

BY - LAWS

OF

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22, G. R. C.

A. F. A. M.

ESTABLISHED, 1847.

Approved at Montreal, Canada, October 24th, 1868.

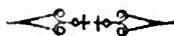
A. A. STEVENSON, G. M.

TORONTO:

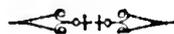
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1868.

BRIEF HISTORY
OF
KING SOLOMON'S LODGE, NO. 22.



BY R. W. BRO. DANIEL SPRY.



On the 27th of December, 1845, a number of Brethren of the Fraternity of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, who were not members of any of the Lodges then working in Toronto, were convened **1845.** by W. Bro. Wm. Cassidy, Past Master of Union Lodge, No. 105, Tandragee, Ireland, at the Tyrone Inn, Queen Street West, near York Street, then kept by the late Bro. John Trueman. (The building in which this meeting was held has since been destroyed by fire.) Bro. Cassidy, who, it appears, was the moving spirit, urged the brethren to make an application for a warrant for a new Lodge, and, after some discussion, the meeting was adjourned to a future day, with a view to obtain a larger attendance.

Accordingly, another meeting was held at the same place **1846.** in January, 1846, at which there were present Bros. W. Cassidy, John Trueman, David Hopkins, Richard Brethweight, Robert Moore and John McLaughlin. A deputation was appointed to wait upon Bro. Francis Richardson, Provincial Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, to request his assistance in obtaining a Warrant. Bro. Richardson declined to grant the request of the deputation, as in his opinion the Lodges then in existence in Toronto were quite sufficient for all Masonic purposes.

A third meeting was held on the second Thursday in February, at Bro. Trueman's, to which the deputation reported the result of their conference with the P. Grand Secretary. The brethren present, not being satisfied with Bro. Richardson's refusal, prepared a petition to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, praying for a warrant to empower the petitioners to meet as a Regular Lodge, to be named "KING SOLOMON'S LODGE OF TORONTO," and it was signed by Bros. John Trueman, R. Brethweight, David Hopkins, William Cassidy, John McLaughlin, Thomas Kennedy, and Andrew McElrea; and they recommended Bro. Trueman for W. M., Bro. Brethweight for S. W., and Bro. Hopkins for J. W.

The petition was forwarded to W. Bro. Hiram Cassidy, the then W. M. of Union Lodge, No. 105, Tandragee, Ireland, who got Lodges Nos. 79, 82, and 105 of that place to recommend the petition to the favourable consideration of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Ireland,

On the 8th September, a communication, dated the 15th of August, was received from Bro. Geo. Rankin, Assistant Deputy Grand Secretary, stating that the prayer of the petitioners had been granted, and on receipt of the necessary funds a warrant would be issued. This request was attended to, and on the 25th March, 1847, the Warrant, dated 3rd February, 1847, and numbered 222, reached 1847. Toronto, and on the second Thursday in April the brethren met and made arrangements to have the rooms, which they had leased from Bro. Trueman, properly fitted up, and on St. John's Day (24th June) the first meeting of the Lodge was held, and the following officers installed by W. Bros. Past Masters Robert McClure, Donald McLean, and Thos. Forsyth, of St. Andrew's Lodge, namely:—

W. BRO. WILLIAM CASSIDY,	- - - -	W. M.
" DAVID HOPKINS,	- - - -	S. W.
" THOMAS KENNEDY,	- - - -	J. W.
" JOHN TRUEMAN,	- - - -	Treasurer.
" SOLOMON CASSIDY,	- - - -	Secretary, <i>pro tem.</i>
" ROBERT MOORE,	- - - -	S. D.
" ANDREW MCELREA,	- - - -	J. D.
" WILLIAM LEONARD,	- - - -	I. G.
" JOHN MCLAUGHLIN,	- - - -	Tyler.

Bro. Trueman was not installed as W. M., as was originally intended, as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland would not permit the landlord of a public house to hold office in a Lodge which held its meetings in his house; and Bro. Brethweight, who had been named for S. W., died before the arrival of the Warrant. Three applications for membership were received at this meeting, and on the second Thursday in August the first candidate (Mr. Thomas Armstrong) was initiated. The Lodge prospered under the able care of Bro. 1848. Cassidy, and he was succeeded on the 24th of June, 1848, by Bro. Thomas Armstrong.

It may seem strange that a brother should be elected Master within less than a year from the date of his initiation; but it appears that Bro. Armstrong was highly esteemed by his brethren, and to render him eligible for the chair, the S. W. resigned, and he was elected to fill the vacancy. He laboured zealously during his term of office, and was succeeded by W. Bro. Thomas Paul, who was installed on 1849. the 24th of June, 1849, who held the office for one year. During his term of office the Lodge became tenants of Ionic Lodge, and met in the rooms then occupied by that Lodge, over the store of Messrs. A. Dixon & Son, King Street East.

On the 9th May, 1850, W. Bro. Kivas Tully was elected a 1850. member of the Lodge under peculiar circumstances. It appears that it was the wish of the brethren that Bro. Tully, who had been Master of Ionic Lodge, should be elected Master of this Lodge; and with that object in view, a deputation waited upon him, and requested him to become a member. Bro. Tully consented, and at the regular meeting in June, he was unanimously elected Master, and installed on St. John's Day.

The Lodge celebrated St. John's day (24th June) by an 1851. Excursion to Lewiston and Manchester, where the brethren were received and entertained by Frontier Lodge of Lewiston, N.Y., and on the following day Bro. Tully, who had been re-

elected, was installed Master for the second time, by R. W. Bro. T. D. Harington.

On the 9th October the thanks of the Lodge were tendered to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the kind and fraternal reception tendered to the brethren of this Lodge, on their late visit to Boston, during the "Railroad Jubilee."

During the time Bro. Tully occupied the Master's chair, the Lodge grew rapidly under his careful guidance, and he was succeeded by Bro. Geo. L. Allen, who was installed on 24th June, 1852, and held office until June, 1854.

During Bro. Allen's term of office the first complaints of this Lodge appear to have been made in reference to the want of a Grand Lodge in Canada; and in a communication, dated 26th February, 1853, addressed to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the Lodge complained of the excessive fees collected from Canadian Lodges.

On the 24th June, the deputation which had been appointed to wait upon St. Andrew's Lodge, to arrange for the leasing of Lodge rooms jointly, laid before the Lodge the articles of agreement, which had been signed by W. Bro. Barron, on behalf of St. Andrew's Lodge, and W. Bro. Kivas Tully on behalf of this Lodge. This agreement provided for the leasing of the rooms known as the "Odd Fellows' Hall," situated on the north-east corner of Church and Court Streets, being the upper portion of the building at present occupied by the British American Assurance Co. Some alterations were made in the agreement drawn up by the Committee, by King Solomon's Lodge, which St. Andrew's Lodge refused to confirm, and the union was not, in consequence, carried into effect.

On the 30th August these rooms were leased by this Lodge, and meetings were held there until the removal of the Lodge to the Western Assurance building.

To this Lodge is due the honour of having called the first Convention, which ultimately led to the formation of the present Grand Lodge of Canada, for at the regular meeting of the Lodge held on the 10th Nov., 1853, the following resolutions were adopted :

Proposed by V. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, P.M., seconded by Bro. Chas. Fitzgibbon, Senior Warden, and

Resolved,—"1st. That, considering the rapid increase of Lodges working under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, being now ten in number, and the necessity that exists for having a ruling power in Canada West—it is desirable that a convention, to be composed of the W. Masters, Past Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens of said Lodges, be held forthwith, to consult on the best means to be adopted for attaining the above object, and for the benefit of the Craft generally in Canada West.

"2nd. That, owing to the lateness of the season, and for the greater convenience of the Delegates from the several Lodges, it is advisable that the said convention be held in Hamilton, on Thursday, the 24th of this month, at noon, and that a communication be forwarded to Saint John's Lodge, No. 231, Hamilton, requesting the use of their Lodge room for the purpose,—and in order to give Masonic sanction to the proceedings of the said Convention, the W. Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 231, be and is hereby requested to call an Emergency of the Lodge on that day, there being nothing in the Constitution contrary to such a proceeding.

"3rd. That copies of the above resolutions be forwarded to the several Lodges working under the Irish Jurisdiction in Canada West, requesting that the duly qualified Delegates, as above stated, attend the Masonic Convention, as matters of the utmost importance to the progress of Masonry in Canada West will be discussed."

Circulars were accordingly issued to St. John's Lodge, 209, London, St. John's, 231, Hamilton, St. John's, 286, York, King Hiram, 226, Ingersoll, and the remaining six Lodges holding Irish Warrants. The Convention was held on the day named, and W. Bro. Thos. Bird Harris, W. M. of St. John's Lodge, 231, Hamilton, was chosen President, and Bro. R. C. McMullen, of King Solomon's Lodge, 222, Toronto, was appointed Secretary. After mature deliberation the Convention decided to establish an Independent Grand Lodge for Canada West.

An Emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on the 16th December, to receive the report of the Delegates. After reading the resolutions adopted by the Convention, it was

Resolved.—"That the Resolutions of the Convention, held in Hamilton, on Thursday, the 24th ult., having been fully discussed and considered by this Lodge—the members, in open Lodge assembled, are of opinion, that with all due reverence for the M. W., the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and for the benefit of the Order generally throughout this Province, the recommendation of the Convention, for the establishment of an Independent Grand Lodge for Canada West, is the most advisable course that could be adopted, and that the duly qualified Delegates be requested to attend the adjourned Convention to be held in London, on Thursday, the 4th May, 1854, for the purpose of establishing the said Independent Grand Lodge."—Carried unanimously.

Resolved.—"That the duly qualified Delegates be instructed to direct the attention of the Convention to the importance of inviting the co-operation of the several Lodges working under the English jurisdiction, in establishing an Independent Grand Lodge, as it is desirable that an unanimous action, in taking so important a step, should be cultivated as far as lies in the power of the Convention—with a due regard to the speedy settlement of the question."—Carried unanimously.

One hundred copies of these resolutions were ordered to be printed and circulated, and the following communication was addressed to all the Lodges in Canada West :

"TORONTO, 17th December, 1853.

"Dear Sir & Brother,—I have the honour to forward a Copy of Resolutions, passed at a meeting of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 222, on the Grand Registry of Ireland, passed unanimously last evening—and to request the co-operation of your Lodge in the contemplated objects, which are intended for the promotion of harmony and union among Freemasons in Canada.

"By Order. W. CLARKE, Secretary."

1854. At the meeting held on the 13th April, a letter received from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in reference to the action of the Lodge in endeavouring to form a Grand Lodge, was read. The Lodge ordered it to be sent to the Secretary of the Convention, to be held in London.

April 13th, a Communication was received from the P. Grand Lodge of England, inviting the Lodge to unite with them in laying the corner stone of the Toronto Mechanics' Institute, which was accepted, and on the 17th April the interesting ceremony was performed.

The second Convention of the Delegates from the various Irish Lodges, was held at London, on the 4th May, 1854, and resolved "That a provisional Committee be appointed to draft a Constitution for the government of the Grand Lodge of Canada West, to be submitted to an adjourned meeting of this Convention, to be held at Hamilton, said Committee to consist of V. W. Bro. Thomas B. Harris, W. Bros. James Daniels, R. Henwood, Wm. Young, Elisha Hall, and V. W. Bro. Kivas Tully." V. W. Bro. Thomas B. Harris was chosen President. The adjourned Convention assembled at Hamilton on the 19th October, to receive the Report of the Committee. They were not, however, prepared with a Report of the result of their proceedings, and the Convention again adjourned to meet at Toronto.

Accordingly the Convention met in King Solomon's Lodge room, Toronto, on the 9th November, 1854, when it was

Resolved,—"That the offer of a Provincial Grand Lodge, by the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland, leaving the Nomination of the Provincial Grand Master to this Convention, be accepted, provided that the Grand Lodge grant to this Provincial Grand Lodge the privilege of issuing Warrants and Certificates, retaining the fees. A nominal value for such privilege to be fixed by the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge."

Resolved,—"That W. Brothers P. M's. Tully and Allen do draft a statement of facts showing why such powers are required, to be submitted to the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Ireland."

In accordance with the last resolution, W. Bros. Tully and Allen sent the following letter to the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland :

"The undersigned having been appointed by resolution to draft a statement of facts, showing why certain privileges are required by the Brethren in this Province, beg to submit the following :—

"1st. The rapid increase of Lodges working under Warrants from the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Ireland, demands a local governing authority.

"2nd. The difficulty experienced in corresponding with the M. W. the Grand Lodge, and consequent detriment to the Craft, requires that the Provincial Grand Lodge for this Province should have more extended powers than is usually granted by the Constitution.

"3rd. The objections to remit the Fees for Warrants and Certificates, being a yearly amount sufficient to form the basis of a Benevolent Fund, which is much required in this Province.

"The undersigned humbly submit, that should the prayer of the resolution be granted by the M. W. the Grand Lodge, it would do more for the prosperity of the Craft in this Province than any other course that could be adopted ; in fact it would tend to cement the bonds of Universal Brotherhood more closely, and would eventually lead to a junction of all Lodges working under other jurisdictions, thereby avoiding the impending necessity of forming an independent Grand Lodge.

"The undersigned also respectfully submit that the great delay caused by the irregular communication with the Grand Lodge, when promptness is required, particularly in reference to Certificates, justifies the private Lodges in claiming more extended powers than is provided for in the Constitutions. And the fact that several distressed Brethren from England and Scotland, as well as Ireland, have been annually

relieved by the private Lodges here, whereas comparatively few if any Canadian Brethren have claimed assistance from the Parent Grand Lodge, requires the most serious consideration of the M. W. the Grand Lodge, as to a reduction of the fees—And in carrying out this arrangement, we respectfully urge that an annual amount, to be fixed by the M. W. the Grand Lodge, would be the most satisfactory mode of settlement.

“The undersigned, in conclusion, would state, on behalf of the several Lodges working under the Irish jurisdiction, that in adopting this course, they are solely influenced by the desire to further the interests of the Order generally, and not by a rebellious or factious spirit—and should the M. W. the Grand Lodge consider it advisable to adopt any other course that would carry out the intentions of the Representatives of the several Lodges, they would be prepared to adopt it, and humbly submit to the decision of the M. W. the Grand Lodge. “ All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed,)

“ KIVAS TULLY, P. M., No. 222,

“ G. L. ALLEN, P. M., “

“TORONTO, November 29th, 1854.”

To which the following reply was received :

“ FREE MASONS' HALL, DUBLIN, IRELAND,
8th January, 1855.

1855.

“Dear Sir and Brother,—I am directed to inform you, that the resolutions forwarded through you and Bro. G. L. Allen, P. M., No. 222, and Bro. Tully, from a Convention of Delegates meeting in the Hall of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 222, at Toronto, on the 9th November, 1854, were duly laid before the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland, on Thursday evening, the 4th January, 1855; and the M. W. the Grand Lodge were pleased to confirm the Report of the Board of General Purposes, who had them previously under their consideration. The decision of the Grand Lodge is, viz :

“That the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland cannot recommend His Grace the Duke of Leinster, the M. W. the Grand Master, to grant a Provincial Grand Lodge to Memorialists on any other terms than those usually granted, and with the prescribed powers granted to other Provincial Grand Lodges.”

“But I am directed to assure the Brethren in Canada West, &c., that the Grand Lodge deeply regret that any inconvenience has arisen by the irregularity of the correspondence with the Brethren from the Grand Secretary's office, and to state that arrangements have now been made that such irregularities for the future shall not occur. The sudden death of our Brother, George Rankin, Deputy Assistant Secretary, in September, placed the affairs of the office in some little confusion. The Committee appointed to regulate the office, have concluded their sittings, and their suggestions are now acted on, and I am sure will give every possible satisfaction to the order generally. The Grand Lodge, at its last meeting, appointed Bro. Lucius H. Deering, Deputy Assistant Secretary, in room of our lamented Brother, G. Rankin.

“I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours, fraternally,

“S. FOWLER, D. G. S.

“ BRO. R. C. McMULLEN,

“ Secretary to Convention,

“ Masonic Hall, Toronto, Canada West.”

The foregoing letter was laid before King Solomon's Lodge for their consideration, and at the meeting held on the 10th May, 1855, after considerable discussion, it was

Resolved,—"That the Delegates of this Lodge be instructed to advocate at the meeting in Hamilton, on the 14th instant, (14th May, 1855) a united action with the English Lodges of Canada West, for the purpose of petitioning the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, to grant a united separate Grand Lodge for this Province."

The Convention assembled at Hamilton on the 14th May, 1855, and appointed a Delegation, consisting of V. W. Bro. Thomas B. Harris, W. Bros. James Daniels, Geo. L. Allen, and R. C. McMullen, to attend the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, to be held at Niagara Falls, on the 19th July, to urge the propriety of united action in the erection of an Independent Grand Lodge.

24th June.—Bro. James E. Smith was installed W. Master, and held the office for two years. While he presided in the East the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed, and during those trying times he displayed marked ability and was a faithful exponent of the views of the Lodge on the question of independence.

July 12th.—V. W. Bros. Tully and Allen were appointed delegates from this Lodge to attend the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of England, to be held at Niagara Falls, on the 19th July. At this meeting a motion was made "For calling a meeting of Delegates from all the Masonic Lodges in the Province, to consider the propriety of establishing a Canadian Grand Lodge," which motion the R. W. D. P. G. Master ruled out of order. This not proving satisfactory to many of the brethren, a meeting of the Delegates and Representatives of various Lodges under the jurisdiction of England and Ireland, was held, after the adjournment of the Provincial Grand Lodge, at which it was unanimously resolved "That a Convention of Delegates be held at Hamilton, on the 2nd Wednesday in October next, for the purpose of considering the expediency of establishing an Independent Grand Lodge of Canada, and to proceed with such matters as may be deemed most desirable for the benefit of Masonry in this Province."

October 2nd.—Bros. James E. Smith, Geo. L. Allen, John McGee, and E. R. O'Brien, were appointed Delegates to attend the Convention at Hamilton, with instructions "to vote in favour of an Independent Grand Lodge." The Lodge held their first meeting in their New Hall, Western Assurance Co's buildings, S. W. corner Church and Colborne Streets.

November 8th.—Bro. McGee, S.W., reported on behalf of the Delegates to the Convention at Hamilton, that "they had voted as instructed by the Lodge, and that the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada is formed upon the Ancient Charges and Constitution of Masonry." The Lodge endorsed the action of their Representatives in voting for an Independent Grand Lodge.

December 19th.—The Grand Master of Canada, Col. W. M. Willson, visited the Lodge, and an address was presented to him, in which it was stated that, "as one of the foremost Lodges who have fought for independence, we feel proud of having the first opportunity of publicly acknowledging our Grand Master."

Jan. 18th.—A motion was passed to surrender the Irish 1856. Warrant, and "to apply immediately to the Grand Lodge of Canada for a new Warrant," and on the 19th February a

dispensation was received, and soon after a Warrant was issued, bearing the No. 16.

May 8th.—A Committee was appointed to meet Committees from St. Andrew's and Ionic Lodges, to arrange for all the Lodges to meet in one Hall, and on June 12, the Committee presented their report; but in consequence of the action of St. Andrew's and Ionic Lodges, in adhering to the P. Grand Lodge, no action was taken on the Report. On the same date, the Grand Master visited the Lodge and delivered a lecture.

July 7th.—The Grand Master consecrated and dedicated the Masonic Hall belonging to this Lodge; and, immediately after, he installed the first officers of Rehoboam Lodge—an offshoot from King Solomon's Lodge.

May 8th.—The Grand Master of Canada, R. W. Bro. Robt. 1857. Morris; Grand S. W., Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and several distinguished brethren from American and Canadian Lodges, visited the Lodge, and R. W. Bro. Morris delivered a lecture on the First Degree, and on the 13th May, R. W. Bro. Morris again lectured before the Lodge.

June 24th.—Bro. W. H. Millar was duly installed W. Master, and he also held the office for two years. During Bro. Millar's term of office a number of the brethren withdrew for the purpose of forming the Wilson Lodge.

1858. The union of all the Lodges under one Grand Lodge having been consummated, this Lodge received a new No.—22.

January 13th.—A Committee was appointed "to confer with the Grand Lodge in reference to establishing a 'Masonic Home' to receive destitute brethren."

1859. **March 10.**—The Lodge united with the Sister City Lodges in forming the Central Benevolent Committee.

June 24th, 1859.—Bro. Henry J. Gear was installed W. 1860. Master, and was succeeded on the **24th June, 1860**, by Bro. Oliver Gable, who held the office for two years, and 1862. on the **24th June, 1862**, Bro. Daniel Spry was installed as Master.

14th August.—An Address and a Past Master's Jewel was presented to Bro. Gable, P.M., on his departure from Toronto.

February 11th.—A Communication was received from 1864. St. Andrew's Lodge, requesting that a Committee might be appointed to confer with Committees from the other Lodges, on the subject of the Union of the Lodges in one Hall. The W.M. was authorised to appoint a Committee as requested, and he named three brethren for that purpose. The Committee had several meetings, and on the 12th May presented their Report, recommending the Lodge to become tenants of St. Andrew's Lodge, in the Toronto Street Hall. The Report did not meet with the approval of the members, and the scheme of Union was again abandoned.

June, 24th.—Bro. C. W. Bunting succeeded Bro. Spry as W. Master, and for two years held the office.

May 9th.—The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, 1865. paid the Lodge an official visit. The Lodge adjourned to the Toronto Street Hall, where the Grand Master was entertained by the brethren of the Toronto Lodges.

July 14th.—The Grand Lodge being in Session in Toronto, the City Lodges entertained the Grand Master and Members of Grand Lodge, at a Banquet in the Music Hall, on the 14th July. V. W. Bro. C. W. Bunting presided.

While the Lodge was under the charge of W. Bro. Bunting, it maintained its high character, and on the 24th June, 1866, he was succeeded by V. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, who, for the third time, was installed Master.

August 9th.—The W. M. directed the attention of the Lodge to the advisability of again considering the question of a Union of all the Lodges in securing one Hall, to be used for Masonic purposes, when a Resolution was adopted inviting the co-operation of the various City Lodges, and instructing the W. M. to appoint a Committee. He named W. Bro. C. W. Bunting, P.M.; Bros. Aug. T. Houel, S.W.; James Adams, D. McLellan, and D. Spry, on behalf of this Lodge. The City Lodges heartily responded to the invitation, and after many meetings of the Joint Committee, W. Bro. Bunting, who had laboured earnestly on behalf of the Union, on the 11th of April, 1867,

1867. submitted the result of their labours. The Lodge confirmed the action of the Committee, and the W. M. signed the articles of agreement, and affixed the seal of the Lodge thereto, by which the Lodge united with the Toronto Lodges in leasing the Masonic Hall, Toronto Street.

June 24th.—Bro. Augustus T. Houel was installed as Master. On the 14th November he had the honour of finally consummating the Union, which, some three years previous, had been originated by W. Bro. John Paterson, of St. Andrew's Lodge, and the then W. M. of this Lodge, by holding the first meeting of the Lodge in the Toronto Street Hall.

Dec. 12th.—The Lodge recommended to the favourable consideration of the Grand Master the petition of several of our brethren, praying for a Warrant to open a Lodge at Oakville, to be named White Oak Lodge.

W. Bro. Houel presided for one year, and, on retiring from office, was presented with a Past Master's Collar, and Gold Jewel, expressive of the high esteem in which he was held by his brethren. He was succeeded on the 24th June by V. W. Bro. Daniel Spry.

In conclusion, I will merely say, that as the members of this Lodge appear to have taken an active part in all the Masonic questions which have arisen during the past twenty years, I trust that we will ever do our duty in maintaining those happy relations which should at all times exist among the Fraternity.

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