his expressions of affection and admiration. He discovered her admiration for the love of music, and offered to pay her expenses for a year's study under the best teachers in the country, and send her to Europe. After consulting her mother she accepted his offer, and began taking lessons in New York.

"He called nearly every day and evening at Mrs. Sawyer's to see me, and took me to the theatre or the opera," continued Miss Allen. "He was profuse in his expressions of love and affection for me. He gave me money to pay my expenses and music lessons, and we attended church together every Sunday from the first Sunday in January to the first Sunday in April 1880. He accompanied me to my music lessons occasionally. He presented me with a pair of bracelets with my name engraved thereon, which I accepted. He said he wanted my love and affection, related to me his adventures as an officer in the late war, and told me of his advancement on the staff of a most distinguished general of our army.

"We walked together in the spring-time to the Central park, where, seated in one of the little arbors, I would, at his request, read to him some book of romance or love, and often the sun would sink behind the Palisades before we would reach my home, from which we had made our start. On these occasions he would tell me of his love for me, and express his regret that I was not one year older and my education completed. He asked me frequently if I thought I could like him, but said he wanted me for the present to apply myself to my studies. In January, 1880, on my birthday, he presented me with a locket and chain, which I accepted. We went to the theatre that night, and in the course of the evening he asked me if I supposed he would ever take me to Europe except as his wife, saying that if I thought so I was mistaken.

"If I were to give you my heart would you keep it?" he asked, and "are you willing to be my wife?" I was deeply affected, and told him he had paid me the highest compliment that could be paid a woman, and that I appreciated it, and I hoped I would never be unworthy of it. I also told him that if he felt the same way next January I would put his picture in the locket he had given me. On the Tuesday following he wanted me to go with him to the Safe Deposit Company in the Equitable building, and he went. At this place he showed me over \$150,000 in \$20 gold pieces, done up in rolls, and invited me to take some of them, which I declined. He told me on that day that he declined to give me an engagement ring as soon as he returned from the South, where he expected soon to go on business. He took me on my boarding house and took me to Mrs. Harner's school in Gramercy park, saying that he would not marry a girl out of a boarding house. At this place he paid my expenses and had me take music lessons every day. He furnished me with money for my clothes, and gave out that we were engaged to be married.

"On April, 1880, he went to Vicksburg, where he said business matters demanded his attention. In his absence we corresponded. He returned in the latter part of the month. He sent me a box of beautiful flowers from Vicksburg. On his return I told him of the talk among people of our engagement, and he said: 'Take this ring, taking one from his hand, and to-morrow I will get the engagement ring.' The next day he came and accompanied me to Tiffany's and bought an engagement ring for \$180 and left it to be engraved with his initials and mine, and sent to me at my address. The next day it came, and has been worn by me from that time to the present.

He went to California that season, and during his absence we kept up a constant correspondence. On his return he wished me to go to Mount Desert, Me., with him, and I think I told him not alone. He then asked me if I would go to Old Orchard Beach, Me., if Mrs. Radley, an old acquaintance of ours, went along. I told him I would, and Mrs. Radley and I went there. He then took me and a lady friend to Mount Desert, where I remained two weeks and received his constant attention. On our way home, and while stopping at a hotel, by reason of his promise of marriage, he \* \* \* and afterward beset of it.

"Since that time she says she has repeatedly asked him to marry her, but he declared that he would have nothing more to do with her, and that all relations between him and her were at an end. On the presentation of her case, as above, before the chief justice, his honor granted an order of arrest against Gen. Furlong, and fixed bail at \$10,000. Alexander V. Davidson, the present sheriff-elect, then deputy, arrested the general, who gave the bail required, himself giving a bond of \$10,000.

In order to procure the order of arrest, Miss Allen had to find two sureties in \$250 each, to be answerable for costs or damages should the suit go against her. Friday the case was up before Judge McAdam in chambers, on a motion to place it on the calendar for trial. The attorney for the defense fought for more time to enable him to get all his witnesses who were very much scattered, some of them residing in Saratoga, Albany, the State of Maine and other distant places. Judge McAdam put the case over to the January term. Miss Allen has another case against Gen. Furlong in the superior court, growing out of a similar grievance.

It is stated in Washington that the New Orleans Pacific and Mississippi Valley Railway companies are both desirous of buying the United States barracks at Baton Rouge. It is thought the government will offer them for sale.—Shreveport Times.

THE SLAVE-TRADE AND ENGLISH MARITIME GLORY.—For about half a century [after Cabot] the English seamen hardly crossed the Atlantic. When they began again it was because they had learned from Spain to engage in the slave-trade. In that base path the maritime glory of England found its revival. For fifty years Englishmen thought of the New World only as a possession of Spain, with which England was in more or less friendly alliance. It was France, not England, which showed at that time more symptoms of a wish to dispute the voyage of Verrazano, in 1521, the name New France covered much of North America on certain maps and globes. It was little more than a name; but the Breton and Gascon fishermen began to make trips to the West Indies, mingling more or less of smuggling and piracy with their allowed pursuits, and the English followed them—learned the way of them, in fact. Under the sway of Queen Elizabeth, England was again Protestant, not Catholic; the bigotry of Philip II. had aroused all the Protestant nations against him, and the hereditary hostility of France made the French sailors only too ready to act as pilots and seamen for the English. Between the two the most powerful band of buccannery and adventurers in the world was soon let loose upon the Spanish settlements.

It is a melancholy fact that the voyage which first opened the West Indian seas to the English ships was a slave-trading voyage. The discreditable promise made by Columbus that America should supply Europe with slaves had not been fulfilled; on the contrary, the demand for slaves in the Spanish mines and the Portuguese plantations was greater than America could supply, and it was necessary to look across the Atlantic for it. John Hawkins, an experienced seaman, whose father had been a Guinea trader before him, took a cargo of slaves from Guinea in 1562, and sold them in the ports of Hispaniola. "Worshipful friends in London," it appears, shared, his venture—Sir Lionel Duckett, Sir Thomas Lodge, and the like. He took three ships, the largest only 120 tons; he had but a hundred men in all. In Guinea, Hakluyt frankly tells us in the brief note which gives all that is known of this expedition, "he got into his possession, partly by the sword and partly by other means, to the number of 300 negroes at the least, besides other merchandises which that country yieldeth." With this miserable cargo he sailed for Hispaniola, and in three ports left all his goods behind him, loaded his own ship with hides, ginger, sugar, and pearls, and had enough to freight two other ships besides. This is almost all we know of the first voyage; but the second (in 1564) was fully described by John Spake, one of his companions—and a very rare record it is. This was the first English narrative of American adventure; for though Cabot left manuscripts behind him, they were never printed.

When we consider that the slave-trade is now treated as piracy throughout the civilized world, it is curious to find that these courageous early navigators were not only slave-traders, but of a most pious description. When Hawkins tried to capture and enslave a whole town near Sierra Leone, and when he narrowly escaped being captured himself, and meeting the fate he richly deserved, his historian says: "God, who worketh all things for the best would not have it so, and by Him we escaped without danger; His name be prayed for it." When the little fleet is becalmed, and suffers for want of water, the author says, "But Almighty God, who never suffereth His cleft to perish, sent us the sixteenth of February the ordinaire Breeze, which is the northwest wind." With these religious sentiments Hawkins carried his negroes to the Spanish settlements in Venezuela and elsewhere.—T. W. Higginson, in Harper's Magazine for January.

Hinds County Finances.

Raymond Gazette.]

In the year 1875 a great revolution took place in the State of Mississippi. The pressure of tax assessments had reached an enormous magnitude; under the forms of law the people were being plundered. What has the reform party of that date been doing since they went into power? A general summary, in short, compact shape, showing the debt of Hinds county at that date, its present debt, together with a general schedule of receipts and disbursements from that era would be agreeable reading to the people, and might be really instructive and of benefit.

The above is clipped from last week's Mississippiian, and although but the caption of an article, it is sufficient for our purpose. The whole article was intended, no doubt, for local application—for Hinds county; and we are prepared to a certain extent to answer the question submitted. Under the radical party, from 1870 to 1876, the taxes in Hinds county, (State and county combined) had grown to \$30 on the \$1,000 valuation, and on a much higher assessment than we now have. Since 1876, the year the reform party came into power, the tax rate has run from \$14.50 to \$19.00 on the \$1,000. There's what the reform has done.

But, the reform party has done more. While the Radicals were in power they not only collected from \$25 to \$30 on every \$1,000 of property assessed, but at the same time built up a debt (now known as the funded bond debt), of \$150,000. That refunded bond debt the reformers have been paying off from the \$14.50 to \$19.00 tax rate. The interest has been regularly paid, and the principal itself has been reduced within the six years at least \$50,000. This debt the radicals were continually increasing, while the reform party has continually decreased it, and with half the tax rate.

We may add that the debt of the county has been increased since 1876 by the issuance of the \$200,000 of railroad bonds. But that was done, not by the Supervisors, but by the reform party—but by the people at the polls under all the requirements of law. Four thousand two hundred and seventy-five of the people of Hinds county voted that that debt should be created, and less than two thousand against it, and we have to-day forty miles of railroad to show for it; while for the \$150,000 of funded bonds fastened on the county before the reformers came into power, there is not a day, and there never was, a showing.

The debt of the county, of every class, is perfectly understood by the people except, perhaps, as to the school warrants, and as the recent order of the Supervisors and the county Superintendent, for a reduction in the number of schools, will rapidly reduce the expenditures in that direction, and bring them within the limits of the taxes raised for that object, we have no doubt that very soon we shall fully understand the condition of that fund, and be able to state precisely the amount of the county's indebtedness on that account as well as all others.

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Table with columns: COUNTY, ACRES, T., R., EAST. Rows include Rankin, Neshoba, Winston, Attala, Carroll, Leflore, Grenada, Tallahatchie.

M. A. Metts, Esq., of Louisville, is Agent for Winston County Lands, C. L. Anderson, Esq., of Kosciusko, is Agent for Attala County Lands. These lands are all heavily timbered, and are good cotton and corn producing lands. Neshoba and Winston have some pine as well as other timber upon them. Coal is said to have been recently discovered in Winston county. For terms apply to PETER J. BAILEY, JACKSON, MISS.

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MEDICAL CENSORS

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JAS. L. HARRIS, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

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