

IN THE LODGE ROOMS.

As an object lesson of much interest to the leaders of the order of Odd Fellows, let them take the following from Grand Secretary Nicholson's report to the grand lodge of Pennsylvania for study during the cool evenings of the coming fall and winter:

MASONIC.

How many Royal Arch Masons in India, says O. G. Wood, P. Z., 361, E. C. know that during the labors of the Palestine exploration party in 1867, a curious interesting vault of great antiquity was discovered in the bosom of the holy Mount Moriah, amongst numerous secret passages and chambers under the site of King Solomon's temple? The explorations were under the immediate direction of Bro. Capt. (now Sir Charles) Warren of the royal engineers. During their subterranean investigations near the west wall of what in the old days was the temple enclosure, and just south of one of the modern entrances into the court of the Haram es-Sherief, known as the gate of the Chain (Bab el-Silsilah), the explorers came upon a series of vaults which appear at one time to have served as secret store chambers. The remains of the secret passage leading to the temple were also found close by. In one of the passages of this series of vaults an opening was discovered leading into a very ancient vault, which the explorers appropriately named Masonic Hall. The following is Sir Charles Warren's description of it, extracted from his book, "The Recovery of Jerusalem": "The entrance opens down to it from the north, the floor of the little passage leading to it being about 5 feet above the crown of the arch, so that there is a steep shelving passage into it. I was lowered down by means of a rope, and I found myself in a large rectangular vaulted chamber of ancient construction, with a column or pedestal sticking up from the center. On examining further the chamber was found to have been originally built 38 feet from east to west, and 30 feet 4 inches from north to south, but 10 feet 4 inches had been added to the east end so that it is now 50 feet 8 inches in length; but the arch over the southern portion is not the same date as of the northern, and to conceal this the column was raised in the center under the arch, and two pointed arches thrown over from the column to the sides, the span of each being about 10 feet. The column thus stood in the center, and must have been built at the same time as the chamber, and the stump of the column is found projecting through it. It is to be remarked, that the ten feet added to this chamber occupies the position which the secret passage would have held, and is under the street. The walls are built of square stones exactly wall jointed, and looking as if laid without mortar. The four corner there were pilasters with capitals, but that at the northeast angle alone is in a moderate state of preservation. This chamber has the appearance of being the oldest piece of masonry in Jerusalem with the exception of the Sanctuary walls, and perhaps as old as they are.

The third annual convention of the New York state Odd Fellows Home Association was held in Lockport Tuesday, with 125 delegates present. The principal business transacted was the provision for the liquidation of the \$10,000 mortgage on the home in Lockport. The treasurer's report showed assets, \$96,307.92; liabilities, \$18,460.68. Officers were elected as follows: President, Charles Hickey, Buffalo; vice president, W. D. Taylor, Buffalo; secretary, J. M. Deyo, Rochester; treasurer, Isaac T. McRobert, Buffalo; directors, George Beninger, Hornellsville; William Spangle, Canandaigua; Edward Jauok, Buffalo; W. P. Stone, Waverly; and Charles Simonds, Syracuse.

The following list will interest many, as it shows when the lodges of Utica were organized, their membership, and those who are entitled to grand lodge honors: Excelsior Lodge is the oldest in the city. It was instituted in 1874 and has now something over 90 members. The following are entitled to grand lodge rank: William Douglas, William H. Dale, Alex. M. Fraser, Charles Graves, H. B. Meeker, George Hays, W. H. B. Land, Charles E. Klein, E. H. George, Leighton R. E. Bennie, Charles Kirkland, H. H. Shaw, John E. Hoeder and E. E. Kirkland.

The Grand Lodge, Deutsche Order Harogart of this state held its opening session Wednesday morning at Turn Hall, with 75 visiting delegates, representing 73 lodges and 24 cities. The convention was opened with an address of welcome by District Deputy M. C. Cook. Grand Master John Deebert followed him and presented his report, which included his visitations during the year and the lodges installed.

From the report of Grand Secretary, Charles Lauber of Brooklyn, it was seen that the order in the state of New York possessed property and bonds to the amount of \$4,673.25. The amount paid out last year for sick benefits was \$86,000 and for funerals of members \$14,000, benevolences, \$3,000.

The newly elected officers of Crystal Fount Lodge will be installed next week. The lodge will hold a social at the home of Mrs. Stevens, 64 Churchhill avenue Friday evening, Aug. 14.

Onondaga County Lodge will be installed at Crystal Fount, Tuesday, Aug. 14.

PROMINENT PUBLIC MEN

Thomas K. Watson, the nominee of the Populist for vice president, is a typical Georgian, thin and angular, with a sharp face, which he keeps clean shaven, and with red hair which he can not keep in order. He is nearly 40 years old, having been born on Sept. 6, 1856, in Columbia county, Georgia. His home is at Thompson.

After passing through the common schools of his native place he was sent to the Mercer University at Macon, for a college course, but at the end of his sophomore year he was obliged to leave for lack of money. For two years thereafter he taught school, and during that time he studied law. Then he entered the office of Judge W. R. McLaws of Augusta, and after reading law there for a few weeks was admitted to the bar. He began the practice of law at Thomson in November, 1874, when he was 20 years old. He began very soon to interest himself in politics, and was elected to the Georgia legislature as a Democrat in 1880 and served for one term. In 1882 he was a presidential elector at large on the Democratic ticket. Besides practicing law and politics he is largely interested in farming.

Watson first attracted general attention in the country at large in 1882. He had been elected to the fifty-second congress from his home district, beating his Republican opponent, Anthony E. Williams, by a vote of 5,450 to 307. No sooner had Watson taken his seat at Washington as a Democrat than he abandoned his party, refused to enter its caucus, and became the Populist candidate for the speakership. There were but ten Populist members of the house and he was not elected. Watson not long afterward made the expression "Where am I at?" known all over the English speaking world by calling attention to the fact that he was a democrat and feeling drunk on the floor of the house. The speaker was Mr. Cobb of Alabama, and he used the now famous expression in a debate upon the Noye-Rockwell election case. Watson's charge was not sustained by the house. Nevertheless in the summer of 1882 Mr. Watson repeated the charge, not only against the members of the house, but also as a general one against many members of the house, and brought about his ears a vigorous protest. These charges were part of the Peoples' Party Campaign Book, 1892.

In this book Watson declared that "Extravagance had been the order of the day. Absenteeism was never so pronounced. Lack of purpose was never so clear. Lack of common business prudence never more glaring. Drunken members have reeled about the aisles, a disgrace to the republic. Drunken speakers have debated grave issues on the floor, and in the midst of maudlin rambles have been heard to ask, 'Mr. So-and-so, where was I at?' Unselfish employees pervade every department."

Mr. Wheeler of Alabama brought these charges to the attention of the house, and a committee was appointed to look into them. The committee of investigation consisted of Messrs. Royster, Wolcott, Buchanan of Virginia, Grout, and Jerry Simpson. The committee heard a number of witnesses on Aug. 23, and on that day of the session, reported that the charges were false and libelous in the sense in which they were made.

The decision of his party angered the Democrats of his district and they put up James C. C. Black, an Augusta lawyer, against Watson at the next election. Black was elected as the candidate of the Peoples' Party. He was beaten by a vote of 17,773 for Black against his 12,229 votes. In the fall of 1894 Watson ran against Black for the fifty-fourth congress. This time he ran as a Populist. It was a campaign of almost unrivaled bitterness. The country was arrayed against the former and propped and rationed were appealed to. Black and Watson held a number of joint debates, and these seemed to increase the excitement.

Watson declared that he was in danger of assassination. He sent out couriers through the country and summoned his supporters from the different sections of his district. They swarmed into Thomson from all sides, mounted and armed, and camped around his house to protect him from being lynched by the Democrats. Throughout the rest of the campaign Watson carried a rifle whenever he appeared in public. He was beaten in the election by a majority of about 7,000 for Black.

Black then charged that he had been beaten by frauds at the polls, and challenged Black to leave the decision as to who was properly elected to a commission of five, two to be selected by each candidate, and the fifth by these four. The commission to canvass the votes, and declare who was rightfully elected. Mr. Black called for a commission, but no such commission could have any authority, but offering to resign, and leave the matter to a new election.

Mr. Black took his place in congress, as he proposed, and then resigned to give Tom Watson a chance to beat him if he could. A special election was held, and Watson was elected. It is interesting to note that time he has devoted himself principally to the running of a Populist newspaper at Atlanta.

Claude Matthews, the former governor of Indiana, is one of the striking figures of Western politics. He is an election day agriculturist, but an actual farmer, and, like Cincinnati, he virtually left the plow to take a hand in the political affairs of the commonwealth. He is a strong, resolute man, in the prime of life, and his personal integrity and statesman-like capacity have made him the most popular as well as the most respected Democrat in the Hoosier state. This fact has been evidenced by the wonderful manner in which he has repeatedly reduced Republican majorities.

Gov. Matthews is a Kentuckian and a son of the soil of the "Dark and Bloody Ground." Bethel, Bath county, was the scene of his birth, and Dec. 24, 1845, the date of the interesting event. He attended Center college and at the age of 22 married Miss Martha R. Whitcomb, who gave him a son, Aug. 23, 1868.

In 1859 he removed to Vermillion, Ind., and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits three miles from Clinton. He was an enthusiastic and successful tiller of the soil and became particularly conspicuous in his locality as a stock breeder. He is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Bank of a national association of live stock men until he was elected governor. In 1876 he became the first Democratic representative from Vermillion county.

In 1880 he was chosen by a Democratic convention as secretary of state and carried Indiana by a plurality of nearly 20,000. In April, 1882, he was nominated for governor of Indiana on the first ballot. He was elected by a plurality of 6,000 and his term expires Jan. 9, 1887. In 1882, when the local authorities and the attorney general were defied by the Ruby pipe fighters, Gov. Matthews called out the militia and suppressed the Columbia Athletic club.

It is said that in Sweden a room-in each house is provided, into which the children may go to cry and scream. In other parts of the house they are to be kept quiet, and mindful of the comfort of others. It might be a good plan to have a department in every church for those who feel like crying or fretting or complaining. Let them go to the cry or poutery and have it out, without disturbing the comfort or spiritual welfare of the church and their brethren.

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