

EARLY MASONRY
In
MONTICELLO and SULLIVAN COUNTY



HISTORY
of
MONTICELLO LODGE No. 532 F. & A. M.



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Introduction

The settlers who cleared the forests and made Sullivan County habitable were builders and men of vision, according to historians who have recorded many of the deeds of the early pioneers. They were also men of character and determination whose high-wheeled wagons ferried across the Hudson from New England and from old New York town to build new homes and breed a hardy people in these beautiful hills.

One of the guiding spirits behind their success was the good which comes from the teachings of Masonry. Unfortunately, the activities of the Craft were held in strict secrecy in the early days and there is little to be found regarding the early lodges in the county.

As to the individual life of any of the early lodges in Sullivan we know little for the minute books, etc., have disappeared, but, from what records we have we know that Monticello Lodge and its predecessors have made worthy contributions to the success of the fraternity and the growth of the county from the beginning of the nineteenth century to the present day.

Speculative Masonry had been practiced since 1725 when the first Grand Lodge in London was formed and its beneficent influence had been realized by the brethren in America for more than eighty years before a Masonic lodge was established in Sullivan County.

Johnathan Belcher, who migrated from England and later became Governor of Massachusetts and New Hampshire and then Governor of New Jersey, was made a Mason in an English Lodge in 1704. This, however, was an operative lodge which existed before the formation of the first Grand Lodge.

St. John's Lodge of Boston was constituted July 30, 1733, and is the first established in the Colonies. It is argued, nevertheless, that at least one was in existence in Philadelphia in 1730. A lodge meeting is reputed to have been called in King's Chapel in Boston in 1720 by order of the Grand Lodge of England but proof of the meeting never has been satisfactorily procured.

Masons in the early days are said to have continued the practice of Operative Masonry despite the newer form of Speculative Masonry which was governed by Grand Lodge. Like the early Masons of Sullivan County, they had found a new world far removed from the old -- they had found time to mediate in the stillness of the wilderness, had toiled and fought for their homes, their loved ones and the very things which give life fullness and brings hope and encouragement.

United they worked for fulfillment of their dreams. They had strengthened their unity through Masonic fellowship and for what they didn't know about speculative they found in substitutes.

We are told that a regularity of Freemasonry did not begin until June 5, 1730, when the Duke of Norfolk, Grand Master of England, appointed Daniel Coxe, Provincial Grand Master of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

Coxe was appointed for a two-year term during which time he made a brief visit to America.

Historians who hold that the first authentic Grand Lodge was erected in Philadelphia argue that this lodge derived its authority from the Coxe deputation.

If this was not the first Grand Lodge (Benjamin Franklin, who was Grand Master in 1734, was not convinced that it was) then the first authentic Grand Lodge came into existence in Boston in 1733, when the Grand Master of England issued a deputation to Henry Price of Boston appointing him Grand Master of "New England and the dominions and territories thereunto belonging."

From centers of Freemasonry such as Boston, Mass.; Philadelphia, Pa., and Savannah, Ga., the fraternity grew, spreading its influence in every one of the colonies. Lodges were formed by many of the settlers as soon as they arrived and began to carve out new homes in the wilderness. Solomon's Lodge No. 1 at Savannah, Georgia, was the second colonial lodge to be listed on the English Grand Lodge roll. It was chartered in 1736. A lodge at Charleston, South Carolina, was formed the same year.

The Duke of Norfolk was a Roman Catholic as the members of his family have been from 1483 to the present day, and it is therefore interesting to know that it was a Roman Catholic who granted the first authority to warrant Masonic lodges in America.

The United States of America owes a great deal to Masonry for Masons and ideals born of Masonic beliefs were largely responsible for a safe steerage through the trying days of Colonial infancy. Likewise, Masonry owes a great deal to the country which has made possible its perpetuation.

Masonry has had the names of great statesmen on its rolls and statesmen have been influenced to greatness by Masonry.

George Washington was among the leaders of Colonial days who worked with the foremost men in the Masonic fraternity to launch the new nation. He joined with others, most of whom were Masons, in public assemblies to plan their course in the Revolutionary war.

They suggested the first Congress in New York and prepared the way for a Continental Congress ten years later.

Included among these Colonial patriots and Masons were Samuel Adams, father of American Revolution; Patrick Henry, the first Republican Governor of Virginia and author of "Give me liberty or give me death." Paul Revere, whose midnight ride and cry of alarm ennobled the Middlesex farmers to prepare for the battle of Lexington; James Otis, William Daws, John Hancock, Peyton Randolph and many others, who sought for independence and a free and powerful land.

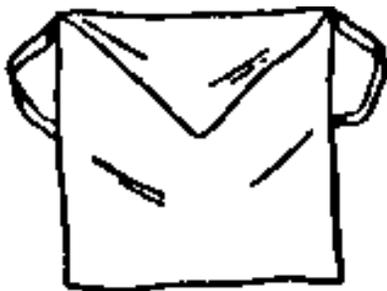
When the writing of a Masonic history of lodges in this vicinity was first undertaken the mention of any facts other than those pertaining to the subject was not considered but in the course of our work many facts, of world-wide Masonic interest, affecting Sullivan County have been unearthed.

In assembling these facts it has been necessary to wander from the subject; it would seem that unless the reader has a knowledge of events which led up to certain incidents we have covered it would be impossible for him to comprehend to the fullest extent the manner of our craft's operation during the past 130 or more years.

There is much regarding Sullivan County Freemasonry which is still unwritten and, much important Masonic history which never will be written because of a lack of information.

Every effort has been made to give the reader authentic and reliable information regarding the activities of the craft in this county and in other sections from, Colonial days to the present.

If we have erred it is because old newspaper files and other records, including lodge files and old documents, were inaccurate.



Preface to 1942 Edition

A history of Monticello Lodge No. 532, F. & A. M., would be far from complete if we were to omit several interesting paragraphs about the lodges which preceded it.

According to Grand Lodge records eight lodges have been established in Sullivan County. The earliest recorded lodge in Sullivan was Sullivan No. 272 which was warranted at Monticello, January 2, 1817. This Lodge and Bloomingburgh Lodge No. 310, which was warranted June 24, 1818, both existed during James Monroe's "Era of Good Feeling" and enjoyed prosperous days until the Morgan affair and Anti-Mason groups caused membership to dwindle and interest to wane, to the extent that Sullivan Lodge failed to report to Grand Lodge after June, 1829. Four years before Bloomingburg made its last report.

Grand Lodge was patient, nevertheless, and waited until June 1835 before it passed a resolution for forfeiture of the Sullivan charter and June 1833 before it took similar action with the Bloomingburgh Lodge.

These were the only lodges to exist in Sullivan County until 1858 when Lodge 460, the one to which Monticello Lodge 532 is the successor, was chartered. Callicoon Lodge No. 521; Delaware Lodge 561, Livingston Manor Lodge 791, Mongaup Lodge No. 816, and Fallsburgh Lodge No. 1122 all originated since that time.

Preface to Electronic Reprint

Copies of the published work of R.:W.: Alvin O. Benton and the other brethren who compiled this record of the lasting legacy of the impact of Freemasonry in the community of Monticello and Sullivan County are rare. This reprint, posted on the Internet at <http://mastermason.com/monticellolodge>, is made available with the intention of reinforcing the fellowship and fraternity of the Monticello Lodge #532 and the Sullivan Masonic District.

R.:W.: Bro. Benton's original text was scanned using optical character recognition software and the resulting document divided into two digital files. Part I consists of the history of *Early Masonry in Monticello and Sullivan County*, and Part II the *History of Monticello Lodge No. 532, F&AM*. In the 1942 edition, both sections were bound together in one volume. Eventually, it is the intention of the undersigned to create an updated history of Monticello Lodge - taking the interested reader from the point in time at which the text leaves off up to the present time.

The present format differs from the original edition in a few respects. Benton's text was published in two columns, with a soft blue binding, measuring 8.5 x 6.25". Obvious typographical errors have been corrected, but some idiosyncratic spellings (e.g. "Fallsburgh", as opposed to the contemporary spelling without the terminal "h"), sentence structure and punctuation have been retained.

R.:W.: Bro. Benton, who was editor of *The Republican Watchman*, performed a service to the Craft of the Sullivan District, as well as to non-Masonic local historians, by means of this chronicle.

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Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Wor. Thomas Rue, Master
Monticello Lodge #532, F.&A.M.

March 17, 2002

The Masonic Goal

It means so much in a distant land
To feel the warmth of a Brother's hand;
Or when weary at the close of day,
To meet a Brother along the way.

We strive to meet on common ground,
Where friendship and brotherly love are found,
Where God-fearing men unite and pray
For the coming of a new and better day.

And when we make an acquaintance new,
With one who travels the way we do;
Our objectives all we understand
As members of the ancient band.

We must travel the road and do our deeds
And liberally give to another's needs,
And do our work with the craftsmen's tools,
Remembering Him above who rules.

The Mason's Guide and tools were made,
To finish work of the higher grade.
Allover the world they've been employed,
To rear up structures by evil destroyed.

Today with war and turmoil new,
We Masons have our work to do.
We must help the weary on their way,
And keep our flock from going astray.

A comforting word and a little cheer
For the sick and lonely both far and near
Should come from our brethren young and old,
If those valuable tenants we are to hold.

We must spread the cement of our ancient band,
And unite as Masons throughout the land.
For we have work that's never done,
Until war and a glorious Peace is won.

Sullivan Lodge No. 272

Members of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 included pioneers, many of whom had served in the Revolutionary and 1812 wars. To them Masonry had shown its beneficent effects during critical times. Their brethren had been largely responsible in the formation of the United States and the drafting of a Constitution, which based on Masonic principles, has remained intact and today stands practically unadulterated.

The men who petitioned Grand Lodge for a charter had built homes in Monticello long before Sullivan County was erected by an act of the Legislature in 1809. Attending its meetings were war-weary and freedom loving men of a new nation who looked to the dawning of a new day in prosperity and fraternalism. The Tory, against whom they had fought, was welcomed and animosity no longer existed.

Sullivan Lodge members had come to Monticello with Samuel F. and John P. Jones in 1804 to cut through dense growths of underbrush and rhododendron and lay out streets for a village.

These early settlers visioned a future of peace, prosperity and security and the Church and Masonry figured prominently in their plans.

Methodism was established contemporaneously with the arrival of the first settlers in 1804 and supply Presbyterian preachers were appointed as early as April 25, 1807. Neither of the Jones brothers was a communicant of any church when they laid out their public square and designated sites for a Presbyterian Church and a Court House, but they were Masons and obviously realized the importance of both the Church and Masonry.

Their names were among the ten that appeared on a petition dated May 14, 1811 which was presented to Grand Lodge for the formation of a Masonic Lodge to be known as Sullivan Lodge.

With the petition went the recommendation that Samuel F. Jones be the first Master of the Lodge. Brother Jones served as Master of the Lodge during the greater part of the six years which elapsed before the Lodge was warranted.

The warrant was signed by Dewitt Clinton who was then Grand Master, and John Wells, the Grand Secretary. Dewitt Clinton had just started the first of three terms he was to serve as Governor when the petition was presented in 1811. He had served in many important state offices prior to 1811 and between that time and the issuing of the Sullivan Lodge warrant on January 2nd, 1817 he was an unsuccessful candidate for president of the United States (1812); served as Mayor of New York City, (1808 to 1810, 1811 to 1815) and was Lieutenant Governor of New York State, (1811 to 1813). He had the honor of serving as Mayor and Lieutenant Governor at the same time. He was one of the few highest Masons in the Union during the Morgan affair, the fury of which threatened the very existence of the craft.

The traitor of the craft who disappeared after he had divulged the secrets of Masonry is known in history as William Morgan and ironically enough the

same name appeared at the head of those who petitioned for the establishment of Sullivan Lodge. The difference in the character of these two men, however, was as great as the similarity of the names. One was resigned to exploit Masonry for the material good it could bring him while the other was endued with its pure principles and sought its furtherance by the establishment of Masonry within the newly inhabited community.

The William Morgan of Sullivan Lodge was a man of principle rather than wealth and was not related to the William Morgan of Batavia who had neither. He was supervisor of the Thompson Township when the petition was signed and that is probably why his name appeared first.

The other signers were Caleb Howell, Lewis Rumsey, John Wilson, Samuel Barnum, the Jones brothers, Solomon Royce, Johnathan P. Raymond and Amos C. Brown.

The petition was endorsed by Edward Ely, Master of Montgomery Lodge. The petitioners had visited the Montgomery Lodge on several occasions and had listened to stories about Military Lodges which General George Washington had attended along the Hudson. Among the signers were men who had attended a session of the American Union Lodge on the banks of the Hudson near Newburgh on June 24, 1782, where Revolutionary soldiers had erected "The Temple of Virtue."

(The March installment of this most interesting Masonic history will contain a list of the officers and members of the first Lodge together with their biography). [Editor's note: This text, written by Wor. Bro. Alvin O. Benton around 1942, then an officer of Monticello Lodge No. 532, originally appeared as a series of articles in The Republican Watchman.]

The first Sullivan Lodge officers installed by Benjamin Lewis, a Past Master of Hiram Lodge No. 131 of Newburgh were John Russell, Master; Livingston Billings, Senior Warden; Peter Hunn, Junior Warden; Cyrus A. Cady, Treasurer; and Jessie Towner, Secretary.

Its members were drawn from the townships of Bethel, Liberty, Mamakating and Thompson and comprised the leading men of the community.

The Lodge's first return showed a membership of 45 and listed their names as follows: John E. Russell, Elisha Heycock, William Morgan, George Vaughn, Leivi, Barnum, Cyrus A. Cady, Seth Allyn, John P. Jones, Alex Sterret, Joseph Coit, Darius Martin, Samuel Barnum, Thomas Crary, Joseph Pinkney, Asa Baker, Jessie Towner, Asil Hall, Nathan Couth. Solomon Royce, Luther Wood, Richard R. Norris, Moses Stoddard, Livingston Billings, John M. Towner, William Cochran, Peter F. Hunn, Asa McKee, Platt Pelton, Dudley Champlin, Thomas Adgate, Richard D. Childs, Daniel Niven, Lemuel Johnson, William White, Sylvester Wheeler, John W. Osborn, Alpheus Dimmick, Richard Thurston, William Roberson, Isaac Foote, James McCroskry, Robert Nathan, Seymour Armstrong, Andrew Comstock and Isaac Brown.

John Russell was a merchant of Monticello and was associated in business with William E. Cady a son of Cyrus Cady who was one of the charter members. Russell was one of the first Wardens of St. John's Episcopal Church in Monticello.

He and William Thompson, Sullivan County's first Judge, were largely responsible for the organization of the church. The church was organized on November 11, 1816 with Reverend James A. Thompson, a brother of the Judge, the first pastor. Bro. Russell brought honor to Monticello as Presidential Elector and performed the duties of his office by casting his vote for Andrew Jackson, one of the most prominent Masons of the day who had served as Grand Master of Masons in Tennessee during 1822 and 1823. True to his convictions and loyal to his Lodge, Sullivan Lodge's first Master contributed liberally of his time and sound advice throughout the Lodge's prosperous as well as its lean years. He died on September 4, 1830.

Livingston Billings, the first Senior Warden of Sullivan Lodge was admitted to practice as attorney and counselor of the courts of the county at a session of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions held in October 1809. He served at County Surrogate in 1810 and 1813, as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1823 as Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in 1824. Billings came to Monticello from Poughkeepsie before Sullivan was a county or Monticello much more than a forest. It is said that he came to Monticello on horse back, expecting to find a thriving village, and that he rode through the Main street and over the westward hill without suspecting that he had passed the place. He opened his office in a building on the site which is now occupied by the Jewish Community Center on Broadway.

If Sullivan County Masonry ever had a Benedict Arnold it was Peter F. Hunn. As Arnold had saved the country he later tried to ruin, so Hunn had helped Sullivan County Masonry in its infancy only to betray it later.

Hunn was a lawyer who came to Monticello from Newburgh not long after the organization of the County. He was the first Junior Warden of Sullivan Lodge and later served as its Senior Warden and Master.

When the dark clouds of the Morgan Episode descended over the State in 1826 and a Sullivan County Anti-Masonic party was formed Hunn was one of the first to desert the fraternity.

The Anti-Masons, led by Hunn and others including former Mason and County Sheriff David Hammond became a powerful political body in the County. They elected their candidate, Hiram Bennett, to Foster for County Clerk [sic], and Nathan W. Horton for Sheriff in the Fall of 1831. [Editor's note: At this point in the text, a line of type appears to be out of place, which states: "the Assembly, their nominee Jesse M."]

Following the election Anti-Masons Hiram Bennett, Harley B. Ludington and Daniel B. St. John were satirized in the columns of the Republican Watchman for their conduct in a celebration which followed the election. The Watchman's editor Frederick A. Devoe continued his attacks during the next Winter and Spring disturbing them to such an extent that the wealthier Anti-Masons provided funds sufficient to organize the Anti-Masonic Sullivan County Herald Hunn became the first editor and demonstrated his intellectual culture and acknowledged talent in reply editorials directed at Devote. The latter, however, held to Masonic principles rather than the anti-Masonic fanaticism championed

by Hunn and emerged the victor. Devoe's editorials were so convincing to Hunn that he deserted the Herald in 1838 as hastily as he had the Masonic fraternity more than a decade before.

Hunn realized his grave mistake and wanted to help restore that which he had attempted to destroy but the bitterness he had shown for the fraternity while an Anti-Mason could not be forgotten by those who had remained loyal to the craft through the trying days.

The Charter of Hiram Lodge 131 in Newburgh was seized in September 1842 and its number was changed to 92. Hunn was well acquainted with members of Hiram Lodge and it was on his invitation that Benjamin Lewis, a Past Master of the Newburgh organization came to Monticello and installed Sullivan Lodge's first officers.

Hiram Lodge had suffered a great loss in membership during the Morgan period and became inactive. In 1842 Masonry was experiencing brighter days that had not fully recovered from the setbacks it had experienced during the ten years which followed 1826.

Hunn was installed Master of Hiram Lodge under its second charter and worked diligently for two years to continue the old Lodge. His efforts bore no fruit, however, and in 1844 the charter was surrendered.

Although he had no Lodge to call his own from 1844 until his death in 1847 during this brief period he lived as an upright man and Mason doing good whenever possible and left a pleasant memory to his associates.

Hunn served in Sullivan County as Master and Examiner in Chancery, Surrogate of the County, Clerk of the County Board of Supervisors, and as Justice of the Peace. He died in Newburgh during the summer of 1847 leaving a wife and several children.

Cyrus A. Cady was a practicing physician when he became the Lodge's first Treasurer. He had been a resident of the town since 1810 and was the father of William E. and Henry V. Cady. The first was a merchant who was associated in business for several years with John Russell.

Sullivan Lodge's first secretary was Jesse Towner who for many years was Treasurer of the County. He was very accurate and careful in his work as secretary of the Lodge as well as the County's chief financial officer. A deficit in his predecessor's accounts, amounting to a large sum had escaped the close watch by the Board of Supervisors but it was detected by Mr. Towner and a full investigation resulted.

Petitioning for a Masonic Lodge was not the only important step taken in 1811. Prior to that time the settlers who lived in the interior of Sullivan County were obliged to travel or send to Montgomery, Orange County, to mail or receive mail. There was no a mail route or a post office in the County.

James Madison was serving his first term as President of the United States when the Jones Brothers asked for a Post Office in Monticello. On his order a post route went into operation from Newburgh to Ithaca through Monticello. On request of Monticello residents a post office was established in the mountain community with Bro. Samuel Jones the first postmaster.

As Sullivan Lodge members had taken the lead in blazing the trails in the mountain wilderness they likewise continued in its development. Brothers John Russell, Cyrus A. Cady and Levi Barnum helped organize St. John's Episcopal Church. William Morgan and others of the Craft were instrumental in the founding of the Presbyterian Church as well as active in various important civic functions.

The community's first school was established in 1807. The second teacher was Bro. Asa Hall, whose knowledge of Masonry not only assisted him greatly in his Lodge work but also gave him a substantial background for the task of instructing the children of the forests. Bro. Hall taught the first school in this section of Bridgeville.

The Lodge had three physicians among its members. They were among the early settlers and had come to Monticello for the purpose of bettering their financial conditions by making real estate investments rather than to practice their professions. Other than Bro. Cyrus Dady, mentioned in Chapter 3, they were Malachi Foot, who came to Monticello about 1809, and Bro. James Coit, who came here about the time the Cohecton-Newburgh turnpike was completed.

Bro. Foot came from Connecticut and brought a tract of land about one mile west of Bridgeville where the County alms house was once located.

Bro. Coit was a native of Litchfield, Connecticut, the early home of the Jones Brothers. He became the owner of considerable land North of Monticello which he bought from the Joneses for ten dollars an acre. He served as Sullivan Lodge's secretary and his name was signed as such under a notice advertising the laying of a cornerstone for the Masonic Temple at the corner of Pleasant Street and Broadway in 1819. This was the year before Monticello was incorporated as a village.

Coit was well educated in his profession but was considered too infirm in health to practice. He erected a store on the site now occupied by the National Union Bank but never opened it for trade. About 1835, with health failing, he joined the Revolutionary Army of Texas as a surgeon and was bitten soon afterwards by a poisonous reptile and died.

Bro. Coit served as Junior Warden but there is no record of his ever having served as Master.

Bro. Elisha Heycock, who was Justice of the Peace in the Lumberland Township in 1809 was Senior Warden. Sometime during the nearly eighteen years Sullivan Lodge existed it is more than likely he served as Master.

Bro. Nathan Couch commenced work carding and cloth dressing in 1810. Sheep not only supplied wool for clothing but also provided mutton when the early settlers desired to change from wild game which was found in abundance by the hunters. Most of the settlers kept a flock which required constant guarding from blood-thirsty panther, wolves and bear.

A prize ewe was among the flock yarded behind a barn nearly opposite the house of Bro. Andrew Comstock. One morning Bro. Comstock was saddened

to learn that a bear had entered his fold during the night and killed and partly devoured the prize of his flock.

He was colonel of militia and displayed all the brilliancy and gayety of his rank as he mounted his steed to pursue the culprit. Tinselled in lace and feathers he was said truly to have the martial bearing when at the head of his regiment.

In making his exit from the sheep pen the bear took with a large steel trap and the log to which it was fastened. The Colonel accompanied by some neighbors who joined in the hunt did not go far before Bruin was discovered. With a well-charged "horse pistol" in either hand the Colonel took careful aim and fired. The bear dropped, apparently dead, and with a jubilant shout the Colonel jumped astride the carcass. Although careful with his aim he was not careful in his diagnosis of the creature's ability to revive.

With a snort and a grunt the bear arose with Bro. Comstock on its back. All military bearing so conspicuous at the beginning of the hunt was immediately substituted by soiled and torn clothes, disheveled hair and great disorder. His companions then dispatched the bear.

While the tanning bark industry provided income for most of the Masons who belonged to Sullivan Lodge, fur trapping and logging occupied the time of others.

Logs were taken to Thompsonville or to the mill of Bro. John W. Osborn. Bro. Osborn operated the mill in partnership with a man named Baker. The mill was located in the Clark and Grassy Brook road at Katrina Falls and is believed to have been erected immediately after the opening of the Sackett road. If this is true a Mason established the first mill in the Town of Thompson.

The mill was on the table rock of the falls and slabs from it were thrown into the gulf below.

Bro. Samuel Barnum erected another mill in 1802 or 1803 on the farm now occupied by William Fitzsimmons. Town records show this was the third mill in the town. Bro. Barnum was elected supervisor in 1807 and 1808, was preceded in that office by Samuel F. Jones, the Town's first supervisor and succeeded by Bro. John P. Jones.

While Sullivan Lodge members were among the first to start mercantile and other business in Monticello, Bro. Richard D. Childs was not far behind in Thompsonville. He was the second merchant there having succeeded David Reed. He was succeeded by others including Johnathan Stratton, an ancestor of Wor. Bro. Earl Stratton. Bro. Johnathan Stratton is believed to have been a member of Sullivan Lodge but unfortunately there are no records to verify it. But whether he was or not, he was highly respected and an asset to the community, having been honored by President John Quincy Adams with an appointment which made him Thompsonville's first postmaster.

Among the few buildings constructed of saw mill lumber was constructed at Bridgeville in 1806-1807 by Bro. Caleb Howell and his brother, Peter. The building was situated on the west side of the bridge. The old hotel was destroyed in 1871.

Men in supervisory and other offices of trust in the town, county and state figured prominently among Sullivan Lodge membership.



Sullivan Lodge prospered during first ten years

Monticello was founded at the beginning of a new century which also was the beginning of a new era for both political and Masonic history.

Those figuring most prominently in the early days of the Colonies were Masons and in no less a degree were Masons conspicuous in the early days of Monticello. As George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Peyton Randolph, DeWitt Clinton, John Sullivan and others had been made history in Colonial days so did the Jones Brothers. William Morgan, Platt Pelton, John Russell, Cyrus A. Cady, and other members of Sullivan Lodge 272 find places in Sullivan County history.

Descendants of a number of these early Masons are living in the county today.

Monticello's early population consisted mostly of Connecticut Yankees, the majority of whom were members of the Masonic Fraternity before they came here. Most all of the brethren of Sullivan Lodge either had taken an active part in the early conflicts in which this Country had been engaged or were the sons of Revolutionary Patriots.

When the first Lodge meeting was held in Monticello there were fewer than twenty log houses in the community. The forests were so dense that workmen engaged in the tanning bark industry, cabin builders and other residents often lost their way along Broadway while traveling along the tree-blazed trail which led to North Settlement and to the intersection of what was later Route 17 and 17-B.

Wolves, panther, bear and wildcats roamed over the countryside to add to their hardships. Few of the crudely constructed bark thatched log cabins had cellars but all of them had ample fireplaces where pioneer families gathered after days of toil in the wilderness of the cabins were primitive affairs with no windows. During the summer light was admitted through the door, when the weather was pleasant enough to leave it open. In the winter the cabins were not lighted at all except for the fire necessary to warm them and by a few stray beams that found their way down the chimney through the smoke.

Wages then were from four to six shillings per day. In Winter horses slowly plodded through the wood-lanes with snow up to their bellies, sometimes plunging over the sides of a cradle hole or the concealed trunk of a tree.

The Delaware-Hudson Canal was not yet in existence and supplies were hauled from Newburgh and Montgomery.

When food stuffs and other essentials finally reached their destination the former, including potatoes and other vegetables were stored in holds in dirt cellars close by the cabins. A goodly mound of earth was heaped over these depositories, which usually were favorite resorts for the wolves which were often observed on moonlight nights.

The wolves were a great terror to women and children especially when they broke the still of the wilderness by their howling.

It was under these trying conditions that the members of Sullivan Lodge practiced Masonry. They braved the dangers of the wilds to walk at night guided by the stars and an occasional tree marking to their crudely constructed meeting place. Here by candlelight they found courage and devotion for their fellow-men and swapped yarns of their hunting and other every day as well as war time experiences.

Bro. John P. Jones often met with the brethren and related the story of how he and his brother, Samuel F. Jones, had discovered the mountain community while exploring the forests west of the Mamakating Valley in 1802 for a feasible route for the newly chartered Cochection-Newburgh turnpike. Natives of Litchfield County, Conn., the Jones Brothers left their father's farm there to settle in Monticello in 1804. Expecting a great influx of settlers with the completion of the road the brothers purchased 1,415 1/2 acres of land in Great Lot 14 and 445 1/2 acres of land in Lot 13.

Samuel engaged in construction of the turnpike while John P. set out to establish a capitol for the newly opened country. He came to Monticello with eleven men, most all of whom were Masons.

No less devoted to Masonry was Platt Pelton, whose descendants have worked faithfully for the craft until the present day. Bro. Pelton is credited with building Monticello's second house. He showed his devotion to the fraternity not only by giving wise council, time and effort but he also gave the fraternity the lot at the corner of Pleasant Street and Broadway upon which Sullivan Lodge laid its cornerstone in 1829 and built its own temple.

Bro. Pelton was a useful and respected citizen who was one of Monticello's most distinguished residents until his death in 1858. Bro. John P. Jones had distinguished himself as the first Clerk of the County after its erection in 1809, was Supervisor of the Town of Thompson, postmaster for 38 years, a State Senator and a Presidential elector and Platt Pelton also was honored with several offices of trust, including that of County Judge.

Before Sullivan Lodge erected its temple the brethren met at the Curtis Lindley Tavern. In the early eighteenth century in both England and America taverns and inns were used generally as social centers by all manners of groups. The Old Lindley Tavern was crudely constructed, drafty and poorly furnished but nevertheless it was modern when compared to the average Monticello residence. The main part of the structure was built in 1805, but a growing need for a place to hold Court and Supervisorial sessions induced Lindley to modernize the structure by adding a dining room on the first floor and an upper story for meeting rooms. The Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions held the first terms in the old tavern in October, 1809, with William A. Thompson and Samuel F. Jones presiding. On the same day and place the Board of Supervisors, including Brother John P. Jones, of Thompson; Darius Martin, of Liberty, and Br. Livingston Billings, the Board Clerk, held their first session. Only five towns had at that time been organized. They were Thompson, Liberty, Neversink, Mamakating and Lumberland.

Mr. Pelton was one of the Charter members who had worked hard and long for the success of the Lodge and did not wish the fruits of his labors to fall into other hands even the Grand Lodge, so he exercised care in preparing his deed to the Lodge. It is obvious that he conceived the possibility of something happening which could cause the lodge to lose its charter. In the event of such an occurrence the possessions of the Lodge would automatically become the property of Grand Lodge. His better judgment told him to hold the deed in trust for the Lodge.

Six years later the charter of Sullivan Lodge was declared forfeited and Sullivan Lodge was no longer existent but nevertheless under the covenants of the deed Mr. Pelton was the rightful owner of the temple.

Up to 1835 Masons, who had given financial and physical aid, had received little use of the structure's rooms and in order to validate their interests chose to hold the Lodge's charter for presentment as their certificate of authority as far as Mr. Pelton was concerned.

Platt Pelton died in May, 1859, still holding in trust the deed for the plot upon which the temple was built. Twenty-four years had elapsed since the old Lodge had authority to convene in the Lodge rooms. In a legal sense there was no organization to own the building and to occupy it in accordance with conditions under which use of the property was granted. Court and other records give no mention of litigation over the sale of this property by the executors of Platt Pelton's will but it is more than likely that failure to return the Lodge's charter in 1835 when it was declared forfeited was not unintentional. Records of Monticello Lodge 460 instituted in 1858 would indicate that this question was settled before Mr. Pelton's death for this Lodge held none of its meetings in the old quarters. It is therefore obvious that the Masons had no rights to the building at that time.

On October 19, 1859, Charles M. and George Pelton, of Poughkeepsie, and Eli S. Pelton, of Monticello, the executors of the Platt Pelton estate sold the property to Mary Mapes and Charlotte Sherwood for \$1,100. Shortly thereafter the women contracted to sell it to Thomas Curley, a forty-niner, who received his deed in 1866. Extensive remodeling and reconditioning began immediately after Mr. Curley contracted to purchase the property. Upon removing the upper floor the workmen discovered that the space beneath was filled with tan bark to a depth of about fifteen inches. Mr. Pelton, the tanner, is believed to have supplied this material which, in 1829, was worth \$3,000 a cord. The bark had been placed between the ceiling of the room beneath and the Lodge floor to prevent cowans and eavesdroppers from overhearing and learning the secrets of the Craft.

Man has come and gone since the old cornerstone was laid and the temple erected, and ravages of fire and weather have laid waste to the structure of yesteryear. Modernization and improvement of what remained of the temple after the fire of 1874 have created a new building bearing little or no resemblance of the old meeting place. But through the storm and tempest and fires which have laid waste to the Village of Monticello itself, the old cornerstone still

remains intact. It is now in the prized possession of Bro. Herman Albrecht the present owner of the Victoria Hotel which is now operating on the old Temple grounds.

Just before erection of the present Masonic Hall [at 5 Bank Street, Monticello], an effort was made to remove the old cornerstone for the purpose of placing it under the new structure. Owing to the immense weight of the large stones above the block which was the main support of the Victoria Hotel, the owner would not consent to its removal at that time on the ground that it would have a tendency to weaken that corner. The project was abandoned and the old stone kept its original resting place until Bro. Albrecht became owner of the premises. It was he who consented to removal of the historic cornerstone.

Little is known about the Hanfords whose name appear on the deed given to Mr. Pelton but the Streets were very prominent in the early days of Monticello. Randall S. Street, district attorney of the Third District under the Constitution which was in force in 1821, was a Mason, and a charter member of the Old Sullivan Lodge, who attended an early Grand Lodge session. He was educated and a leader in his day. General Street came to Monticello in 1825 and established a law practice. He was the father of the famous poet, Alfred B. Street, whose immortal passages were born by the natural beauties of Sullivan County by which he was inspired in his early days.

If the struggle for existence of Sullivan Lodge could have continued for another five years it is quite possible that the lodge would have been able to weather the storm and reawaken the Masonic spirit then latent because of the Morgan and anti-Masonic issues.

Thrown into the abyss of the problems the order had faced for nearly a decade, brethren failed to rally their support to the dying lodge. Today we cannot imagine the difficulties the brethren had to contend with. They were boycotted, denied employment and church rights and their rights as citizens were prejudiced.

Shortly after Sullivan Lodge's charter was declared forfeited the politicians and churches began to modify their attacks and throughout the country brethren were experiencing a new era in Masonry. Although there was no lodge in Monticello from 1835 until 1858 old documents reveal that Masons met quietly and patiently awaiting the day when they would emerge publicly from the seclusion in which they had been kept.



Settlement and Independence

Sullivan County is a section of the state which is rich in romance and Indian lore and it would be remiss of the author if incidents leading up to the establishment of the County were not touched upon briefly. Sturdy pioneers who had migrated Westerly in quest of riches and the opportunities of establishing homes in Sullivan County's fertile lands and virgin forests were among those who converted a wilderness into a place of habitation and made Old Sullivan Lodge possible.

The Newburgh-Cochecton Turnpike Company was incorporated in 1801 with a capital of \$125,000, and as their superficial enterprise progressed through nearly 50 miles of wilderness inhabited by a few scattered pioneers, eyes turned westward. A heavily-traveled toll road was superceding the winding wagon trail to Monticello, described in those days as hazardous as the Indian trail which Manuel Gun Sallus, a Spaniard, and his Dutch wife from Rochester, Ulster County, had followed in 1732 when they came to Mamakating to erect their house and be the first permanent white settler.

Wurtsboro had begun to boom and the Indian stories about great riches which brought Dutch trading post in 1614 and a careful search for metals by the Delaware Swedes in 1638, had been thoroughly investigated many years before. (Their efforts did result in discovery of the Minisink mine and the "Lost Mine of the Mamakating" from which large quantities of lead were extracted, but long before the beginning of the nineteenth century when the Mamakating Valley had lost its popularity from the viewpoint of previous metals.)

Maurice and William Wurts, for whom Wurtsboro was named were the first to see the possibilities of the valley and their farseeing intelligence resulted in the opening of rich coal fields near Carbondale, Pa., and the construction of the Delaware and Hudson Canal through which many boatloads of Sullivan County produced tanning bark as well as Pennsylvania Coal was transported to the seaboard. Platt Pelton and a number of the early Masons earned a livelihood in the bark enterprise.

The canal, as well as a railroad, was commenced in 1826 and completed in 1828. On December 3, 1828, a fleet of six boats laden with 120 tons of coal passed through Mamakating Hollow, now Wurtsboro on their way to the Hudson. The cheering Dutch families and the more recent Yankees witnessed the great spectacle. At last the gloom which reigned along the westward slopes of the Shawangunk mountains was broken by the busy din of commercial enterprise. Millions of tons of coal and other merchandise were transported through the artificial channel during its years of activities.

Early Masonry

Granting of land tracts including the Minisink patent on August 20, 1708, did a great deal to attract the white man's attention to Sullivan County as did the Indian and Revolutionary Wars, and Masonry had shed its beneficent influence in the land of wilderness even before the narrow and dangerously winding trail

over the Shawangunks was abandoned in 1808 for the newly opened Newburgh and Cohecton turnpike, now known as Route 117 [sic], to Monticello through Liberty and to the West and 17B to Cohecton.

Masonry had progressed rapidly from 1733 when the first warranted lodge was established in America until the Revolutionary period when there were warranted lodges in each of the thirteen colonies and in seven of them, including New York State, there were provincial Grand Lodges. Some of Sullivan's early settlers were members of lodges in America while others had become Masons in lodges across the sea. Among the latter was Daniel Niven. He had become a Mason in Scotland at the age of 21. Niven was born on the west coast of Scotland in 1767. He left his native land in a sailboat and landed in New York in 1791 after a rough voyage across the Atlantic ocean.

After engaging in the business of farming at Wurtsboro from 1812 until 1816 he moved to Monticello and continued to help in the organization of Sullivan Lodge. He was strongly attached to the Fraternity until his death at the age of 100 when he was the oldest Mason in the United States.

Niven had been a Mason only three years when he reached the land of opportunity. George Washington, the Mason, leader and advocate of religious and political freedom, was then completing his first term of office under a constitution born when clouds of political adversity had gathered over the colonies in 1774. The dark days when the light of happiness and security began to dim, had been brightened by the light of Masonry and one time bewildered people now saw the fulfillment of their hopes under a government headed by a Mason and based upon Masonic ideals which had been born in the minds of a congress of delegates in Philadelphia.

These men, strangers to each other but facing the common dangers and the difficult purpose for which they were met, realized the necessity of a unity of action.

Many of the patriots were Masons, whose deeds and actions found prominent places in the history of our country.

Presiding over the Philadelphia convention was Peyton Randolph, the Provincial Grand Master of Virginia.

The outcome of this congress was the beginning of a new era which was to make Niven the Mason emigrant as well as Washington the Mason leader of a new nation, conscious of their mystic ties. Washington was raised in Fredericksburg Lodge as Master Mason on August 4, 1753. He saw his Revolutionary Comrades die for the ideals of a freedom-loving people and witnessed ceremonies in which their graves were wet with Masonic tears and decorated with sprigs of acacia. These experiences, though sad, had demonstrated the importance of unity and brotherly love during the Revolutionary war and the conflicts which preceded it.

Washington had gathered around him stern and determined men who had left their peaceful avocations to defend their hearthstones. Some of these men manned forts and blockhouses at Mamakating and Westbrookville in Sullivan County. Others joined wearisome marches with the Continental Armies.

They experienced defeat, sickness and privations but their miseries in cheerless camps and their toils and hardships were forgotten when wearisome tramps through the wilderness of uncharted country ended and the Military Lodge opened. Their hearts lightened and their courage and determination again revived. Washington was not slow to realize that the good effects of Masonry had been reflected wherever military lodge communications were held. This realization and the influence of Masonic fellowship aided him to weather the 1777 military campaign which gave history the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, the evacuation of Philadelphia by Congress, the occupation by British troops and the retirement of the American Army to winter quarters at Valley Forge. Washington watched his shoeless and inadequately clothed army march in on snowy trails splashed with blood and remarked, "Poor fellows." The reply came in true Masonic spirit, "God bless Your Excellency, you are the poor soldier's friend."

Such was the courage and determination of Sullivan's hardy pioneers.



New York Masonry in 1811

All warranted American Lodges existing before the French and Indian War had operated under the supervision of both the Grand Lodge of England and the Ancient Masons which in 1738 arose independently beside the regular Grand Lodge of England. The Ancients have been classed under the name of Free and Accepted Masons and the Moderns under the name of Freemasons.

These two separate bodies were formed when a number of brethren in London became dissatisfied with certain transactions of the Grand Lodge of England and began to hold meetings and initiate candidates without the sanction and authority of the Grand Lodge.

Dissension between the two Grand Lodges lasted until the year 1813 when the two bodies consolidated under the name and title of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of England. Four years later the Grand Lodges in America united under the same name. At this time Sullivan Lodge 272 had been in operation under a charter for one year. Old Sullivan Lodge was in its formation while the Provincial Grand Lodge of the State of New York was operating as an ancient body.



Sullivan Lodge During Last Years of Activity

Sullivan Lodge No. 272 experienced its brightest days during most of the first decade it was warranted and then suffered three years of continual attack by those opposed to Masonry but nevertheless its lights continued to burn and on June 25, 1829, with appropriate ceremonies the cornerstone was laid for a new Masonic Hall. In June of the same year Sullivan Lodge made its last return to Grand Lodge. Its charter was declared forfeited by Grand Lodge in 1835.

Long before this eventful day many Masons had withdrawn from Sullivan Lodge to join the ranks of the Anti-Masons and as such looked with disdain upon the activities of the craft. With depleted ranks and darkness spreading over the Masonic world members of Sullivan Lodge carried on, however. They had faith in their hope and in their future. Generosity of those who could give and the willing hands of those who possessed health, strength and ambition but little of the world's goods, soon made the new Masonic temple a reality.

Perhaps the cornerstone never would have been laid or a temple erected had not Platt Pelton become interested in the Lodge and its progress. Mr. Pelton, a Putnam county tanner, came to Monticello in the summer of 1804 and built the second house in this village. He was an energetic, useful and highly respected citizen who had held several offices of trust and responsibility. At one time he was County Judge. Guided by his intellectual background and remarkable foresight the Lodge had weathered many storms. Mr. Pelton conceived the idea of establishing for the Lodge a meeting place of its own and to start the project purchased a plot 55 feet long and 24 feet in width. The grounds on which the Victoria Hotel now stands were then presented to the Lodge.

The description of the plot which he purchased; and the instrument conveying the rights of this property to the Lodge were recorded in the County Clerk's office as follows:

"This indenture made the first day of January in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, between Randall S. Street and Cornelia, his wife, and Apollos B. Hanford and Maria, his wife, of the Village of Monticello and County of Sullivan, parties of 'the first part and Platt Pelton of the place of the second, WITNESSETH, that the said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars to them in hand paid, by the said party of the second part the receipt whereof is hereby confessed and acknowledged, hath devised, released and forever quit claim unto, the said party of the second part, in his actual possession now being and to his heirs and assigns for ever all that tract of land situate in the, Village of Monticello in the Town of Thompson beginning at the intersection of the North side of the village street at present laid out with the Westerly side of the road leading to Pleasant Pond settlement, thence running Northerly along said West line fifty-five feet, thence westerly and parallel to said Village street twenty-four feet thence Southerly and parallel to said North line of said road fifty-five feet to the North

line of said Ville street thence Easterly along the same twenty-four feet to the place of beginning.....

"To have and to hold the said lot to the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns., to the sole and only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, for ever. In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals the day and year first, above written. A.B. HANFORD, L. S., MARIA HANFORD, L.S., RANDALL S. STREET, CORNELIA STREET. Sealed and delivered in the presence of Peter F. Hunn.

"State of New York, Sullivan County, on this first day of January, 1828, before me, Peter F. Hunn, a commissioner to perform certain duties of a Judge of the Superior Court personally appeared Randall S. Street and Cornelia, his wife, Appollos B. Hanford, Maria, his wife, known to me to be the persons described in and purposes herein mentioned and the said Cornelia and Maria being examined by me in private and separate and apart from their husbands declared that they executed said indentures freely and without fear of or threats or compulsion from their said husbands. There being in said indenture no alterations I allow it to be recorded. P.F. Hunn, Sullivan County Clerk's office recorded at seven o'clock P. M. on the first of January, 1828, "The within described premises having been purchased for the purpose of erecting thereon a Masonic Hall I, Platt Pelton, the grantee within named, do hereby declare that the within deed and the premises therein described have been recorded by me in trust for Sullivan Lodge No. 272, deed also in trust to Mortgage the same for the purpose of raising money to build and complete a Masonic Hall on said premises, in case a loan of money for that purpose shall become necessary, and the same be authorized by the said Lodge and also in trust to suffer and permit Sullivan Chapter No. 65 to receive an equal benefit and advantage from the use and occupation of the said Masonic Hall and said Sullivan Lodge.

"Witnesseth my hand and seal this first day of January one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, P. Pelton, L.S. In presence of P. F. Hunn, State

of New York, Sullivan County: on this first day of January 1828 before me personally appeared Platt Pelton, well known to me to be the person described in the above in denture and who executed the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purpose therein mentioned. Let it be recorded, P. F. Hunn, Comm. to perform certain duties of a Judge of Superior Court, Sullivan County Clerk's Office Recorded at 7 o'clock, Jan. 1, 1828."

If moving picture cameras were in existence in those days and if it were possible to flash the pictures of the recording of these instruments in the County Clerk's office you would probably see Platt Pelton, an ardent Mason, devoted to and fighting for his Lodge, presenting a paper to further its success to Peter F. Hunn, a lawyer, once loyal to the craft, but then its arch-enemy, who by virtue of his office as Master and Examiner in Chancery was compelled to take the instrument and guarantee its validity by making it a public record. We might well add that Pelton presented the document with a twinkle in his eye while puzzled Peter Hunn did his bidding with a mixed feeling of regret and revenge.

Mr. Pelton was one of the charter members who had worked hard and long for the success of the lodge and did not wish the fruits of his labors to fall into other hands, even the Grand Lodge, so he exercised care in preparing his deed to the lodge. It is obvious that he conceived the possibility of something happening which would cause the lodge to lose its charter. In the event of such an occurrence the possessions of the lodge would, automatically become the property of Grand Lodge. His better judgment told him to hold the deed in trust for the lodge.

Six years later the charter of Sullivan Lodge was declared forfeited and Sullivan Lodge was no longer existent, but nevertheless under the covenants of the deed Mr. Pelton was the rightful owner of the temple.

Up to 1835 Masons, who had given financial and physical aid, had received little use of the structure's rooms and in order to validate their interests chose to hold the lodge's charter for presentment as their certificate of authority as far as Mr. Pelton was concerned.

Platt Pelton died in May 1859, still holding in trust the deed for the plot upon which the temple was built. Twenty-four years had elapsed since the old lodge had authority to convene in the lodge rooms. In a legal sense there was no organization to own the building and to occupy it in accordance with conditions under which use of the property was granted. Court and other records give no mention of litigation over the sale of this property by the executors of Platt Pelton's will but it is more than likely that failure to return the lodge's charter in 1835 when it was declared forfeited was not intentional. Records of Monticello Lodge 460 instituted in 1858 would indicate that this question was settled before Mr. Pelton's death for this lodge held none of its meetings in the old quarters. It is therefore obvious that the Masons had no rights to the building at that time.

On October 19, 1859, Charles M. and George Pelton, of Poughkeepsie, and Eli S. Pelton, of Monticello, the executors of the Platt Pelton estate, sold the property to Mary Mapes and Charlotte Sherwood for \$1,100. Shortly thereafter the women contracted to sell it to Thomas Curley, a Forty-niner, who received his deed in 1866. Extensive remodeling and reconditioning began immediately after Mr. Curley contracted to purchase the property. Upon removing the upper floor the workmen discovered that the space beneath was filled with tan bark to a depth of about fifteen inches. Mr. Pelton, the tanner, is believed to have supplied this material which, in 1829, was worth \$3.00 a cord. The bark had been placed between the ceiling of the room beneath and the lodge floor to prevent cowans and eavesdroppers from overhearing and learning the secrets of the Craft.

Man has come and gone since the old cornerstone was laid and the temple erected, and ravages of fire and weather have laid waste to the old structure of yesteryear. Modernization and improvement of what remained of the temple after the fire of 1874 have created a new building bearing little or no resemblance to the old meeting place. But through the storm and tempest and fires which have laid waste to the Village of Monticello itself, the old cornerstone still remains intact. It is now the prized possession of Herman Albrecht, the present owner of the Victoria Hotel, which is now operating on the old Temple grounds.

Just before erection of the present Masonic Hall in 1910, an effort was made to remove the old cornerstone for the purpose of placing it under the new structure. Owing to the immense weight of this large stone above the block which was the main support of the Victoria Hotel, the owner would not consent to its removal at that time on the ground that it would have a tendency to weaken that corner. The project was abandoned and the old stone kept its original resting place until William Albrecht became owner of the premises. It was he who consented to removal of the historic cornerstone.

Little is known about the Hanfords whose names appear on the deed.



Military Lodges

Ten American military lodges were instituted during the Revolution in the American army in the following order and by the following authorities:

1st. St. John's Regimental Lodge, in the United States Battalion, July 24, 1775, by the old Provincial Grand Lodge of New York (Moderns).

2nd. American Union Lodge, in the Connecticut line, February 15, 1776, by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (Moderns).

3rd. No. 19, on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge Registry, in the first regiment of Pennsylvania artillery, May 18, 1779, by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (Ancients).

4th. Washington Lodge, in the Massachusetts line, October 6, 1779, by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, (Ancients).

5th. No. 20, on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge registry, in a North Carolina regiment, 1779, by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (Ancients.)

6th. No. 27, on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge registry, in the Maryland line, April 4; 1780, by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (Ancients).

7th. No. 28, on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge registry, in the Pennsylvania line, July 27, 1780, by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (Ancients).

8th was No. 29, formed on July 27, 1780, on the same registry and by the same Grand Lodge as No. 7.

9th. No. 31, on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge registry, in the New Jersey line, March 26, 1781, by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (Ancients).

10th. No. 36, on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge registry, in the New Jersey line, September 2, 1782, by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (Ancients). Although a military lodge warrant had been granted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York for the establishment of St. John's Regimental Lodge in July, 1775, the American Union Lodge is said to be the first organized in the Continental army. It was organized by troops of which Washington had command and held its meetings along the Hudson, in New York City and on Long Island. On September 13, 1776, its officers were either killed or taken prisoners by the British with the result that no further meetings occurred until March, 1777. In the meantime its Master, Joel Clark, died in captivity. American Union and the other military lodges were at work at Morristown and every other place of Revolutionary activity.

The Military lodges convened at various places throughout the thirteen colonies and the names of many prominent Revolutionary War figures were among those recorded on the attendance listed.

Washington attended lodge at New Winsor [sic], Newburgh, Poughkeepsie.. Kingston and other places along, the Hudson river and military lodge convened in the military camp of Major General John Sullivan, the patriot in whose honor the county is named. Sullivan was the first to conduct a Masonic meeting in Delaware Valley.

It is within the realm of possibility that Masons who attended the old Sullivan Lodge may have attended, before the Revolution, one of the Loyalist

Military Lodges frequented by Sir John Johnson. Colonel Guy Johnson and their Indian ally, Brant, the latter a war chief who was protégé of Sir William Johnson, an Ulster man, appointed superintendent of the Nations of Indians.

Although Brant, a full-blooded Mohawk Indian, traveled extensively through this section, and has been the object of considerable comment in the history of Sullivan County, he nevertheless possessed redeeming qualities. On many occasions he is said to have endangered his safety to rescue a fellow-Mason from Indian tomahawk.

Brandt was just one of the Mohawks until the widowed Sir William Johnson took the Indian's sister as his mistress. Had it not been for the meeting of Johnson and this Indian girl Brant might never have traveled the wilds of Sullivan and its adjoining counties to destroy property, murder and also to identify himself as a Mason.

It is equally as conceivable that he would not have been educated or initiated into Masonic membership had Johnson the Mason not come into his life.

Brant's sister, Molly, possessor of rare beauty, was present one day at a military review and playfully asked an officer riding on parade to allow her to ride with him. He consented without realizing she would have the courage to attempt it, but she quickly mounted and, with her dark hair streaming in the air, rode around the parade ground to the amusement and admiration of the spectators. Among those who witnessed the spectacle was Sir William who was so impressed by her that he took her to his home as his wife in a manner consistent with Indian customs. They later were married at an Episcopal church ceremony.

Brant took up abode with the Johnsons and he and several children which issued from his sister's union were educated at Dr. Eleazer Wheelock's school at Lebanon, Connecticut, the town from which John P. and Samuel F. Jones emigrated to Monticello. In 1770 Dr. Wheelock removed his family and school consisting of 18 whites and six Indians' to Hanover, N.H., to establish Dartmouth College [sic] where children of Brant were later educated.

Brant was educated for the Christian ministry but never joined the ranks of the clergy, as did Samson Occom, the famous Mohegan Indian preacher. Many times when one of his captured and seemingly doomed enemies was identified as a Mason Brant is said to have affected his release.

Sullivan Lodge No. 272 is said to have been named in honor of the County but it is more than likely that the county's first Masons, who conceived the idea of organizing a lodge in Monticello in 181.1, had attended a military meeting with Major General Sullivan when his military Lodge met along the Delaware and the lodge may have been named for him.

Major General Sullivan took Masonry seriously. He was honored by Masons of his home state, New Hampshire, where he was elected its first Grand Master. He had been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason before the Revolutionary war.

General Sullivan's expedition against the Loyalists and Indians brought about a situation resulting in clashes between the forces of the General and those

of the Johnsons and Colonels' Butler and Claus, which were led by Brant. Very often Brant was paid tribute for his remembrance of Masonic vows but the eyes of Johnson and Butler had become blind to the Mason's sign and their ears deaf to the Mason's word.

Grand Lodge Troubles

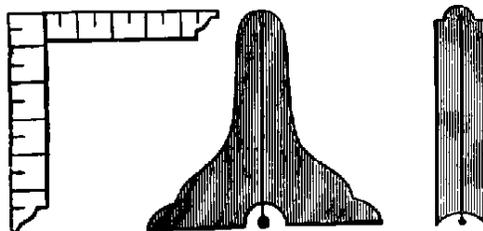
SULLIVAN LODGE enjoyed an era of prosperity and had a crowded trestle board which attracted the county's leading men. Other lodges throughout the state had experienced similar conditions through the post-war year period. Only once during this era does history record an event which threatened the harmony of the craft. This interruption occurred in 1823 when Grand Lodge became divided and there resulted the formation of the City Grand Lodge and the Country Grand Lodge, Sullivan Lodge No. 272 coming under the jurisdiction of the latter.

Upstate lodges were desirous of moving the Grand Lodge to their city, among those most commonly considered being Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, Kingston and Albany. There also arose questions relative to Grand Visitors and the collection of Grand Lodge dues by the same; the paying of Proxies or Representatives to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in June of each year; and the withdrawal of the right of Past Masters to a voice to vote in Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge took a firm stand in this crisis and was loyally backed by country lodges, which included those from Sullivan Lodge. Just as determined were the delegates from the city district. They convened the day before the Grand Lodge opened and selected their Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer from the upstate districts.

At the opening of the Grand Lodge on June 3rd, 1823, the following day, resolutions were offered in an effort to modify the situation. A heated debate ensued with the result that City Grand Lodge adopted a resolution* which provided that there should be two Grand Lodges, one in the city and one in the country districts. Finally, in 1826, before the full fury of the Morgan incident broke out, a reunion was accomplished and Past Masters were granted the right of vote and voice in Grand Lodge.

*Not agreed to by the regular (country) Grand Lodge.



Anti-Masonic and Morgan Factions

On September 11, 1826, while internal affairs of the lodges were still unsettled, William Morgan, a traitor to the Craft, mysteriously disappeared from a Batavia, N.Y. jail where he was confined because of debt. Masons were charged with abducting him and inasmuch as no trace of him could be found politicians, anti-Masons, and zealous clergymen lost no time in assuming that he had been murdered by members of the fraternity whose trust he had violated.

The Morgan incident brought about a crisis which for a time seemed to threaten the very existence of Masonic fellowship. The spark from the Batavia, incident kindled a flame which spread all over state, the nation and even to England.

Morgan had gained entrance to Batavia Lodge No. 433, after inducing a man by the name of Warren to vouch for him. Although not a qualified Master Mason he became well versed in its secrets and set about to divulge them.

Historians vary as to his character but generally agree that he was born in Virginia about 1776. He is said to have served as captain with General Andrew Jackson at New Orleans during the War of 1812. Later he returned to Virginia, married and settled down to pursue his trade of bricklayer and mason. In 1821 he moved to York, Canada, where fire burned a brewing business he had established and reduced him to poverty. He then moved to Rochester, N.Y., and again engaged in his old trade. Although not a member of record at the Batavia Lodge or any other lodge he was successful in joining the Royal Arch Masons in LeRoy in 1825. Shortly afterwards he is said to have become an, extremely intemperate man and soon lost the fine appearance and oratorical ability he had possessed before his bankruptcy and inebriety. Later he attached his name to a petition form a Royal Arch Chapter at the Batavia, N.Y., village but being suspicious of him being a pretender the request was denied. Not allowed to sign a second petition, regarded as an imposter and then denied financial support of the Masons, Morgan's mental and physical sufferings increased. He needed money and was ready to take desperate risks in obtaining it, so he conceived the idea of preparing a book for the purpose of disclosing the secrets of Masonry. David C. Miller, an Army Colonel and printer who had received the Entered Apprentice Degree, took Morgan's manuscript and set his idle presses to work, in hopes that he too might receive some much needed cash.

While upon jail "limits" in Batavia on September 11, 1826, Morgan was arrested on a Canandaigua County warrant for petty larceny. He was arraigned on this charge and after dismissal of the case was arrested again on a debt charge and jailed.

He was released the same night after Masons had satisfied the debt judgment to which he had confessed. He was then driven away in a carriage, first to Rochester and then to Niagara, where for several days he was confined. He was then lost to sight.

Different theories have been advanced as to Morgan's later years. The Republican Watchman, Sullivan County's leading newspaper, expressed a general belief that Morgan was removed from Batavia for the purpose of taking him from under the influence of Miller. The eventual disposition of Morgan has remained a mystery throughout the years. He was reported to have been settled on a farm in Canada.

It was also reported that Morgan had gone abroad. Newspapers devoted extensive space to articles about his going with Brant to the Northwest settlement. In most of the Morgan articles which appeared in those days there rang a note of Masonic condemnation.

Spread to Sullivan

These releases brought retaliating replies from Sullivan County residents, faithful to the Craft. Heated controversy which took place in the newspaper columns sometimes wandered from the real issue and able penmen unhesitatingly blended it unfavorably with politics and other issues suitable to their own selfish gains.

But all through this trying period all but one of the first officers of Sullivan Lodge, and most all of its members, maintained loyalty and not once attempted to conceal their identity as Masons.

Others of Sullivan Lodge were more timid, however, and either ceased to remain active or declared themselves anti-Masons. Men who had joined the Sullivan Lodge inspired by the good it had brought during Washington's life and during the time that Masonry had flourished were openly accused of being "Sunshine Masons" (men who had joined the Craft for their own political advantages).

Sheriff David Hammond attacked Masonry with all the venom early penmen could muster in the Sullivan County Herald, which he and the anti-Masonic party established in the Fall of 1831. Hammond was presidential elector and cast his vote for James Monroe when the latter was re-elected President in 1820. Hammond, too, had been a Mason but anti-Masonic forces became his master.

He served as the fifth sheriff of Sullivan County in 1815, and built the Mansion House, now a part of the Monticello Inn. Hammond was one of several who backed the Herald financially.

The present-day Mason will find it almost impossible to realize what the brethren of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 and Bloomingburgh Lodge No. 310 endured during the ten-year period dating from 1825 to 1835. They were boycotted in business, severely criticized and attacked in public and in print and even deprived of worship in several of the various religious sects with which they were identified. However, in most every group or society they had their friends and all was not criticism. The newspapers were divided in opinion and the Masonic topic supplied a reservoir of news which was popular and interesting to readers, some of whom enjoyed a lampooning style and others who enjoyed notes of praise for the fraternity. The issue was confused with politics, religion and plain jealousy for the fraternity.

Of Masonry in general, Peter F. Hunn, editor of the anti-Masonic Sullivan County Herald wrote, "We are in favor of sustaining the laws as expounded by the Democracy; a protective tariff; the United States Government; and measures embraced in what was then known as the American system of Henry Clay. "Freemasonry", he continued, ["]was seen in the days of prosperity and glory, we believe it to have been a useless, frivolous and pensile institution. As such we should never wage war upon it; but it is in our opinion as mischievous as it is useless. It is calculated effectually to destroy that confidence which should exist between the different members of the same community." This comment in the first issue of the Herald appeared on September 19, 1832, and is typical of the warped and fancied ideas of political opportunists such as Hunn and others who had tried but failed to usurp the fraternity's rights, teachings and privileges for political betterment.

Commenting at length, Hunn set forth his objections which were adduced from the case of Morgan and declared that he "would labor to attain an entire suppression of the order."

But the average sound-minded and thorough thinking reader or those day found it impossible to follow the Hun theory, neither did they find it possible to follow it in print with the result that they gradually sought substitute and more authentic reading. Finding insufficient patronage publication of the Herald ceased in 1837. Hunn had rightfully considered the Herald's fate and had ceased his employment as editor a year or so before. He had helped the enemies of Masonry to prolong their unwarranted attacks but failed miserably in fulfilling his boast.

He had been a Mason prior to becoming possessed with anti-Masonic beliefs. He was given an opportunity to view Masonry as its enemy but like many others of his calibre his eventual side was with the fraternity he had so bitterly attacked. His fantastic beliefs while editor of the Herald no doubt had enabled him and many others to determine he was wrong and in the end Hunn and his fiends belatedly attempted to right their wrongs by working with and for the fraternity and its principles.

Hunn was persuasive and commanding in his literary and oratorical work and had gained a number of recruits for what he promised would be a more prolific group. He was helped in his work by religious groups and politicians who saw opportunities as "Anties". The timid group he failed to convert to his way of thinking but nevertheless they discontinued their membership rather than to live under the fear of being shunned as the believers in something that was "harmful". E.C. Wood, a member of Bloomingburgh Lodge No. 310, was a well known Bloomingburgh resident who deserted the fraternity in 1827 but respected it enough to ask for a discontinuance of his membership.

An account of the controversy which followed his action appeared in the Republican Watchman on October 26, 1830; over the signature of the "Vulcan". The "Vulcan" pointed out that Wood had particularly distinguished himself in the political anti-Masonic excitement which was raised in the county and more especially in a series of resolutions, reported by himself and others to a meeting

held in Monticello on October 25, 1830, in which the whole Masonic fraternity was denounced as a band of criminals guilty of every crime. "It may not be uninteresting to your readers," wrote the "Vulcan", "to learn the real character of the pretended pious patriot," For this purpose I send you the following literal copy of a note addressed by him to the Bloomingburgh Lodge, on the occasion of his withdrawal from the same as an evidence of his opinion of the institution at that time:

"Bloomingburgh, Dec. 29, 1827,
"To the Master and Wardens of
Bloomingburgh Lodge No. 310:
"I do hereby petition the Lodge, for
a certificate of my membership and
standing in said Lodge, and I wish to
discontinue my membership.
Respectfully yours,
C.E. WOOD."

In commenting on Wood's request[,] the "Vulcan" said, "The reader will observe that up to the 29th of December, 1827, Mr. C. Wood set so much value upon the institution that he actually petitioned the Lodge to which he belonged for a "certificate of his membership and standing." Why do this, if it was as corrupt and depraved as he now represents it? What! Petition "a band of midnight conspirators, kidnappers, and murderers" for a certificate of his fellowship with them in their dark scenes of human depravity? Ask from them written evidence of his participation in those horrid deeds which crimsoned the earth with the blood of the innocent and perverted the ends or justice on the most important occasions, by the dark mysteries of the order? And all this, too, while he was an ardent professor of our bold religion, and mingling in sacred communion around the table of his Master? If the sense or feeling could be communicated to the paper on which I write, it would blush at the very thought! The fate of Morgan had long before this date been sealed, and if his death was, as Mr. Wood now says, the "result of a systematic arrangement of the order," and if by the term order he means to incriminate the whole institution, as the language evidently implies, then he was an associate actor in the infernal deed, and the hand which raised the broken emblem of his crucified Savior to his lips, was stained with a "brother's" blood! If, Mr. Wood dares come out and plead guilty to this charge which he had deliberately preferred against the order, a discerning public will judge what credit ought in justice to be awarded to him who could carefully conceal his guilt until confession became popular! and if he refuses to do this, and disclaims all participation in the affair, the same public will award the measure of reliance which is due to the assertions of one who employs himself in picking up the common reports of the day and charging them as facts, against an institution of which, although a member in full communion, he was

entirely ignorant. It is a matter of Some doubt, whether the ignorance, or the depravity of this man ought to be the more sincerely pitied.

"VULCAN."

Mamakating, Oct. 21, 1830

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Mr. Editor:

I send you inclosed some' extracts from the last part of the third chapter of the second book of the Chronicles of the Anti-Masons, which book contains the acts of the political Anties, since they become fully Anti-Jackson, and wholly Anti-Republican, having received from Daniel Webster & Co. a transfer of ail the Adams men, including the leading Masons, and placed them safely under the cloak of Anti-Masonry.

And it came to pass on the 19th day of the tenth month, of the year Anti-Masonry, that the anties assembled themselves' together, at the Anti-Masonic hotel of Stephen the Publican (Stephen Hamilton, early innkeeper in Monticello).

And of those that came from the North and the East and the West, there were the Luddingtonites, the Van Tuylites, the Woodites, the Schofteldites, and the Bennettites, and all the different clans, we numbered and of the whole were a full score and three men.

And they essayed to name a man for one of the rulers of the people; and the arose a strife amongst the different clans, for lo there were many that had joined themselves to the Anties through the hope of office.

And there was amongst them a valiant man called Harley, a leader of the Luddingtonites, who stood boldly forth the midst of them and lifted up his voice and proclaimed that he had already look out a wise man by the name of James of the numerous race of Jacksonians, who inhabited the North, all of whom would follow after James and bring great numbers to the Anties.

But Otto and Cornelius, and many other wise men seemed to doubt the truth of the sayings of Harley, and alleged that when James and his kindred and followers, discovered that the Anties were aiming to remove Andrew, the ruler of the nation, and to place Henry the man of Clay, in his stead, they would return again to Andrew, for all the Jacksonian race loved Andrew for his valiant deeds and nothing short of office could have induced James to turn against Andrew and his old friends.

And it came to pass whilst they were yet contending, that there appeared amongst them a wise man, a very great Magician, from the land of Ulster, whose business it was to devise and

publish marvelous tales to deceive the people and draw them unwittingly from the support of Andrew.

And he said unto them, "Men and brethren, ye must curb your lust for office yet a little longer. Know ye not, that all the Anties, including the Adams men, the anti-Republicans and all the opponents of the Jacksonians number not their strength, and unless we can devise means to draw off part of their strength by selecting those who have been partisans of Andrew, none of ye can hope for office?"

Therefore, I pronounce the wisdom of Harley to be greater than all of ye - he is a modest man, wants no office, serves for the good of our cause, and shall henceforth be the leader of all the Anties In Sullivan.

So the Luddingtonites prevailed and James turned against his old friends; rent his garments and put On the cloak of the Anties for the sake of being named for ruler amongst the people.

And it came to pass that the wise man from Ulster proclaimed that Hiram, the Schofleldite, had also consented to be named for another ruler.

But when he had departed and was afar off, Hiram returned from walking up and down upon the earth, and said he had found that the good people of Ulster had found out the tricks of the Anties and set their faces against them; and forsooth he had been a politician too long to be deceived; consequently that he, Hiram, had repented his promise and should not be named as the ruler of the Anties.

Liberty, October 23, 1830.

A forerunner to the meeting on October 25, 1830, to which the "Vulcan" alludes, was held in Monticello on July 17, 1810. A notice of the meeting was printed in the Republican Watchman on July 12, 1830 as follows:

NOTICE

A county convention of the citizens of Sullivan County opposed to Masonry, and secret society, will be held at the house of Stephen Hamilton in Monticello on Saturday the 17th of July, inst. at 4 o'clock P. M. for the purpose of appointing a delegate to attend the anti-Masonic convention to be held at the village of Utica on the 11th day of August next, and for other purposes. The citizens of the different towns are requested to send two or more delegates to represent them at said meeting. -

Thompson, 5th day of July, 1830.

The notice did not appear without editorial comment, however. Frederick A. Devoe, editor of the Republican Watchman, was believed to have been a

Mason and proof of his loyalty to the fraternity is evidence in the following comment:

JULY 13, 1830

It is due to our Republican friends and patrons to state that the notice which will be seen in another column, calling an anti-Masonic meeting, is inserted as an advertisement, and as such alone. Had it been presented to us in any other shape we should have refused to give it an insertion, for we never could consent to make our paper a vehicle of intelligence for a party which seems to be destitute of everything like honest principles.

So far as anti-Masonry had for its object the detection and punishment of those who violated the laws of their country in the Morgan affair, we could not censure such of our fellow-citizens as partook of the spirit of anti-Masonry. But when the proper object was lost sight of altogether, and was followed by the attempts of a few designing politicians to elevate themselves, making use of the anti-Masonic excitement as a lever, we could not withhold our disapprobation. We unhesitatingly repeat what we have often said, that political anti-Masonry possesses nothing to recommend it to an honest man, and wherever an honest anti-Mason is found, he will be seen opposing any attempts to connect political or religious topics with the anti-Masonic question. The avowed purpose in calling the meeting in this county, is political, and we cannot but I believe that the attempt will meet with that unqualified reprobation which it merits, and that those base politicians who wish to glide into office through the influence of this excitement will find that they have made erroneous calculations upon their own sagacity. We are not disposed to quarrel with our neighbor because he opposes the national and state administrations, for nothing is more natural than that people should honestly differ on these questions; but we have no charity for such as are anxious to convert the anti-Masonic question into a political machine. If we do not quarrel with these, it is because we choose rather to pity or despise them.

Devoe was not content to allow the anti-Masons to proceed with plans to destroy the fraternity without further comment and reported the activities of the secret gathering as follows:

July 20, 1830

Last Saturday, as our readers must have observed from the advertisement in our paper and which we very obligingly noticed under our editorial head, was the day appointed for the anti-Masonic convention in this county, to choose a delegate to

represent the political antics of Sullivan in the State Convention. The public ear was wide open and the public eye stuck out with the expectation for some days previous, and the redoubtable editor of the anti-Masonic paper in our neighboring county of Ulster, elevated his ears and brayed out in rapturous exclamation, at the sight of the notice, "Well done, Sullivan." In view of the approaching event, some of our honest citizens gazed at each other with the most anxious phizzes as if inquiring who were the agents of Southwick, Weed & Co., in Sullivan; others like Sancho's mule, seemed extremely dubious as to the result, whilst a few with lengthened faces looked forward with horror to the moment when our devoted county was to be completely revolutionized, and "firebrands, arrows and death" scattered among its hitherto peaceful citizens.

The day at length arrived when the process of gestation having been gone through with, and the mountain having labored, was to bring forth. Accoucheurs - "with nurses wet and dry" stood in readiness to catch the bantling who was to represent us at Utica. The hour arrived; but, "tell it not in Gath," there was an outright abortion, and the nurses went away as wet and dry they came. The faces that had been awfully drawn out, contracted to their natural shape, and some unbelieving varlets began to suspect that our political anti-Masonic conjurers, as the auld Scotch woman said of his Satanic majesty and his imps, "ware but poor devils after all."

So three or four fellows, with whiskers pointed a-la-mode de Morgan, and clean shirted and shaved, together with one or two who we had almost said were neither shirted nor shaved, constituted the interesting assemblage.

They sauntered about for an hour or more and not being able to increase their numbers beyond seven (we'll send their names to Thurlow Weed) they drew off without organizing their meeting or doing any business. We venture this assertion, because we cannot believe that these fellows, so strenuously opposed to secret societies, etc., would do their business in public. If, therefore, Sullivan is represented at all in the Utica Convention it will be by self-created delegate.

We have seriously thought of offering some good advice to two or three of these anti gentlemen, but perhaps it will be time thrown away, for as the old couplet says:

*"Fools will be fools say what you will,
And rascals will be rascals still."*

Devoe sought to bare the political misdoings of anti-Masons and to make clear their intentions with the following letter, which was signed "Mamakating".

Mr. Croswell - The anti-Masons of Sullivan County were called together a few days since to send a delegate to Utica. After much exertion, six persons were gathered together, but being chagrined by the paucity of their numbers, the conclave separated without doing anything.

The head man of the anti-Masons in Sullivan, is the person who touched the cash (\$10,000) which was procured from the state for the Neversink Navigation Company. There is a report on this subject made to the last legislature, which I understand exposes this transaction in its true light, and if you will send me a copy, I will endeavor to make this man better known to the people of his county, than he was to the Legislators whose credulity he imposed upon. This arch imposter may volunteer to go to the convention, even without an appointment, as he is anxious to lay his case before Myron Holley, and get his professional opinion, as to the process of converting the public money to his own use, and at the same time producing the required vouchers a to balance his accounts. Holley knows how the thing is done, and could of course aid in transferring a few thousand dollars more from the state treasury to the pockets of his fellow laborers in anti-Masonry. I am quite confident, that this disciple of anti-Masonry, who, has evidently taken a leaf from Myron Holley's book of problems, will effect as little in making proselytes to anti-Masonry in Sullivan, as he had in improving the navigation of the Neversink river. No discreet man will trust his ark to such a pilot.

"MAMAKATING"

The man referred to was O.E. Van Tuyl, who unsuccessfully undertook make the Neversink river navigable for rafting. Considerable money was extended on the project; it was abandoned after several rafts were dashed against rocks and destroyed.

Letters and editorial comment continued and on August 24, 1830, an interesting editorial, entitled "The Cat Let Out of the Bag," appeared in print:

THE CAT LET OUT OF THE BAG

Since the proceedings of the State Convention at Utica on the 11th inst. we think there can no longer be a doubt upon the mind of any person as to the ultimate object intended by the opponents of the Republican party.* We invite our readers who feel the slightest degree of interest in the political concerns of the State to view the course which has been pursued by the Frank Granger part, from the period of its organization, until the grand

development which took place at their convention; when an alliance was formed between political workers led by Stevens.

*The Republican party referred to was actually the Republican-Democratic party of Thomas Jefferson, Aaron Burr, George Clinton, James Madison, James Monroe and John Quincy Adams. Other parties were the Whigs, with whom William Henry Harrison was associated, and the Federalist party of George Washington and John Adams.

The Republican party of today was not organized until 1854. Abraham Lincoln was the first President elected under their banner.

Originally, nothing connected with politics or religion was intended by anti-Masons. The first anti-Masons were undoubtedly operated upon and excited by an honest and laudable feeling. They believed that a violent outrage had been perpetrated against the rights of the community and the liberty of a fellow-citizen. They believed (erroneously as we think) that the commission of this offense was justly chargeable against the Masonic institution, and they engaged with more zeal than prudence in a warfare against it. The excitement continued to rage-men suffered their angry passions to get the upper hand of their selfish views. They accordingly continued to add fuel to the flame which was already burning with violence, and by every means within their reach continued to pursue their object. They succeeded in duping many honest people into the belief that Masonry, where it existed, infected religion and politics, that the ballot boxes afforded no security against Masonic intrigue, and that the courts of justice and the halls of legislation were the scenes of corrupt influence proceeding from the Masonic institution. By means thus specious and plausible, and representations thus false, they finally succeeded in bringing the enemies of Freemasonry to say that they would support no man for office who was a Mason, or who was not an avowed enemy to that institution. The necessary result of this step was the organization of a new political party, the cardinal principle of their creed being self-elevation. In every county where the mania existed, some two or three individuals more noisy and, more sagacious than the greater part of those who participated in the excitement, procured themselves nomination to office, and were in many instances elected. Thus the original motive of anti-Masonry was completely lost sight of.

The success of the schemes of those who cared nothing more about anti-Masonry than to make it a stepping stone to once, depended mainly upon keeping the unnatural feeling alive which had pervaded many of the western counties. Consequently, a short time, previous to the election, and about a year after the abduction of Morgan, the following singular and extraordinary transaction took place: A corpse was found near the mouth of Oak Orchard creek, and a coroner's jury having been summoned and heard testimony, gave the verdict of accidental death by drowning and the body was buried. The leading anties, however, were determined that the dead man should be a "good enough Morgan," till after the election, and the body was dug up, a new jury summoned, and by the perjury and deception a verdict was procured

pronouncing it the body of Morgan. About this time a Mrs. Monroe made claim to the corpse as the body of her deceased husband, Timothy Monroe, who had been drowned a short time previous in the Niagara river. She swore to the clothes of the deceased with exactness, and to the identity of the body. Some evidence was also given by other relatives and acquaintances of the deceased, but to no purpose. The managers would have Monroe to be Morgan till after the election. A grand funeral procession was got up, and the members of the Lewiston convention, the blackness of their hearts shading their faces with the gloom of a mock sorrow, as chief mourners, and every tag, rag, and bob tail who was either a great knave or a fool, joined the procession and traversed about 40 miles of country to give an imposing effect to the base transaction. By such and similar means and by gathering in a mass every disaffected politician whose claims no respectable political party would recognize, they made a show of some thousand votes at the last election for Governor, and had some twenty or thirty members in our Legislature.

The breaking up of the Adams party presented another glorious opportunity for the enemies of the Republican party to exercise their ingenuity and pursue their darling object, which was no other than the prostration of every party except that which would recognize them as leaders. Accordingly in those sections of the State where the machinery of anti-Masonry could not be put in motion, a party calling themselves by the specious name of "Working Men" was organized under the direction of certain politicians, whose lives had been marked by political intrigue and chicanery, and who never performed a day's work in their lifetime, except that kind of work which our readers will understand if we use the every day phrase, of head work. That is, they are trying to work themselves into office, but are not inclined to work for the benefit of those who are in reality working men. In cities and populous towns, the mechanics and laborers form a very large proportion of the voters, and the name of "working-men's party" was assumed by the managers in the hope that the deception would not be discovered, and with the belief that a sufficient number would be drawn off from the Republican party, which, when united with the political anti-Masons would form a majority.

This plan is completely developed by the proceedings at the Utica Convention, where the interests of the honest part of the anti-Masons and working men have been bought and sold with as little feeling as any article of traffic would be disposed of. The anti-Masons are called on to support Stevens, who no anti-Mason, for Lieutenant Governor; and the "working-men" are called in return to support Granger, who is no working man, for Governor: what consistency!!! A working-men's party, led by Granger and Stevens, two lawyers, who never have belonged to the Republican party, and who are willing to be everything and anything for the sake of the loaves and fishes.

While on this subject we cannot but give credit to Mr. Granger for what he has done for our own county, and while we feel gratified that Sullivan was not scandalized by a representation at this convention of

*"Black spirits and white,
Blue spirits and gray, "*

It is well that we should offer a reason why anti-Masonry and workeyism has not taken deeper root among us than it has.

First then - Our people are honest, and honestly and firmly attached to Republican principles. Secondly - Those who are not Masons find that their neighbors who are Masons are no worse than other men; and therefore they are not disposed to join in the persecution and proscription which is elsewhere carried forward. Thirdly - We are all working-men but ONE. He has worked the State (we suspect) out of about \$110,000, and "thereby hangs a tale". We will tell it:

The president of the Neversink Navigation Company made application to our Legislature for a loan of \$15,000. Frank Granger was chairman of the committee to whom the application was referred, and Mr. Granger reported a bill in favor of granting a loan of \$10,000. The president of the company returned from Albany a flaming anti-Mason, loaded with Giddins' Almanac, Morgan's Illustrations, Southwick's Oration, etc., and as extravagantly lavish in praise of honest Frank Granger. From the Neversink Navigation Company, therefore, has proceeded all of political anti-Masonry which disgraces Sullivan County. But the sequel of this tale is yet to be told. The \$10,000 having been expended, during the last session of the Legislature this same anti-Masonic president of the navigation company, finding his funds as well as the waters of the Neversink getting low, applied for a further loan of \$6,000 to make a slack water navigation. There had been, however, so much slackness in this matter already, that it seemed necessary to make a little inquiry as to the expenditure of the former loan - and the president was accordingly sworn before the committee of the Senate. His evidence is thus given in the report of that committee:

"Mr. Van Tuyl, who appeared before the committee to urge his petition, on being sworn, testified, among other things, in substance, that he could not speak with confidence as to the amount of work which he had done in improving the navigation of the Neversink river, since the Spring of 1828; but believed it to be to the value of about two thousand dollars - \$1,000 in each year. These payments were made principally in goods. He further testified, that of the money loaned he had paid, in the purchase of a lot of land and erecting buildings thereon, about two thousand five hundred dollars; in the purchase of a store of goods, between two and three thousand dollars; and in the payment of old debts between five and six thousand dollars."

The above, we think, will convince any man that if, through the defection of a portion of the Republican party, the Utica Convention nomination and district and county nominations of the same character should prevail, the people have no security for the appropriation of their funds to legitimate purposes, but must be content to look silently upon its distribution among those who have worked the hardest to put themselves up, and to put the Republican party

down. We would say to every honest, well-meaning man to guard against being imposed upon by names: — "Look, before you leap,"

In the Fall of 1831 the Morgan issue seemed to have been given more newspaper space, and on November 1, 1831, anti-Masons were accused of the Morgan outrage in the following article:

ANTI-MASONS THE AUTHORS OF THE MORGAN OUTRAGE

The Guilty Shielded by the Anti-Masonic Party

We have on a former occasion stated the fact that the original author of, and prominent actors in, the Morgan outrage, are now leading members in the anti-Masonic party. We referred then more particularly to the, notorious Giddeis, who, by his own testimony in a court of justice, was the stern, unfeeling jailor, if not, the murderer of Morgan. He visited him for the purpose of "stopping his noise", with a loaded pistol, and threatened to shoot him. In company with five or six others, he concerted the murder of Morgan, and went towards the fort for that purpose, the execution of which was prevented by the relenting of one of the party, not himself.

It was in this man's possession, Morgan was last seen; yet for his final fate he was entirely ignorant! And has this Giddins, thus guilty by his own confession, been punished. Has he been even indicted? No! He was the first to renounce Masonry, the principles of which and of humanity, he had under a false pretense, violated, and was among the first in organizing an anti-Masonic party for political objects. By this party he has been cherished, honored and shielded from punishment, and is receiving large emoluments from his anti-Masonic Almanac, and other services which he has rendered the party of which he is a leading member.

Nor is Giddens the only person, as unquestionably if not equally guilty, who has been shielded from obloquy and punishment. In the county of Genesee, the plans for the abduction of Morgan were concerted, and by residents of that county they were put in motion. Have these prime movers been convicted or have they escaped punishment? A late able writer in the Genesee Republican throws some light on this subject. He, indeed, discloses the truth, and defies contradiction. He states that in the town of LeRoy (where the author resides, and most of the persons implicated reside) "there is not a single, individual who was concerned in any of the outrages connected with the abduction of Morgan excepting, seceding Masons - of them there are some ten or twelve residing in this town, a number of whom took an active part in those outrages." He adds, "We pronounce

the undeniable fact that the guilty perpetrators of these outrages in this, town, are exclusively seceding Masons, all of whom have escaped punishment through the favor and management of political anti-Masonry!" He mentions the names of Haecall, Read, Gates, Knight and others in the county of Genesee, and also of Giddins and of Shed, and asks, "Why have not these men been punished? Let the elders of the anti- Masonic party, (who claim exclusive credit for whatever is done towards bringing the guilty to justice,) answer the question. Any man who will be at the trouble to look over the Morgan transactions, will find some of the most prominent characters, especially in the closing scene of the tragedy, to have escaped punishment through the management and favor of political anti-Masons."

In a subsequent and concluding number, devoted principally to remarks and facts of a local bearing, the writer says:

"It has been my object to state facts which the public good, as well as justice to a large portion of proscribed and persecuted citizens, in my opinion, require to be made known. Every exertion has been made to divert the public attention from these facts. What are they? - That in the town of LeRoy, the cradle of anti-Masonry, every Mason who was guilty of the Morgan and Miller outrage, is now a seceder and a violent political anti-Mason. That of these seceders, two who have been named and distinctly charged as guilty, were at the time indicted, but have escaped punishment by the favor of political anti-Masonry. That these two individuals were far more guilty than either of the three who were tried and convicted in this county. That of the twenty or thirty (I have since been told that there are near forty) adhering Masons in this town, most of whom, at least, are among our most respectable citizens, not one is guilty of those outrages, but many refused to join in them. If there are any guilty among them, why have they not been named? That of those who last had Morgan in custody, and who kept him several days a prisoner in Fort Niagara, with a knowledge, as they say, that he was to be murdered, two only are surviving, viz.: the wretched Giddins and Shedd. That these two are seceding and warm political anti-Masons - that all these men have escaped punishment, and notwithstanding their crimes, are cherished and supported; by the anti-Masonic party-held forth as patterns of virtue, and worthy of the 'unbounded confidence of the public'."

An article entitled "War, Pestilence and Famine" seemed to have ended the fight for no further comment is to be found in the old newspaper files.

WAR, PESTILENCE AND FAMINE

On Friday evening last, we were visited with these in a tangible shape. It appears our member-elect gave a supper to his hirelings at the anti-Masonic Hall at the upper end of the village of Monticello. We are informed that much "good feeling" prevailed at the table. The member was complimented with the following toast:

*"Hiram Bennett, our worthy representative -
'Six feet high and well proportioned'.
Six cheers."*

Mr. Bennett then rose and made a respectful bow to his guests: — "Gentlemen, you do me great honor-I am unable to express my feelings-language fails, and sentiments-I have none. I will take my seat at Albany, as your representative-and should the Chemung canal bill not have passed, I shall probably finish the speech I commenced on this subject, when last you honored me with a place in the Legislature. (Cheers) Gentlemen, I pledge myself to bring in a bill to relieve the president of the Neversink Navigation Company, who illuminates this night in honor of my election, and also to procure the passage of an act regulating 'pedlars,' (Hear him). The member sat down evidently much eased. After enjoying "this feast of reason and flow of soul", and devouring the substantials and delicacies of the table, a military escort was formed under command of Major St. John of the Infantry, and Captain Hamilton of the Cavalry. - The honorable member was escorted home in due form, but we enter our solemn protest against the selection of the music for the occasion.

The "Rogues March" was appropriate enough for the gang that marched or rather staggered through our village, stoning houses and insulting individuals who belonged to the party opposed to them, but to march the honorable member home to such roguish music, was not in accordance with our views. However, we have no right to dispute the question, presuming it was done by order of the committee of arrangements of this "War, Pestilence and Famine" celebration.

"Hail Columbia, happy land!"

Sullivan Lodge Last Nine Years

In a Masonic notice which announced that Sullivan Lodge would celebrate St. the Baptist's Day in the Village of Monticello in conjunction with Royal Arch Chapter No. 65, then active in Monticello, Coit signed as secretary. The celebration took place on June 25, 1828. The notice also stated that the cornerstone of Sullivan Lodge would be laid at that time. Each year thereafter similar notices appeared and St. John the Baptist Festivals were held until June 5, 1835, when the Grand Lodge declared the warrant of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 forfeited.

Peter F. Hunn, referred to in an earlier chapter as a traitor to the craft, also wielded a mighty pen and furnished leading editorials for the Sullivan County Herald, together with persuasive anti-Masonic letters to the other county newspapers. His efforts undoubtedly had a great effect upon the welfare of Old Sullivan Lodge.

It might also be remembered that there are many other conditions which may have made the Sullivan Lodge warrant invalid.

The strict requirements for visitors laid down by the Grand Lodge kept many good sons from the inner rooms and prevented enjoyment many visitors looked forward to.

On March 17, 1829, a resolution went by the Grand Lodge reading, "That it is recommended by this Grand Lodge all subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, that the practice of receiving visitors not vouched for as Master Masons by a member of the lodge to which the visit shall be made, be discontinued". During this period the number of candidates fell and payment of dues likewise fell off. A dark future was indicated. Many lost interest because of the Morgan incident and others were dropped because of non-payment of dues.

To add to their misery the Grand Lodge had issued an edict forbidding public parades without its sanction. Feeling that permission to celebrate St. John the Baptist Festival on June 24, in 1835, an event it had yearly looked forward to, would be denied because of anti-Masonic feeling in Sullivan County, the lodge, no doubt, held as many others did, that the Constitution and Land Marks did not forbid such processions and paraded despite objections by the higher body.

Warrants of other lodges were declared forfeited because of similar disobedience and it is likely that the Sullivan Lodge was similarly affected.

While Masonry had its good effects in Sullivan County during the existence of Sullivan Lodge the ties of brotherhood became so strong at times that it became aligned with politics and unless those seeking appointment to office were members of the craft they would be overlooked in favor of a brother.

Observing this favoritism with considerable malice, non-Masons were ready to act when news of the Morgan affair came to their attention.

Non-Masons had made drastic protests to Masonic leaders regarding their activities, but with little result. Masonic favoritism was the hue and cry of the day but in those days one Mason could trust another and as a result of this many Masons were office holders.

George Washington had set a precedent when he delegated Masons only for the positions of responsibility. Others wishing to acquire the same degree of success as Washington continued the custom despite the fact that other non-Masons could have successfully executed the duties of the office to which appointments were made.

Until 1826 it was generally popular to be a Mason and decidedly unpopular not to be one.



Grand Lodge Again Divided

The brethren of old Sullivan Lodge had no charter which would give them authority to convene but they watched with interest the progress or failure of the lodges, in other sections of the State as they faced the panic of 1837 and other troubled times, including internal issues between 1837 and 1858 which split the then existing Grand Lodge and resulted in the organization of the Phillips and the St. John's Grand Lodges. These issues, although serious, were considered minor as compared with the Morgan and anti-Masonic troubles and if Sullivan Lodge had not succumbed in 1835 the old lodge would probably be in existence today and birth of two other Monticello lodges would not have occurred.

The rumblings of the Morganic volcano it became less audible just prior to the beginning of the second half of the nineteenth century but its furious flames were by no means under control until the abolitionist movement started in 1831 and not very active until ten years later offered a new topic for discussion.

Lodges throughout the country had begun to enjoy a modified reprieve from its most trying decade when in 1837 a serious panic presented itself to the country.

The panic brought about business failures on a scale unprecedented in the history of the country. Most banks refused to accept specie payments and held with the Democratic theory that gold and silver were the only legal tenders. As a result brethren found it impossible to pay dues and because of depleted treasuries many lodges found it impossible to carry on.

If still active Sullivan Lodge would have faced another crisis but if its members planned the organization's finances as carefully as they conducted their own businesses the effects of the panic would not have registered, sufficiently to make it necessary to suspend. Through the storm the sailing would have been smooth until 1849 when internal affairs of Mason demanded attention.

The old question which had split the lodges in 1823 had been debated quietly since the organization of the Grand Lodge in New York and in 1848 plans were adopted for an amendment of the Constitution which would deprive Past Masters of a vote and voice in Grand Lodge. The lodges which had been reunited in 1827 after four years of wrangling had renewed the issue. Up-state lodges gathered the representatives at Geneva, N.Y. Masons from the country were desirous of an amendment denying Past Masters the right to vote on the ground that city lodges through their Past Masters, had from seventeen to nineteen votes, while up-state lodges only had four or five.

City lodges called a convention of Masters and Past Masters on October 31, 1848, at the Howard House in New York City and adopted a resolution recommending that representatives in Grand Lodge and Past Masters be instructed to use the utmost endeavors to prevent the passage of the amendment proposed by the upstate lodges.

No sooner had Grand Lodge assembled in June 1839, when trouble commenced. The city lodges left the hall and organized the Phillips Grand Lodge while the up-state lodges remained. Their Grand body (the regular one) was generally known as the Willard Grand Lodge. The division in the Masonic Fraternity continued until 1858, when both factions were merged into the present Grand Lodge.

Those who had been past Masters prior to December 1849 were to retain their seats in the Grand Lodge and enjoy the privilege of voting.



Bloomington Lodge No. 310

Bloomington Lodge No. 310 was the only other Masonic organization to exist in the county of Sullivan before the turbulent years of the Morgan affair. The Lodge was warranted on June 24, 1818, and conducted its meetings at Wurtsboro, then known as Mamakating, for about four of the seven years it operated in good standing with Grand Lodge.

Its original membership totaled seventeen and its first Master was Abram I. Hardenbergh. Three of these Masons, Lemuel Jenkins, Alpheus Dimmick and John W. Osborn were also charter members of Sullivan Lodge No. 272. Other members of the lodge had been affiliated with Montgomery Lodge.

Bro. Jenkins was Bloomington Lodge's first Senior Warden; the Junior Warden was John Jordan, Jr., and James Sloan, Secretary. The names of the Treasurer and other elective officers are unknown but according to the lodge's first return its members were: Abram I. Hardenbergh, Lemuel Jenkins, John Jordan, Jr., James Sloan, James McCroskry, Alpheus Dimmick, Lebbius Godfrey, John W. Osborn, Charles Baker, Adonijah Brown, William Clark, Charles Winfield, William Gillespie, James Wright, Isaac Schultz, Joseph Miller and Daniel Gillis.

In these early days of Sullivan County Masonry the trail blazers, men of character and leadership, were found on the membership rolls of not only the Sullivan Lodge but also were included among those appearing on the Bloomington roster.

The name Hardenbergh historically rings in the affairs of Sullivan County; Lemuel Jenkins represented Sullivan and Ulster in Congress from 1823 to 1825, was a practicing attorney at Bloomington, and Jordan and Sloan were among the early settlers in the Orange-Sullivan area who distinguished themselves in the promotion of civic and moral good. McCroskry, Godfrey, Brown, Clark, Winfield, Gillespie, Wright, Schultz and Gillis had settled in the area with all influx of Yankees which commenced about the year 1790. Most all of them had come to this section of the country for the purpose of buying furs of the frontier-trappers and hunters but finding the unoccupied land cheap and fertile they decided to settle on it.

Miller was one of the white hunters who followed Indians for days at the risk of his life to discover the place where the red men obtained lead near Wurtsboro; Baker, a graduate of Dartmouth, was one of the first college lawyers to practice in Sullivan County. He was a personal friend of Alexander Hamilton. Dimmick was the third to be appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was the first elected County Judge., served as District Attorney in 1836 and was a member of Assembly in 1829. A hamlet near Orange-Sullivan line still bears the name of Godfrey.

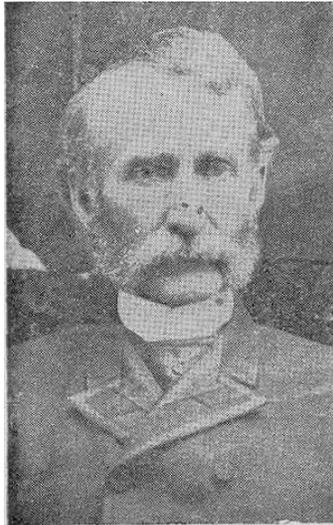
The fact that Bloomington Lodge made no return after 1825 was by no means an indication that it became inactive after that period. Its members who had been given inspiration to promote the prosperity and growth of the section were not desirous of seeing Masonic fellowship end without a struggle. Their

failure to make returns was not voluntary on their part but anti-Masonic groups already active before the Morgan affair and economic and other hardships imposed upon the brethren at that time had forced them to fall into default.

For a while the lodge continued its activity despite conditions but finally with numerous other lodges throughout the country it went into oblivion without ever regaining lost membership and the prestige it once enjoyed.



Monticello Lodge No. 460



BRO. H. R. LOW

Unfortunately history tells us little about Sullivan County Masonry from the Grand Lodge sessions on June 5, 1835, when the charter of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 was declared forfeited and the events leading up to the formation of Monticello Lodge No. 460. We may rest assured, however, that Masonry did not die in Sullivan County during that time.

Masons had long awaited a new Masonic era which would end the Morgan excitement, years of depression and the rift which split the craft into the Phillips and Williard Grand Lodge factions. So with internal matters settled and the anti-Masonic storm calmed the future of Masonry looked brighter at the beginning of the second part of the nineteenth century.

On September 25, 1858, Sullivan Masons who had long yearned for Masonic fellowship in the county made known their wishes to Grand Lodge. Dispensation for forming a new lodge in Monticello had been recommended by Hoffman Lodge No. 412 of Middletown. H. R. Low was recommended as Master, Alfred J. Baldwin, Senior Warden and Joseph B. Cook as Junior Warden.

Among the charter members of Monticello Lodge No. 460 were Masons who had convened in Old Sullivan Lodge when it was in its heyday. These old-time Masons included N. W. Rumsey, a Monticello farmer, Stephen Sweet, an hotelman, and James C. Curtis, an assessor, Member of Assembly from 1831 to 1832, a judge of the Court of Common Pleas by appointment in 1844 and a State Senator in 1850 and 1851. Although a resident of Cochection, Mr. Curtis spent considerable time in Monticello where, he often visited old Sullivan Lodge in which he was raised in 1821.

These brothers lived and practiced Masonry. Men such as they were the backbone of Sullivan County Masonry in those days, but their spirits would probably have been broken if it had not been for a newer generation which was

beginning to realize that Masonry could play an important part in the lives of men.

The petition for forming a lodge in Monticello was received favorably by Grand Master John L. Lewis, Jr., and acted upon by Grand Lodge at its annual session held in June, 1859. The lodge was to be known as Monticello Lodge U. D. from September 25, 1858, until the charter and number would be assigned according to a document received from the office of James M. Austin, the grand secretary.

The first meeting of Monticello Lodge U. D. was held on November 3, 1858, in the upper rooms of a structure which quartered the Watchman newspaper office and a saloon (Jewish Community Center site). The property was then owned by George Wiggins, H. R. Low and O. T. Perry. Their bill for rent from Feb. 1, 1860, to February 1861, was \$100.00.

Present were H. R. Low, Master; A. J. Baldwin, ST. Warden; J. B. Cook, Junior Warden; George Wiggins, Senior Deacon; Stephen Sweet, Junior Deacon; Eli Pelton, Treasurer, and J. B. Strong, Secretary.

The meeting was short and was devoted principally to the reading of a petition for membership of A. J. Bush, who gave his occupation as a lawyer.

At the lodge's next meeting, which was held seven days later, the secretary read a petition of Ayres B. Serry which was referred to a committee for investigation. At the same meeting a favorable report was returned on the petition of Bro. Bush, who was elected to membership by ballot. Receipt of \$5 was noted by the secretary.

The warrant of Monticello Lodge No. 460 was dated June 17, 1859. According to the by-laws the Tiler received \$20 per annum. He was responsible for the lodge property and subject to a fine of \$1.00 when absent. The initiation fee was \$16.00 for men from twenty-one to fifty. The affiliation fee was fixed at \$3.00. Dues for members except the secretary and Treasurer were \$4.00 annually plus fifty cents for Grand Lodge fees.

Although Monticello Lodge No. 460 was formed while the Civil war clouds were gathering and continued to operate during the first year of the war until December 1862, the secretary recorded little of the conflict. This omission, however, does not indicate that members of the lodge were not interested and eager to serve their country.

Members of Lodge No. 460 and No. 532 which was to follow answered the call to arms and distinguished themselves as soldiers with the 52nd and 143rd regiments.

Monticello Lodge No. 460 was actually the nucleus of Monticello Lodge No. 532. It took an active part in Masonry and maintained a crowded trestle board which contained names of candidates throughout its existence. It surrendered its charter December 1862, and during that same year and month Monticello Lodge 532 held its first meeting under dispensation. Therefore only a short if any interruption Masonic intercourse occurred after Monticello Lodge No. 460 was formed in 1858, the successor to Sullivan Lodge No. 272.

The reason why Monticello Lodge No. 460 enjoyed only a short existence has not been explained with any degree of satisfaction by either Grand Lodge records or the minute book of the lodge but it hinted in the latter that harmony and good management were lacking.

When Lodge No. 532 was formed many of the names on the rolls of Lodge No. 460 were not carried over but the new lodge did assume responsibility for indebtedness incurred by the old lodge, and recorded a motion to "stand by the officers and masters of Lodge No. 460 who are threatened with a lawsuit".

The page in the minute book which probably explained the difficulties of Lodge No. 460 is missing.

It is interesting to note that Monticello Lodge No. 460 surrendered its charter contemporaneously with the institution of Monticello Lodge No. 532. These Masonic events can rightfully be interpreted to mean that several important problems were ironed out in 1862. During the same year the old dust-covered charter of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 was taken from its hiding place where it had been safely kept through the craft's most difficult years and turned over with the charter of its successor.

The twenty-eight who became members of Monticello Lodge No. 460 during the period which elapsed from its first meeting on November 3, 1858, U. D. to December 1862, were Henry R. Low, Alfred J. Baldwin, Joseph B. Cook, George Wiggins, Stephen Sweet, Eli S. Pelton, Jarvis B. Strong, James Matthews, Orrin B. Smith, Edward C. Howard, Johnathan Fisk, Avis LeRoy, Ira Dorrance, John D. Hammond, John A. Thompson, Albert J. Bush, Bradley Hall, Fraser Marcus, Roft LeCompte, William H. Murphy, William A. Rice, P. T. Perry, Frederick A. Field, Charles R. Kelton, D. A. Crandall, A. Hoagland, A. B. LeRoy, and A. J. Wood.

H. R. Low acted as Master for 27 of the lodge's 119 regular and nearly as many special communications. He was succeeded by Alfred J. Baldwin, who had acted as Senior Warden until that time. The next Master elected was James Matthews, who was succeeded by Edward C. Howard.

The first officers were elected under dispensation pending the granting of a charter to Bro. Alfred J. Baldwin.

Names appearing on the petition for the new lodge other than those of the office were Stephen Sweet and George Wiggins Bros. Low, Pelton, Baldwin and Strong were the only original officers to serve under the charter. Bro. Cook, a member of Kingston Lodge No. 10, who became an affiliate of Monticello Lodge on April 8, 1864, was replaced as Junior Warden by James Matthews, a banker. George Wiggins, as Senior Deacon, was replaced by Jonathan Fisk and Stephen Sweet was succeeded as Junior Deacon by Edward Howard.

Trustees elected at the December 19, 1860, meeting were Bros. H; R. Low, Eli S. Pelton and Robert LeCompte. Bros. A. J. Baldwin and J. W. Hammond were named as members of the finance committee.

When Colonel Low acquired the interests Perry and Wiggins had in the hotel he showed his affections for the lodge by paying for and donating the

furniture to the brethren. Perry was raised to the Sublime Degree of Masonry during [t]he February 1861, meeting, when the rent bill of Low and his partners was read.

On April 1, 1861, two men who later were to become Masters of Monticello Lodge No. 532 were raised. One was David S. Starr, the first Master of Monticello Lodge No. 532, who was a Monticello attorney. The other was Fred W. Field, whose father owned the Rosary Hotel just below Weiss Motors Garage on East Broadway. Fields [sic] was drowned in Shin Creek near Willowemoc while he was Master.

Others who were raised during the year included Solomon W. Royce and George H. Kelton, both of whom also served as Masters of Monticello Lodge No. 532. Royce was raised shortly after F. W. Johnson and Naman W. Rumsey during a meeting held under special dispensation which was attended by the District Deputy Grand Lecturer, George E. Simons.

Kelton had petitioned the lodge for membership with the understanding that the lodge charge nothing for conferring the degrees. Kelton was to perform the duties of Tiler if elected. He was raised but proved to be such extraordinary officer timber that he did not serve as Tiler.

The name of James C. Curtis was recorded in the minute book on September 4, 1861, as a visitor from Ancient Sullivan Lodge, "now extinct". Attending this meeting was the Assistant Grand Lecturer Bro. Simons. Bros. Isaac Anderson, Adam Sander and William Rice were raised that evening.

The lodge had no summer recesses and held meetings frequently. The last meetings of 1861 were held on August 21, 28, September 4, 4, 5, 9, 9, 11, 18, and 24. During that period five were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

Bro. Fields offered a resolution requesting W. Bro. George W. Simon to continue to instruct the lodge in the standard work until Friday, September 13, 1861. The resolution was adopted and on September 18th Bro. Simon's bill for \$33 was approved.

The last officers elected to serve Lodge 460 were James Matthews, Master; Edward C. Howard, Senior Warden; Charles R. Kelton, Junior Warden; J. W. Hammond, Secretary; H. R. Low, Treasurer, and O. B. Smith, Tiler.

Their last recorded meeting was held in September 14, 1861, with A. J. Baldwin, Master; David G. Starr as Senior Warden; C. R. Kelton, Junior Warden; O. E. Crandall, Treasurer; James Matthews, Secretary; F. A. Fields, Senior Deacon; W. H. Murphy, Junior Deacon, and O. B. Smith, Tiler.

Bros. Matthews and Howard had answered the call to the colors and many times during their absence Bro. Simons acted as Master. Later both Baldwin and Simons engaged themselves in the service of their country along with other members of the lodge, leaving only a few who would call the lodge to order. This task fell mainly on the shoulders of Bro. D. S. Starr but despite his organizing ability and careful planning finances and other conditions imposed by the war would not permit the lodge to function. Inactivity for several months and failure to make Grand Lodge returns had placed it in a position beyond

reviving. The next best substitute was a new lodge and Monticello Lodge No. 532 came into existence.

An attempt to revive the old rather than to form a new lodge is indicated by the following letter which was forwarded to Grand Lodge on May 20, 1863:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York:

The undersigned petitioners being Ancient Free and Accepted Master Masons having the prosperity of the fraternity at heart and willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Masonry respectfully represent that they are desirous of forming a new lodge in the Village of Monticello to be named Monticello Lodge No. 460.

They therefore pray for letters of dispensation or a warrant of constitution to empower them to assemble as a legal lodge to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner according to the original forms of the Order and the regulations of the Grand Lodge. They have nominated and recommend Brother David G. Starr to be the first Master, James Matthews the first Senior Warden and Eli S. Pelton to be the first Junior Warden of said lodge.

If the prayer of the petition shall be granted they promise a strict conforming to the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Monticello, Sullivan County, N. Y., Dec. 9, 1862.

JOHN A. THOMPSON
JAMES MATTHEWS
SOLOMON W. ROYCE
LEWIS DICKINSON
ELI S. PELTON
D. G. STARR
BRADLEY HALL.

Their reason for desiring to reorganize the defunct Lodge 460 rather than to form a new lodge was mainly for financial reasons which was explained in a letter to Grand Lodge just before its June, 1863 session:

Monticello, May 20th, 1863.

To the M.W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York:

On behalf of the members of Monticello Lodge U. D. the undersigned fraternally beg leave to petition your Most Worshipful Body to remit to Monticello Lodge U. D. the amount of the fee for Dispensation and grant us the original warrant of Monticello Lodge No. 460 without fee, said warrant having been surrendered since the last session of the Grand Lodge.

In addition to, the necessary expenses attending the organization of our lodge, we have been obliged to pay the sum of One Hundred Dollars in order to satisfy those to whom the said Monticello Lodge 460 was indebted; and which said amount has entirely paid the indebtedness due by the said Monticello Lodge 460, it has also depleted our treasury and as the present Monticello Lodge is not in reality a new lodge, but rather a reorganization of an old one we trust that you will grant us this relief.

W. Bro. Geo. W. Simmons is fully acquainted with the facts in regard to our lodge; we would refer to him.

Respectfully submitted,
D. G. STARR, W. M.
F. M. ST. JOHN, Secy.

Grand Lodge refused to grant their request to retain the same lodge number but there is no record which indicates that the Dispensation fee was remitted.

According to the present Grand Lodge Secretary, Charles Johnson, "there were no important adjustments made in 1862 which affected the charters of all lodges. The difficulties or adjustments leading to the formation of the new lodge in Monticello must have been local ones in Monticello.

"The Charter of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 was declared forfeited along with those of a great many others who were in financial or other difficulties during the time usually known as the Morgan period. This charter was and remained invalid from the time it was duly declared forfeited.

"Monticello Lodge No. 460 surrendered its charter in 1862 and Monticello Lodge No. 532 was warranted June 11, 1863."



Callicoon Lodge

Each generation of men has found Masonry furnished something to its liking and the changing years seem to merely emphasize the fundamental virtues of the lodge. That men of the Civil War period in Sullivan County were very much alive to the Masonic influence is proven by historical facts.

In Callicoon, where Lodge No. 521 was getting its start at the beginning of the Civil War, it was especially evident that troubled times and war conditions only served to bring out more fully the underlying brotherhood of Masonry. And how sound were the convictions of these Civil War brothers is evident from the fact that the foundations they laid so well in the 1860's have endured down through the years, and Masonry has enjoyed a full measure of prosperity and success.

In 1942 as the draft calls its millions into the service of the country it is easily understood how those men of 70 years ago felt as they answered the call. From their farms and country hamlets they went away. These Civil War Masons, but war, that mighty instrument of change in the affairs of mankind, did not make them any the less devoted to their Order when they came back. Masonry went on where it had left off. The brothers who remained behind continued the work and when those who had been at war returned they found welcome and refreshing incentive to take up their affairs in their communities by renewing their Masonic ties in the return of peace.

Callicoon Lodge No. 521 is the oldest lodge in the county by number, and the pages of its minute books, yellowed with age, record a story of great brotherly love, sacrifice and devotion.

The movement for establishing Callicoon Lodge was inaugurated in the little hamlet of Thumansville (now Callicoon) by Aaron Hoagland, of the firm of Fraser and Hoagland, tanners and merchants, and Marcus Fraser, Jr., boss tanner for the firm. These two men were charter members of Monticello Lodge 460 and it was the communion with brethren of this lodge which inspired them to foster Masonry in the western section of the county. Hoagland had been elected to membership in Lodge No. 460 on January 5, 1859, and the Frasers on August 10, 1859.

The first regular meeting of Callicoon Lodge under dispensation was conducted in the Thuman Hotel at what is now known as Callicoon Center on Saturday evening, November 16, 1861.

The Master was Marcus Fraser, Jr.; the Senior Warden, Frederick Thuman, proprietor of the hotel which bore his name. W. B. Buckley was the Junior Warden; Adam Sander, Treasurer; William Hill, Secretary; Aaron Hoagland, Senior Deacon; John Best, Senior Master of Ceremony; J. D. Schemerhorn, Junior Master of Ceremony, and Thomas Delaney, Tiler. Other members present were Charles Lamb and Lemuel L. Pendell.

Sander and Hill were also members of Monticello Lodge No. 460. When the lodge received its charter there were 22 names on its membership roll. On June 20, 1862, the lodge assembled in its rooms over the Hessinger store at

Callicoon Center, formed in procession and proceeded to the German Lutheran church, where it was duly consecrated and constituted by the Grand Treasurer, John W. Simons, acting as Grand Master.

Assisting in the ceremonies were George E. Simons, Deputy Grand Master, and William G. White, Grand Marshal.

Marcus Fraser, Jr., the first Master presided over the lodge for the last time on September 20, 1862, when, like E. C. Howard, the Master of Monticello Lodge, No. 460, he went to the war. He mustered in as a first lieutenant of Company F, 143rd Regiment of Volunteers. Stricken with typhoid fever, he was taken to St. Aloysius Hospital in Washington, D. C., where he died on November 20, 1862.

Hoagland went to the war with Fraser as orderly sergeant, followed the fortunes of the regiment and participated in all its battles. He was killed in action at Peach Tree Creek, near Atlanta, Ga.

Callicoon Lodge furnished more than its full quota in defense of the Union. There were six in all. Callicoon Lodge was removed from Callicoon Center to Jeffersonville in the year 1885 for better quarters for its meetings. The last stated communication was held at Callicoon Center on May 23, 1885, and the first communication was held in Jeffersonville on July 25, 1885. The meetings at Jeffersonville were first held over the store of Henry Krenrich next to the Mansion House. In the Fall of, 1886 the Masonic Hall was built, the first in the county. The upper floor was used for lodge purposes while -the lower floor was leased to Bro. Krenrich. Krenrich was elected Master in 1875 and served for ten years. It was through him that the lodge was moved from Call1coon Center to Jeffersonville in 1865.

The lodge celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in June, 1912, with a six-day fair and carnival. The net proceeds were \$1,100 and all this without the employment of a single game of chance.

For years, particularly during the period from 1916, when the lodge conducted a motion picture theatre in their building, Callicoon Lodge was the most prosperous organization of its kind in the county. The erection of another theatre in the village and a loss of revenue from rentals have deprived the lodge of a great many of the material things but its Masonic record still stands and the will to continue is still manifest in William Lieb who was first elected Master when 25, re-elected at the age of, fifty and now, more than two-score years later, is serving for the third time. He was first elected in 1895 and served one term, then again in 1920, serving through that year and the three succeeding years.

During the early years of the lodge the Frasers, Thuman and Wenzel, were the lodge's leading spirits. Then came Lieb, Krenrich and Valentine Scheidell, the latter of whom served eighteen years, of which 17 were consecutive.

Bro. Krenrich was appointed District Deputy of the old Tenth Masonic District, which comprised the counties of Orange, Sullivan and Rockland. Bro. Lieb served as District Deputy of the Delaware-Sullivan District in 1930. Among his proud possessions is a Fifty-year Grand Lodge service medal.

Delaware Lodge

Delaware Lodge, the first to be mothered by Monticello Lodge, received its a charter on June 30, 1865, after operating nearly a year under dispensation.

The move to form this lodge was inaugurated by J. Howard Beach, a member of Honesdale Lodge No. 218, and a group of Masons including Charles E. Beach. of Milanville, Pa.; L. Dow Tyler, James C. Curtis, Charles T. Curtis, Tobias Van Gelder and E. M. Calkins, of Cochection; William Roper and John Barwig, of Fosterdale, and Dr. Isaac Forshay, of Fremont Center. Those who did not belong to the Pennsylvania Lodge claimed membership at Monticello and Callicoon, where the county's only other lodges were then located. As Beach lived in the State of Pennsylvania he did not become the lodge's first Master. An excellent substitute in the person of Tobias R. Van Gelder became first Master. Charles T. Curtis was elected Senior Warden and L. Dow Tyler, Junior Warden.

The formal dedication took place at the Cochection House, on July 7, 1865. Masons from Monticello, Thumansville, Hancock and Middletown attended the ceremonies.

In December, 1885, the lodge was transferred to Callicoon, where it has since enjoyed a prosperous and worthy existence.

Of the lodge's three District Deputies Charles T. Curtis, the son of a member of old Sullivan Lodge No.. 272, was the first to be appointed. He served during the year 1898, when William A. Sutherland was Grand Master. His son, Charles G. Curtis, was appointed District Deputy by Grand Master Harold J. Richardson in May, 1927.

This year (1942) Leonard E. Bock was appointed District Deputy by Grand Master William F. Strang. B6ck was raised on February 17, 1917, served as Master during 1922 and 1923, was appointed Assistant Grand Lecturer in 1928 and served in this capacity until 1933. He was elected secretary of the lodge and has ably served in this office since.

Among the brethren of Callicoon Lodge who served as assistant Grand Lecturer was James H. Curtis, a Past Master, who was appointed in 1903 and served until 1905.

Raymond C. Tate was appointed to the office by the Grand Lecturer Henry C. Meacham, who also appointed Bock. Edwin S. Kelley, a past Master of the lodge is the present Assistant Grand Lecturer.

In June, 1931, the Grand Master, Charles H. Johnson, appointed Guernsey T. Cross, a Past Master, Grand, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nevada, near the Grand Lodge of New York. That fall the Grand Master visited Delaware Lodge and presented Bro. Cross with his official apron.

In 1936 the lodge Historical Committee completed a detailed history of the lodge. Credit for this work is given John E. Straub, William V. Dexter and Past Master J. Vance Hunt, Guernsey T. Cross and Fred Stabbert.

Throughout its existence a friendly Masonic feeling has existed between the Delaware and Monticello lodges. The bonds of friendship were-made

stronger in 1925 when John H. Hess, a Past Master of Monticello Lodge, was elected to honorary membership in the Delaware Lodge.

Livingston Manor Lodge

Livingston Manor Lodge No. 791 was organized by nine members of Callicoon, Lodge and received its charter on June 10, 1887. The territory mapped out for this lodge was taken from a section most of which was within the jurisdiction of Callicoon Lodge.

Formation of the lodge resulted in a loss of about eighteen members to Callicoon Lodge and a few from the Monticello and Downsville lodges. The territory governed by this lodge was rich in Masonic material and its membership, comprised largely of farmers, increased rapidly under learned and enthusiastic Masons.

Following closely on the membership roll, where the names Doll, Sprague; Mott, Ellsworth, Seeley and Davis appear as charter members, are the names of the brothers William G. and John P. Johnston, the former, who is a Past Master and the father of Past Master and County Treasurer Roy C. Johnston.

Honor came to the lodge as early as 1900, when William B. Voorhees was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 16th District.

Bro. Voorhees distinguished himself not only among the brethren of this district but so capably executed his duties that he was reappointed for a second term.

Again in 1918 when the appointment came to Livingston Manor Jay Dreher was elevated to the Deputyship. He moved, away during the year, however, and the Grand Master named J. Wm. Davis as his successor.

The third District Deputy named from Livingston Manor Lodge was Donald L. Albee. He was among the lodge's youngest members and had served as Master in 1931. His thorough knowledge of Masonry and understanding of Masonic principles placed him high above other members of the lodge for this appointment and when it came in 1933 he received the unanimous support and endorsement of the brethren.

One of its members most recently honored by Grand Lodge is C. H. Reynolds, who is now serving as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, near the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. This reward came in recognition of years of loyal service to the craft which includes outstanding work as district service man for lodges in Sullivan County.

Livingston Manor Lodge now has the distinction of a membership roll which includes the names of four Masons who possess fifty-year Grand Lodge service medals. The Johnston brothers received the medals two years ago. The last to be honored thusly are William Voorhies and M. R. Reed.

Mongaup Lodge

Mongaup Lodge No. 816 of Liberty received its charter on June 4, 1896. Its charter members were C. L. Beaumont, Frank Gotter, John A. Darbee, E. R. Dosenberry, George Gildersleeve, Richard Gildersleeve, John M. Hall. William B. Hand, J. N. Hardenberg, T. H. Houlihan, Henry Intermann, John H. Kilbourne, Jacob L. Matzinger, Roswell A. Monroe. Jacob Newkirk, S. W. Parsons, Charles S. Payne, John Reiner, Solomon A. Royce, and Rogers W. Sears.

These Masons transferred their membership from Monticello, Jeffersonville, Livingston Manor and New York City. John Reiner was the only member of Monticello Lodge who was a charter member of this lodge. There were other members of Monticello Lodge who transferred after the charter was granted.

The lodge was formally constituted on June 23, 1896, with W. M. Combs, District Deputy of the Tenth Masonic District, in charge of ceremonies.

Charles L. Beaumont was the first Master and under his leadership the brethren became interested in the work and built a firm foundation upon which to rest in future years. Beaumont had received his Masonic knowledge in Albion Lodge No. 26 of New York City, where he had served as Master prior to coming to Liberty, where he had engaged in the insurance business.

The lodge held the first and several, of the succeeding meetings in Toni Hall. During this period Pierson and Cotter were rushing to completion a building with the second door planned for lodge purposes.

Frank Dodge, our Deputy County Treasurer, was one of the class of five who were the first initiates. He served as Master during the years 1906 and 1907.

Outstanding among the lodges of the district, Mongaup Lodge now enjoys a membership of more than 300.

Five of its members have served as District Deputy, the first of whom was William B. Hand. He is one of the lodge's life members and served as District Deputy in 1911. The following year Joseph Rosch served in the same capacity. Others to be likewise recognized by Grand Lodge were Joseph Rosch, Nial Curry, James B. Mance and J. O. Newkirk.

Deputy Grand Master and Charter Officers of Fallsburg Lodge



Officers of the new Fallsburg Masonic Lodge are pictured above with Grand Lodge officers who had dedicated and consecrated the lodge a year before.

From left to right are: Front row, Harry C. Resnick, master; Ira E. Terry, past district deputy Grand Master of Margaretville, under whose guidance the lodge was formed; Henry C. Turner, then deputy Grand Master of New York State Masons; Clarence Glass, who at that time was deputy Grand Marshall and Charles Farrow, the lodge's first senior warden.

In the rear, from left to right are: Louis Rozofsky chaplain; Emanuel Feldman, tiler; Morris Heller, junior warden; Louis Halprin, junior deacon; Isaac Silberman, senior warden; Samuel Kronenberg, treasurer; Samuel Sprayregen, senior master of ceremonies and Anthony Salzman, junior master of ceremonies.

In the Fall of 1937 Louis Halprin conceived the idea of organizing a Masonic lodge in South Fallsburgh and after discussing the proposition with several prominent residents of South Fallsburgh and Monticello at the Flagler Hotel in South Fallsburgh a Masonic club was organized for the sole purpose of bringing Brother Halprin's idea to reality.

After the club was organized, meetings were held with the brethren of Monticello Lodge, who recommended the formation of a lodge at South Fallsburgh to be known as Fallsburg Lodge.

At a meeting of the club on December 31, 1937, it was announced that Bro. Milton H. Henderson, who was then District Deputy, was in favor of the organization of a lodge at South Fallsburgh and that he would take up the matter with Grand Lodge.

A conference was then held with the officers and Past Masters of Monticello Lodge at which the organization of Fallsburg Lodge was discussed and decided upon favorably. Immediately thereafter W. Bro. Harry C. Resnick prepared the necessary petition and other

papers for procuring a dispensation from Grand Lodge and sent them to the various lodges in the Delaware-Sullivan Masonic District for action.

At the meeting of February 16, 1938, it was announced that Monticello Lodge, at its meeting on February 11, 1938, had unanimously voted its consent to the organization of Fallsburg Lodge and it was also stated that the officers and Past Masters of Monticello Lodge had been most cooperative. By March 9, 1938, fourteen of the lodges in the district had given their consent to the formation of Fallsburg Lodge.

In the meantime, through the courtesy, cooperation and assistance of Monticello Lodge, the exemplification of the three degrees was rehearsed and the work put on by the brethren of Fallsburg Lodge.

The first degree was exemplified on April 14, 1938; the second degree on April 22, 1938, and the third degree on May 20, 1938. In August of 1938 the petition and other papers for the dispensation were filed with Grand Lodge. On November 16, 1938, which was the last meeting of Fallsburg Club, it was announced that the dispensation of Fallsburg Lodge had been granted on November 9, 1938. Immediate arrangements were thereupon made for the institution of Fallsburg Lodge on November 22, 1938, in the Masonic Temple of Monticello Lodge. At the appointed time and place Fallsburg Lodge was instituted by R. W. Henry C. Turner, who was then Deputy Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York. The officers were then installed and Fallsburg Lodge commenced to function. Candidates were admitted and degrees conferred.

On March 29, 1939, a special communication was held after a dispensation was duly procured from the Grand Master and the Master Mason Degree conferred upon a class of five at the Masonic Temple of Monticello Lodge.

On April 12, 1939, the last meeting of Fallsburg Lodge under dispensation was held, at which time all reports and papers were made ready for submission to the Grand Lodge and petition was made for the granting of a charter to Fallsburg Lodge, U. D.

At the Grand Lodge convention held in May of 1939, Fallsburg Lodge as duly granted its charter and became officially known as Fallsburg Lodge No. 1122, F. & A. M.

On November 8, 1939, Fallsburg Lodge was duly constituted by R. W. Henry C. Turner, who was then Deputy Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York. Bro. Harry C. Resnick was duly installed as the first Master. Under his capable leadership the lodge continued to function. Bro. Charles Tarrow was the second Master and Bro. Isaac Silberman was the third and present Master of Fallsburg Lodge No. 1122.

The names of 44 appear on the charter roll.

The lodge now has a membership of 66. Since the lodge was organized two members have died.

The lodge's six members who are serving in the armed forces are Daniel Birnbaum, Arthur Tarrow, Nathan Tanzman. Seymour Karow; Emanuel Feldman and Jack Hechtman.

District Deputies

Year	Name	Lodge	Masonic District
1865	David G. Starr	Monticello No. 532	7 th
1866	David G. Starr	Monticello No. 532	7 th
1867	L. S. Straw	Newburgh No. 309	7 th
1868	L. S. Straw	Newburgh No. 309	7 th
1869	G. Fred Wiltsie	Hudson River No. 607	7 th
1870	G. Fred Wiltsie	Hudson River No. 607	7 th
1871	A. Edward Suffern	Hoffman No. 412	7 th
1872	A. Edward Suffern	Hoffman No. 412	7 th
1873	A. Edward Suffern	Hoffman No. 412	7 th
1874	Charles B. Gray	Port Jervis No. 328	10 th
1875	Andrew S. Weller	Wawarsing No. 582	10 th
1876	Andrew S. Weller	Wawarsing No. 582	10 th
1877	George Dickey	Newburgh No. 309	10 th
1878	George Dickey	Newburgh No. 309	10 th
1879	George Dickey	Newburgh No. 309	10 th
1880	George Dickey	Newburgh No. 309	10 th
1881	Nicholas Demarest	Standard No. 711	10 th
1882	Nicholas Demarest	Standard No. 711	10 th
1883	John E. Kraft	Kingston No. 10	10 th
1884	Oscar L. Eastman	Rondout No. 343	10 th
1885	Mervin E. Deyo	Wawarsing No. 582	10 th
1886	Mervin E. Deyo	Wawarsing No. 582	10 th
1887	Cornelius S. Gibb	Hudson River No. 607	10 th
1888	Cornelius S. Gibb	Hudson River No. 607	10 th
1889	Benjamin B. Odell	Newburgh No. 309	10 th
1890	Benjamin B. Odell	Newburgh No. 309	10 th
1891	Edward D. Woodhull	Monroe No. 173	10 th
1892	Edward D. Woodhull	Monroe No. 173	10 th
1893	John B. Allegier	Rondout No. 343	10 th
1894	Henry Krenrich	Callicoon No. 521	10 th
1895	Wilbur M. Combs	Monroe No. 172	10 th
1896	George W. Peck	Hudson River No. 607	10 th
1897	Walter G. Edgerton	Delhi No. 439	16 th
1998	Charles T. Curtis	Delaware No. 561	16 th
1899	Matthew W. Marvin	Walton No. 559	16 th
1900	William B. Voorhees	Livingston Manor No. 791	16 th
1901	William B. Voorhees	Livingston Manor No. 791	16 th
1902	Elbridge L. Hitt	Delhi No. 439	16 th
1903	William B. Hand	Mongaup No. 816	16 th
1904	John W. Telford	Margaretville No. 389	16 th
1905	Valentine Scheidell	Callicoon No. 521	16 th

District Deputies

Year	Name	Lodge	Masonic District
1906	George L. Hubbell	St. Andrews No. 289	16 th
1907	Frank W. Hartman	Downsville No. 464	16 th
1908	H. Hynden Hatch	Monticello No. 532	16 th
1909	J. Henry Arbuckle	Walton No. 559	16 th
1910	Arthur F. Bouton	Coeur de Lion No. 571	16 th
1911	Joseph Rosch	Mongaup No. 816	16 th
1912	George F. Sullard	Franklin No. 562	16 th
1913	Delos Eichenberg	Hancock No. 552	16 th
Later	Edward O. Harkness	Delhi No. 439	16 th
1914	Nial C. Curry	Mongaup No. 816	16 th
1915	Nial C. Curry	Mongaup No. 816	16 th
1916	A. Lindsay O'Connor	St. Andrew's No. 289	16 th
1917	Frank H. McKinnon	Sidney No. 801	16 th
1918	Jay Dreher	Liv. Manor No. 791	16 th
Later	J. William Davis	Liv. Manor No. 791	Del.-Sull.
1919	J. Frisbie Bouton	Coeur de Lion No. 571	Del.-Sull.
1920	Samuel H. Fancher, Jr.	Margaretville No. 389	Del.-Sull.
1921	George D. Pelton	Monticello No. 532	Del.-Sull.
1922	Hector S. Marvin	Delhi No. 439	Del.-Sull.
1923	Andrew C. Fenton	Walton No. 559	Del.-Sull.
1924	James B. Mance	Mongaup No. 816	Del.-Sull.
1925	John B. Warner	Mongaup No. 816	Del.-Sull.
1926	Norman G. Ostrander	Masonville No. 606	Del.-Sull.
1927	Charles G. Curtis	Delaware No. 561	Del.-Sull.
1928	Vincent N. Elwood	Hancock No. 552	Del.-Sull.
1929	William H. Perry	Sidney No. 801	Del.-Sull.
1930	William Lieb	Callicoon No. 521	Del.-Sull.
1931	Archie S. Holmes	Downsville No. 464	Del.-Sull.
1932	Ralph A. Hoyt	St. Andrew's No. 289	Del.-Sull.
1933	Donald L. Albee	Liv. Manor No. 791	Del.-Sull.
1934	Ira M. Clearwater	Deposit No. 396	Del.-Sull.
1935	Adelbert Kingsbury	Walton No. 559	Del.-Sull.
1936	Charles G. Burns	Monticello No. 532	Del.-Sull.
1937	Milton Henderson	Delhi No. 439	Del.-Sull.
1938	Ira Terry	Margaretville No. 389	Del.-Sull.
1939	Jay O. Newkerk	Mongaup No. 816	Del.-Sull.
1940	Harry A. Ward	Franklin No. 562	Del.-Sull.
1941	Jay F. Hager	Masonville No. 606	Del.-Sull.
1942	Leonard Bock	Delaware No. 501	Del.-Sull.



1942 FINDS AMERICA AT WAR

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GRAND MASTER'S WAR CHEST

If each of us contribute at least a dollar
a year to the fund our fraternity will be able
to continue contributing to the

U. S. O.

RED CROSS

The WIDOWS and ORPHANS of MASONS and
Relief of Our Brethern When They Return

Masonic Lodges In The Delaware-Sullivan District

No.	Name	Location	County	Chartered or Instituted
289	St. Andrews	Hobart	Delaware	4-12-1896 6-08-1853
389	Margaretville	Margaretville	Delaware	8-01-1855
396	Deposit	Deposit	Delaware	6-26-1856
439	Delhi	Delhi	Delaware	6-15-1908
464	Downsville	Downsville	Delaware	6-22-1859 1879
521	Callicoon	Jeffersonville	Sullivan	1861
532	Monticello	Monticello	Sullivan	1862
552	Hancock	Hancock	Delaware	6-09-1965
559	Walton	Walton	Delaware	6-17-1865
561	Delaware	Callicoon	Sullivan	1864
562	Franklin	Franklin	Delaware	9-07-1864
571	Coeur de Lion	Roxbury	Delaware	6-15-1865
606	Masonville	Masonville	Delaware	6-11-1866
791	Livingston Manor	Livingston Manor	Sullivan	1887
801	Sidney	Sidney	Delaware	July, 1891
816	Mongaup	Liberty	Sullivan	1896
1122	Fallburgh	South Fallsburg	Sullivan	1938

NOTE: Lodges with two dates are those which became inactive. Latest date is the one which appears on charter under which they are now operating.

M.:W.: WILLIAM F. STRANG GRAND MASTER

M.:W.:William F. Strang, Grand Master of Masons, State of New York, has been a member of our fraternity since I 1905, and his experience in Masonic work over a long period of years has provided for him an excellent background for the important and honored position he now holds.

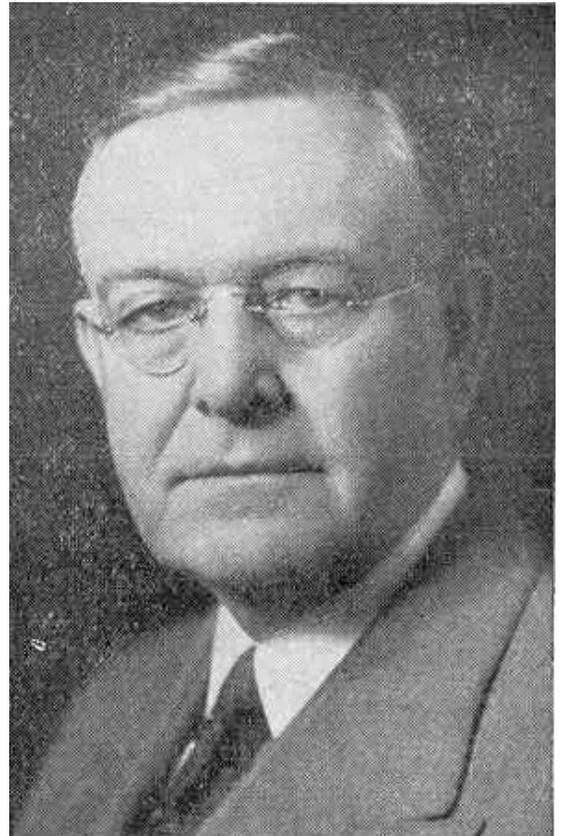
M.:W.: Bro. Strang was initiated, passed and raised in Seneca Lodge No. 113 at Waterloo, N. Y. but dimitted from this lodge on October 26, 1914. During the same year he became one of the charter members of Seneca Lodge No. 920 at Rochester, Monroe county, N.Y. He served as master of the Rochester Lodge in 1926; was district deputy Grand Master of the First Monroe District during the 1928-1929 term.

So outstanding was his work as district deputy that he won the appointment of Grand Lodge Commissioner of Appeals. In this capacity he served from June 29 to June 1932. In 1934 he was appointed to serve with the committee on constitutions. In 1939, a year before he retired as committeeman on constitutions he was appointed to the committee on Masonic Refugees.

Our Grand Master served as Junior Grand Warden from the Grand Lodge session in 1932 until 1936 when he was elected Senior Grand Warden. He served in the Grand West until Grand Lodge elected him Deputy Grand Master in 1940. The Master of Monticello lodge, several of our brethren had the pleasure of attending the Grand Lodge session in June 1942 when M.:W.: Bro. Strang was elevated to the high station of Grand Master.

M.:W.: Bro. Strang was born September 14, 1883 at Junius, Seneca County, N.Y. He was graduated from Waterloo High School in 1899; from Cornell University, with an A. B. degree, in 1904 and received an L. L. B. at Albany Law School in 1906. He is an attorney at law at Rochester with the firm of Strang, Bodine, Wright and Combs.

He is a member of Rochester, New York State and American Bar Association, was president of the Rochester Bar Association in 1928 is a member of the University Club, of Rochester, the Genesee Valley Club the Monroe Golf Club, Society of the Genesee, Empire State Society and Sons of the American Revolution. At present he is a member and Second VicePresident of Rochester Chamber of Commerce.



M.:W.: CHARLES JOHNSON

GRAND SECRETARY

There is perhaps no Mason in the state who is more widely known or more revered by members of the craft than M.:W.: Bro. Charles Henry Johnson, our Grand Secretary.

Although we have no record of when M.:W.: Bro. Johnson was raised in Ancient City Lodge No. 452 at Albany or his affiliation with Holland Lodge No. 8, of New York City we are told that he served as Chaplain as far back as 1911. The following year he was appointed senior deacon and after serving as junior and senior wardens in 1913 and 1914 he was elected Master.

A graduate of both Boston and Harvard Universities he is not only well educated but also possesses unusual oratorical and business ability. These unusual requisites were not overlooked when the Grand Master appointed him deputy for the 17th district in 1917.

From his appointment as district deputy until he became Grand Master in 1930 he served in many capacities of responsibility which include that of trustee of the Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund, 1918-1920; Junior Grand Warden, 1920-1924; Senior Grand Warden, 1924-1926; Deputy Grand Master, 1928-1930; Chairman, Grand Lodge Committee on Unemployment; Chairman, Grand Lodge Committee on Publication; Chairman, Grand Lodge Board of General Activities; Grand Representative to Massachusetts, 1929; Grand Master, 1931-1932; Grand Secretary from 1932; elected Past Grand Master A.F.&A.M., Idaho, September, 1937.

In public life he served with distinction as Commissioner of Social Welfare of the State of New York and is still a member of the State Board for the First Judicial District. He also served as member of the New York State Commission for Mental Defectives and was a member of the New York State Commission to examine laws relating to child welfare until it was discontinued on July 1, 1925.

He is a past president of the American Prison Association, 1924, past president of Albany Rotary Club, member of New York Rotary Club and past president. Central Y.M.C.A., Albany, N.Y.

Dr. Johnson served in Russia and the Near East in 1922 representing the American Relief Administration, of which Herbert Hoover was chairman. He was appointed by President Coolidge and Governor Smith to represent this country and New York State at the International Prison Congress held in London, August 1925, also by President Hoover to the International Prison Congress held in Budapest, 1930.



He has written many articles on institutions and work in the field of charity. He served as deputy warden of Sing Sing prison.

He has also been Supt. of State Reformatory, Cheshire, Conn.; Supt. of Albany Orphan Asylum, Albany; Supt. of Leake and Watts Orphan House, Yonkers, N.Y. He is a Past President of the National Conference of Juvenile Agencies; Past President of New York State Conference of Charities and Corrections; Past President of the Board of Visitors, State Training School for Boys and a member of the New York Committee on Child Labor.

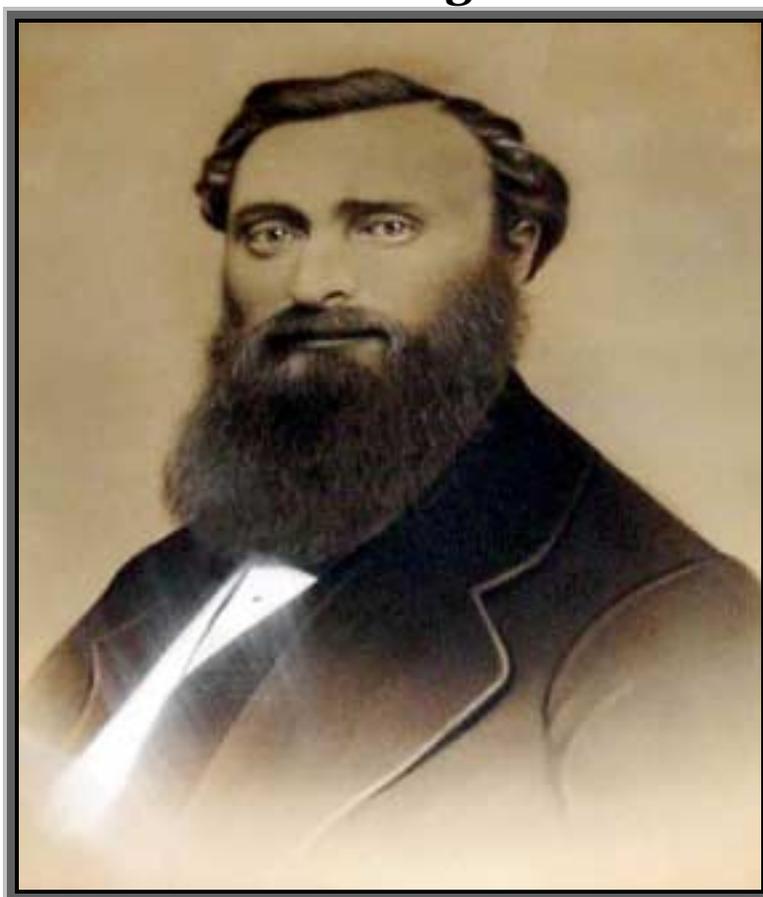
Dr. Johnson is a leading authority on the care of the defective, dependent and criminal classes and widely known as a lecturer on such topics.

Masonic organization affiliations other than the Symbolical Lodge, mentioned, have been: Capital City Chapter, No. 242, R. A. M., Past High Priest, 1913; Past Grand Representative of Tennessee; Dewitt Clinton Council, No. 22, Past Master, 1922-1923; Grand Master of Grand Council, 1929-1930; 'Grand Representative to England and Wales; Temple Commandery, No. 2, K. T., Past Commander 1925, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, 33, 1921, Past Master of Grand Lodge of Perfection, 1925. Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of Mystic Shrine, Cyprus Temple, Albany, Past Potentate, 1926.

St. Paul's Conclave, New York City, Knights of Red Cross of Constantine, Past Sovereign, 1927. Grand Council Royal and Select Masters, Grand Master General Grand Council, R. S. M.; General Grand Conductor, and at present is Master of the American Lodge of Research.



Monticello Lodge No. 532



DAVID G. STARR

The first master of Monticello Lodge served through the trying years of the Civil War, became District Deputy Grand Master for the Seventh District during the years 1866 and 1867 and again was Master of Monticello Lodge during the years 1868 and 1869.

It is unlikely that any fraternal organization in Monticello has enjoyed a more respected and noteworthy existence than that which Monticello Lodge No. 532 has experienced since the Civil War days when it was, formed.

The lodge received dispensation empowering it to work during the most critical times Americans had endured since the days of Valley Forge. In the formative days of the lodge the nation was engaged in the second year of a civil war and the more serious problems of the day were requiring the attention of the average citizen. The birth of Monticello Lodge was contemporaneous with the forfeiture of the charter of Lodge No. 460, which had been organized three years before only to fail because of conditions I brought on by the war. The organizers fully realized how seemingly impossible it would be to attempt organization of another lodge but nevertheless refused to resign themselves to believing that it would be impossible to successfully organize and continue a new lodge.

The failure of Monticello Lodge No. 460 was a severe blow to those who had diligently practiced Masonry. An attempt to revive the old lodge was unsuccessful so the next best move was to ask another lodge to recommend the formation of a new lodge, in Monticello. The only

other active lodge in the county at that time was Callicoon Lodge No. 521, which was located at Thumansville.

A recommendation outlining the request of the Monticello brethren was favorably received by Grand Master John J. Crane and on December 27, 1862, dispensation was granted. Serving then as Grand Secretary was James M. Austin.

The first meeting under dispensation was conducted on January 10, 1863, with David G. Starr, Master; James Matthews, Senior Warden; Elias Pelton, Junior Warden; John A. Thompson, Senior Deacon; Solomon Royce, Junior Deacon; Bradley Hall, Secretary, and Lewis Dickinson, Tiler. Hall, Thompson and Matthews were appointed by the Master to draft by-laws.

Business included the passing of a resolution "to meet every Wednesday at 7:30 p. m. till further ordered."

Charter Members Lodge 532

Listed as charter members were:

David G. Starr, lawyer, Monticello; James Matthews, lawyer, Monticello; Eli S. Pelton, farmer, Monticello; Solomon W. Royce, hotelkeeper, Monticello; John A. Thompson, lawyer, Monticello; Lewis Dickinson, carpenter, Monticello; F.M. St. John, gentleman, Monticello; Stephen W. Royce, merchant, Monticello; A.J. Bush, lawyer, Parksville; A.J. Wood, hotel, Woodbourne; Charles R. Kelton, painter, Monticello; Stephen Sweet, hotel, Bethel; David J. Knapp, mechanic, Fallsburgh; Isaac C. Knapp, farmer, Fallsburgh; Melvin S. Wells, lawyer, Liberty; William Roper, farmer, Cochection; Jesse L. Towner, merchant, Monticello; Reuben K. Scudder, teacher, Monticello; O.E. Crandall, merchant, Monticello; P. F. Perry, inn-keeper, Mongaup Valley; Charles Meyers, dealer, Monticello; John M. Seeley, farmer, Fallsburgh; James E. Quinlan, printer, Monticello; John B. Nixon, teacher, Monticello; F.W. Johnston, merchant, Barryville; A. B. LeRoy, farmer, Parksville; William A. Rice, farmer, Glen Wild; James C. Curtis, assessor, Cochection; John Miliken, blacksmith, Woodbourne; N.L. Stern, dealer, Monticello; F. Wheeler, farmer, Thompson; N. W. Rumsey, farmer, Monticello; C. S. Starr, farmer, Monticello; Edwin Bowen, merchant, Monticello; O.A. Carroll, surgeon, U.S. Army; George W. Jones, blacksmith, Woodbourne; G.O. Canfield, physician, Barryville; Jacob Depuy, farmer, Woodbourne, and Martin F. Merritt, farmer, Woodbourne.

All of the charter members, except six, were Master Masons. Of the latter four were still Entered Apprentices. Charter members were those who had associated with the new lodge before June 11, 1863.

Bro. Starr was a lawyer of exceptional ability and attainments. He served from the lodge's beginning through 1865, served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 7th Masonic District through 1866 and served again as Master in 1868 and 1869.

He was raised in Monticello Lodge No. 460 on April 1, 1861, with Bradley Hail, the latter having served as the first secretary of Monticello Lodge No. 532. Others raised the same evening were William Hill and Fred Field.

Brother Starr was Senior Warden of Monticello Lodge No. 460 when its last meeting was conducted on September 14, 1861, and E.C. Howard was in the East. Howard had been called to arms and the duties of Master were then assumed by Starr, who served in the

Oriental Chair until inactivity and failure to make returns to Grand Lodge resulted in forfeiture of the charter.

Again he found himself Master in 1862. He now headed a new lodge. Conditions then, as we find them today with a country at war, caused a loss in attendance of both officers and members who were called to give their attention to the urgent problems of the day.

As the turning point of the war came in the early days of July 1863, with the victories of Vicksburg and Gettysburg, several stars already had been sewed in the lodge's flag, but by 1865, just before the surrender of General Robert E. Lee to General U. S. Grant at Appomattox, Va., on April 9th, when the Union had more than a million in its army there were few officers or members to continue lodge work. Many of the sideliners who were not in the service found it impossible to keep up their financial responsibilities respecting the lodge.

Brother Starr worked hard and long to continue under the original charter No. 460 but despite his organizing ability and wise counsel he failed.

After the war Bro. Howard settled in Alleganey, N. Y., and affiliated with Olean Lodge No. 252 there.

The letter he wrote requesting information "in regard to his record" mentions the fact that he was Master of Lodge No. 460. The letter, therefore, is interesting.

The letter is directed to J.M. Austin, Grand Secretary, and reads as follows:

Allegany, March 23, 1867.

J. M. Austin, Grand Secretary.

Dear Sir-

In the year 1862 I was W. M. of Monticello Lodge 460 and entering the U. S. service left the charter with the Senior Warden. I wish now to affiliate with Olean Lodge 252. They wish information in regard to my record. Please give me this information over your signature and oblige,

Respt. yours,
E. C. HOWARD,
Allegany, N. Y.

The first men to be initiated, passed and raised in Monticello Lodge No. 532 were F.M. St. John and Stephen Royce. Both signed the by-laws and book of constitution on February 25, 1863. The first affiliates were A.J. Bush, who later distinguished himself as County Judge; A.J. Wood, Charles R. Kelton, who was to serve as Master in 1871, and Stephen Sweet. All four affiliated on February 5, 1863.

At the January 21, 1863, meeting a committee consisting of Brothers Hass, Thompson and Matthews recommended that Lodge No. 532 adopt the same by-laws as Lodge No. 460 insofar as they could be made applicable to the new lodge.

Receipts for the evening amounted to \$42. On February 25, 1863, Bro. James D. Decker of Port Jervis Lodge No. 328, A. Sander, Callicoon Lodge No. 521; Isaac Anderson, James C. Curtis and E. Burnham, "Ancient" Masons of Sullivan Lodge No: 272, "now extinct"; F. Wheeler, Chas. Meyers, F.W. Johnston and A.B. LeRoy were recorded as visitors.

It is interesting to, note that Bros. Anderson, Curtis and Burnham were listed as Ancient Masons.

This title is believed to have been bestowed upon the brethren because of their membership with Sullivan Lodge No. 272, which had received its dispensation in 1811 from an Ancient Grand Lodge.

There are no records available which would indicate that Brothers Curtis, Burnham and Anderson were then members of an active lodge but nevertheless it must be remembered that they must have satisfied Masons as to their eligibility to attend meetings.

Before a reconciliation of the Ancient and Modern lodges in 1813 Ancient lodges appear to have worked on an independent system claiming the original right which every body of Masons had to assemble and work without a warrant. Although it doesn't seem possible it nevertheless could have been this belief which prompted Brother Curtis and other members of Sullivan Lodge to refuse to surrender the charter of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 when declared forfeited in 1835 and they probably produced their charter to prove their membership.

At the completion of this third year as Master of Monticello Lodge No. 532 Bro. Starr proudly reported a membership of 77 Master Masons and six Entered Apprentices. Thirty-five were farmers, others were mechanics, lawyers, blacksmiths, hotelmen and workers who earned their livelihoods in tanneries, of which there were then 41 in the county.

Brother Starr found it difficult to foster the new lodge from infancy to a more mature condition and frequently found it difficult to find substitutes for the elected officers who had gone to war.

Despite these conditions, however, the lodge purchased its share of the 730 Government bonds and took care of its Masonic obligations.

At a meeting on July 2, 1864, it was resolved that the lodge recommend the establishment and organization of a lodge at Cochection, "agreeably to a request of several Master Masons from that town". Bro. Alfred J. Baldwin, the Senior Warden, and as Master during this meeting. The result of the recommendation was the establishment of a new lodge which convened for the first time on Saturday evening, September 3, 1864, with Tobias R. VanGelder as Master.

Dedication of the new lodge, which took place on July 7, 1864, was attended by both brethren and officers of the mother lodge.

On November 16 of the same year, it was resolved that Monticello Lodge "recommend approval of an application from our brethren at Ellenville asking for dispensation to organize a lodge of F. & A. M. at that place." Many are of the opinion that the Ellenville lodge instituted in 1865 and now known as Wawarsing Lodge was mothered by Kingston Lodge No. 10, but there is no foundation for such a belief either in Grand Lodge records or in the old minute book of Monticello Lodge No. 532.

Although two lodges saw their beginning when Bro. D.G. Starr was Master in 1864 he was not present at either of the meetings when requests were presented. A.J. Baldwin acted as Master at the first meeting and Fred Field was acting as Master when the second petition was presented.

Although President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated during the last year of Brother Starr's three-year interim as Master and uncertainty existed through the country he enjoyed an eventful and most successful lodge year. A score of new members were added to the lodge roster and an unusually great number of meetings were both interesting and successful.

At the lodge's 123rd regular communication, held on December 21, 1866, Fred A. Field, a twenty-eight-year-old civil engineer, was elected to succeed Starr as Master.

Bro. Field had been elected to membership in Monticello Lodge No. 460 on November 28, 1860. He immediately became well versed with the ritual in that lodge and served as Senior Warden "pro tem" in place of J.W. Hammond, who joined the army at the opening of the Civil War.

Field affiliated with Monticello Lodge on April 30, 1864, and had been a member less than a year when elevated to the Oriental East.

Present during the installation ceremonies on January 10, 1866, was R.W. D.G. Starr, who had retired as Master to take over the duties of the first Deputy Grand Master for the 7th Masonic District. Also present was M.S. Wells, Acting Grand Marshall.

Field had spent his youth and early manhood at his father's hotel (the Rosalie Hotel site on East Broadway): Although he served only a year and a half as Master the record of his accomplishments indicate that he worked tirelessly and earnestly for the good of the lodge, securing its future and building a lodge reputation to be enjoyed throughout the years.

One of his first acts as Master was the planning of a Masonic festival which was held on February 15, 1866, for the purpose of creating a fund for the Masonic; Hall and Asylum."

Brother Field was a loyal Mason and was determined that he and the brethren adhere to the principles it propounded. When' a brother strayed he would first attempt to return him to the fold with kind advice but when this failed he would not hesitate to use sterner measures.

Under his leadership steps were taken which resulted in the expulsion of those who were found guilty of un-Masonic conduct. Two were the Gumaeur brothers, George and Hiram. Hiram submitted an answer to the charges at a regular communication on April 11th, 1866. He denied the second of two charges (neither of which were recorded) against himself and pleaded his brother George guilty of both charges. The lodge then considered the first charge against Hiram and voted to reprimand him. The lodge voted to expel George Gumaeur. R.W. D.G. Starr did the reprimanding.

On September 15, 1866, Hiram was formally charged with having become "beastly intoxicated on the 30th day of May, 1866, and conducting himself in a disorderly and un-Masonic manner to the great discredit of himself and disgrace of the honorable fraternity to which he belongs."

Hiram appeared to answer these charges on October 6, 1866, by asking for a demit, which was denied. He was expelled on March 3rd, 1867. Albert Wyckoff, the third Mason against whom similar charges were made, was expelled on June 19, 186" after trial.

A large Masonic funeral was held on November 25th, 1866, for Bro. Alfred Baldwin, one of the organizers of Monticello Lodge No. 460 and a member of Lodge 532. He died on November 22, 1866, of ureamic convulsions.

Baldwin, a native of New York City, he was only 32 years old and was one of the most promising lawyers then in the county.

He was educated at New Brunswick, N.J., and graduated at Rutgers' College in that place in 1855, while Theodore Frelinghuysen was president of the institution. In the fall of the same year he removed to Monticello and commenced the study of law in the office of Hon. A.C. Niven. In 1857 he was admitted to the bar and immediately formed a law partnership with George W. Lord and Hon, James Matthews, a brother Mason. This relation continued until about 1859. In 1859 he was nominated by the Democratic party, with which he was ever consistently identified, for, the office of District Attorney but was beaten by Hon. Isaac Anderson by about 80 majority. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. B of the 143rd Regiment, NYSV, and

was chosen captain of the company, in which capacity he served for about one year. In 1865 he received the Democratic nomination for Member of Assembly and was elected by between six and seven hundred majority. So acceptably did he perform his legislative duties that he was re-nominated by acclamation of the convention and had but a few days before his death been triumphantly re-elected. His funeral took place on Sunday, November 25th, 1866, at the Episcopal Church, where a large and sad assembly convened. He was buried at the Rock Ridge cemetery with Masonic rites, a full attendance of the members of Monticello Lodge being present.

Resolutions on his death were adopted by the Monticello Lodge, the Monticello Cornet Band and the Sullivan County Bar Association.

For the quarters the lodge occupied the old Mansion House of Colonel John C. Holley an annual rental of \$90 was charged. A bill for \$90 for rent from May 1, 1866, to May 1, 1867, submitted by Bro. Holley was read and ordered paid a meeting on March 15th, 1867.

At the same meeting "Ancient Brother A.C. Niven of Sullivan Lodge No. 272 presented the certificate of Mark Master Mason and Master Mason of his father, the Worthy Brother Daniel Niven," who died the preceding January. On motion the thanks of the lodge was returned to Bro. A.C. Niven and the certificates were ordered to be placed in the archives of the Lodge. (These certificates and other valuable able lodge papers are believed to have been lost in the great fire of April, 1872.)

Daniel Niven died in Monticello on January 5th, 1867, at the age of 101, and inasmuch as he was among the very first Masons to settle in the county a brief sketch of his life may be considered appropriate as well as interesting to the readers of this history.

Brother Niven was a native of the island of Islay in the Highlands of Scotland. His family there wrote their name MacNiven. His mother was of the Campbells of Argyshire. He was born June 12, 1766 and after arriving at manhood he came to the conclusion that he would emigrate to the United States, to try his fortune with the thousands who were leaving Europe to make their homes in America.

Having been in connection with the Presbyterian Church in his native land, he brought his certificate of church membership, and soon after arriving in New York in April, 1791, he united with the Scott Presbyterian church there, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. John Mason. He engaged in business there, and in 1798 married. Shortly thereafter he removed from New York to Newburgh, owing to the prevalence of yellow fever in the city which caused a general derangement of business. Here he engaged very diligently in business until 1810 when, having been quite successful, he removed to New York City and embarked in mercantile pursuits with a partner who had no capital but professed to have experience as a merchant. The result was unfortunate and Mr. Niven retired with an undamaged reputation.

He came to Mamakating in 1811 or 1812 and after remaining there for three or four years he came to Monticello with his family, and after residing here seven or eight years went to Bloomingburgh. After the construction of the Delaware and Hudson Canal he took up his residence at Wurtsboro and remained there several years when he became again a resident of Newburgh. He continued to reside in Newburgh until his infirmities of old age induced him and his aged wife to accept an invitation to make their home in Monticello, where they continued to reside until his death.

His church membership continued for more than eighty years and his connection with the Ancient Order of Free Masonry was for about the same length of time.

His certificate showed him to have been a Master Mason and also a Royal Arch Companion. He resided for more than a half a century in Sullivan county with the exception of the few years of his last years of residence in Newburgh. Mr. and Mrs. Niven had ten children, all of whom grew up to maturity under paternal care.

It is a remarkable fact that although this aged couple lived together nearly seventy years, rearing a large family and having persons under their roof, no death ever occurred in any house where they were residing. It is very doubtful whether any parallel case could then be found in the whole country.

On April 3, 1866, Brother Field and several brothers of Monticello Lodge attended funeral services of Nathan Moulthrop, county superintendent of the poor, who died at his residence in Callicoon on March 31, 1867.

A special communication was called by Delaware Lodge at the house of John W. Barwig on Wednesday, April 3rd, 1867. Present were M.D. Wheeler, District Deputy Grand Lecturer and Master of Hancock Lodge, who acted as Master during the meeting, which was called for the purpose of making arrangements for the burial of Brother Moulthrop. The lodge repaired to the Methodist church at Pike Pond (Kenoza Lake), where the religious services were conducted and an impressive and eloquent sermon was preached by the Rev. N.S. Reynolds of Delaware Lodge. After services burial rites were conducted by Bro. Wheeler.

On Friday, June 27, 1867, this community was painfully shocked by the report of the death of Fred A. Fields at Shin Creek in the Town of Rockland, of accidental drowning.

Bro. Fields had gone fishing at the lower falls of Shin Creek with E.C. Howard and a party of about twenty men and women.

His body was recovered from the water by Bro. Howard but every effort to resuscitate him failed.

His body was brought to Monticello the following Friday afternoon, the remains followed by his friends who had left with him in anticipation of a week's unalloyed enjoyment and the delegation of his brethren. Every church bell was tolling as the solemn cortege passed slowly through the village to the house of his sorrowing parents. From the minutes of a special communication of Monticello Lodge No. 532, of which Fields was Master at the time we have the following:

A special communication of Monticello Lodge No. 532, held at the lodge room in Monticello on the 29th day of June, A.D. 1867, A.L. 5867, Bro. W.H. McLean, acting Master, announced the death of W. Bro. Fred A. Fields, Master of said lodge.

On motion of Bro. Wells, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, that a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sorrow of the lodge on the death of Bro. Fields.

Brothers M.S. Wells, James E. Quinlan and George M. Beebe were appointed such committee.

The concourse assembled at the funeral, which took place from the house last Sunday, far exceeded in number any assemblage ever convened in this place on any similar occasion. After services by Rev. E.K. Fowler, the remains were conveyed to the cemetery under the escort of nearly two hundred Masons composed of the officers and members of the lodge with which deceased was recently identified, and delegations from Hoffman Lodge 412, W. Bro. Alexander Wilson; Hancock Lodge 552, W. Bro. John Lyon; W. Bro. G.S. Peters, P. M. of Hiram Lodge No. 449, New York City."

Brother Fields, with his thorough knowledge of the ritual and organizing ability, had set out in his second year with a well planned program and had he lived the year would have ended with a record of accomplishments. The willingness of Dr. William McLean and R.W. Bro. D.G. Starr to guide the destiny of the lodge in absence of an elected leader prevented inactivity, however, and under their guidance reports, asked for by Fields were heard and even Masonic trials of Wyckoff was continued and brought to a conclusion.

At the annual election of Monticello Lodge No. 532, held in December 1867, R.W. D.G. Starr was elected Master; George M. Beebe, Senior Warden; Fred Wheeler, Junior Warden; Seth B. Allyn, Treasurer; Thomas Neil, Secretary; R.B. Cooper, Senior Deacon; George Swan, Junior Deacon; Jackson Case; Tiler; James E. Quinlan, Daniel Pelton and M.S. Wells, Trustees.

Installation ceremonies took place at the lodge room in the old Mansion House on the 31st of December 1867, under the direction of R.W. M.D. Wheeler, Deputy Grand Master of Hancock.

It was a public ceremony and a large number of Masons and others were present. The address by Hon. A.C. Niven was universally regarded as one of the finest efforts of the kind, and elicited very marked attention. The festivities at the Mansion House after the exercises at the lodge were shared by perhaps a larger number than ever before participated in an occasion of the kind in this village. Every provision had been made by the Mansion House to insure the fullest enjoyment and the zest with which all mingled in the "order of exercise" attested the general appreciation felt for the efforts of "mine host" in that direction. The music was furnished by Mark Nutling and his band.

One of the first purchases made by the lodge after the election of Bro. Starr was a stove, which was furnished by Bro. J.L. Evans for \$22.15. This bill and a bill of James Kennedy for \$2 for cleaning the chimney were read at the same meeting. Wood was furnished by the brethren and a goodly supply was always kept on hand, On cold nights the sideliners would form a circle around one of the two pot-bellied stoves which were in the lodge room.

In November 1867, members of Monticello Lodge, headed by R.W. Bro. D.G. : Starr, attended a reunion of members of Callicoon Lodge No. 521 when a valuable and beautiful gold past Master's jewel was presented to Brother Fred Thuman, Past Master of the lodge. The jewel was presented by Brother A.E. Wenzel, who was then Master.

On January 31, it was reported that Brother J.C. Holley had died on January 29th, 1868, and preparations were made for funeral services. Besides being landlord of Monticello Lodge for several years, I Brother Holley was instrumental during the Civil War in raising and organizing the 143rd volunteers. He was not permitted to command it when it took to the field but nevertheless had sacrificed considerably in time and money.

Soon after the 143rd was organized Brother Holley was made by Governor Horatio Seymour, Colonel of the 92nd Regiment of National Guards of New York and also received the appointment of Commissioner of the Draft by the Federal Government, both of which positions were unsought by him.

Brother Holley was born in Amenia, Dutchess county, in the year 1821. He came to Monticello with his father in 1833 or 1834. Brother Holley served as Supervisor of the Town of Thompson and Sheriff of the county. Upon his father's death he inherited the old Mansion House where the lodge conducted its meetings or several years. Masonic funeral services conducted by E.N.W. Borden were largely attended by Masons.

In October of the same year Dr. William H. McLean died. He was only 25 years old. Born in Schiawassa county, Michigan, he studied medicine under the tutorship of Drs. G.M. and G.P. Cady of Nichols, N.Y., and was graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1864 with the highest honors of the institution.

Immediately upon his graduation he located in Monticello and entered into partnership with Dr. B.G. McCabe.

He was married to Miss Nellie Dill, daughter of Coe Dill of Monticello, on September 18th, 1867. He was a member of the Presbyterian church.

George M. Beebe, the third Master of Monticello Lodge No. 532 was probably one of the most noted men ever produced by Sullivan County. When he took over the duties of Master he was only thirty-two years old but already had a record in public life which few have measured up to. At the age of only twenty-three he had served as Governor of Kansas.

He was the able editor of the Republican Watchman but as an orator he excelled. He was educated in the common schools and at the Wallkill Academy, Middletown, from which town his honorable father sent forth the Signs of the Times, the Old School Baptist paper, which had a large circulation in the late fifties, and especially in the Southern states.

Following his graduation he came to Monticello and studied law with George W. Lord, one of the well known lawyers of Sullivan County. He graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws from the Albany Law School and was admitted to practice in 1857, just as he had reached his majority.

He went west shortly after he was admitted to the bar and edited the Central Illinois Democrat, a daily paper published in the city of Peoria. After the Douglas-Lincoln election campaign he removed to Troy, Kansas, and hung out his shingle on which the public read., George M. Beebe, attorney at law. A year later - 1859 - when he was twenty-three years old, he was elected to the territorial council - which is the same as the State Senate in New York State.

In 1860 he was appointed Secretary of Kansas by President Buchanan and a few months later became Governor of the Territory of Kansas, Governor Medary having resigned. This position he held until 1861 when Kansas became a State.

One day when the boy Governor was sitting in his executive mansion communing with his thoughts a party of United States and territorial officers called to see the new Governor. He showed them about his mansion; delighted them with their apostrophies on Kansas and they praised his hospitality. "Well, Governor," said one of the Washington visitors, "you seem to be nicely situated here, but where is your library?" "Right this way," replied Governor Beebe. They passed through one room into another and the Governor closed the door softly, much to the mystification of his visitors. "There!" said the Governor, pointing to a farm almanac, "There is my library!"

In 1861 he was a delegate to the "Arm-in-Arm" convention at Philadelphia presided over by United States Senator Doolittle, of Wisconsin. This was a peace convention between the North and South. In that same year he formed a law partnership with Albert H. Horton, who was for many years Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kansas. Again he broke his fetters and moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, where he opened a law office "all by his lonesome." In 1863 he enlisted in the United States Militia. It was at the time when Northwestern Missouri was raided by the Confederate General Price and the notorious Quantrall, and saw service for his State and nation. Again discontented and possessed to travel he went to Virginia City, Nevada, and opened a law office there and took gold for his pay. That was in 1864.

A year later he was nominated by the Democrats of Nevada for Supreme Court Judge and was defeated by 300 votes a strong Republican district. In 1866 he was appointed Internal Revenue Collector for Nevada by President Johnson. He resigned the appointment and in August of that year returned to Monticello, having had quite enough of the new West. Two months later he bought the Republican Watchman of James E. Quinlan and became its editor and publisher on October 19, 1866.

He continued ownership of the newspaper until 1895 when he sold it to A.M. Scriber and Charles Barnum.

In 1871 he was the Democratic nominee for State Senator but was defeated by E.M. Madden of Middletown. A year later he was elected to the State Assembly and succeeded himself the following year.

Mr. Beebe was elected at a time when the salary was \$3,000 a year and, of course, the living in Albany was not as costly.

He was quickly recognized as the orator of the Assembly and his common sense, social qualities and oratory made him a commanding figure among his legislative associates. It was during his last year that honor and disaster both came. He was then serving for the second time as Master of Monticello Lodge. He declined to serve in 1870, because of his Assembly duties but after becoming acquainted with the office during the year 1871 he was ready to serve in 1872.

He was selected to deliver the eulogy of Charles Sumner and the Republicans as well as the Democrats were liberal in their praise of the address. Col. Spencer, a Republican member, presented him with a beautifully bound copy of Shakespeare with which were his hearty thanks. Beebe believed that contention should not exist among Masons even though their political beliefs were different. His tact and illustrative way of explaining an issue enabled him to get cooperation rather than opposition both in the field of politics and in the management of a lodge.

During the closing days of the Assembly session fire swept Monticello and destroyed his newspaper plant. When his friends at Albany learned of his loss they raised \$7,500 and presented it to their associate.

Bro. Beebe protested and stormed, but the Assembly Speaker presented it to him as a gift from his fellow members. His great heart was touched and his eyes filled with tears. His eloquent tongue was stilled for the moment and his active mind refused to work.

His public life was not to end with his service in the Assembly. In 1873 he was commissioned Chief of Artillery by Governor Dix, with the rank of Colonel of the Fifth Division, National Guards of New York. He resigned the commission in 1873 to enter Congress and was re-elected in 1876. In 1878 he was again nominated but the Greenback party had broken the Democratic party in two and Beebe went down to defeat.

In 1883 he was made Judge of the Court of Claims by the grace of Governor Cleveland; reappointed by Governor Hill and again appointed by Governor Flower, in which position he served for seventeen years most acceptably.

During his years as Master the lodge enjoyed largely attended meetings and interesting programs.

Bro. Beebe was gifted with a remarkable memory and knew lodge work to perfection. His Senior Warden was Seth M. Mitchell, and other officers were W.B. Niven, Junior Warden; E.F. Quinlan, Treasurer; Seth S. Royce, Secretary; C. W. Boland, Senior Deacon; A.B. Potter,

Junior Deacon; J.H. Millspaugh, Tiler. The Trustees were F.M. St. John, C.S. Starr, R.B. Cooper, and the Masters of Ceremonies were A. Rainbour and D. Downs.

One of the first acts of Bro. Beebe was to order a report from the Treasurer. The report showed that the lodge had \$1,172.25, which was distributed as follows:

A note of W. Bro. D. G. Starr, amounting to	\$ 130.35
A joint note of Bros. Royce and Starr, amounting to	269.69
A note of Bro. Solomon Royce, which notes were then in the hands of Bro. R.D. Cooper, Trustee amounting to,	338.50
In the hands of M. S. Wells, Trustee	32.87
In the hands of S.B. Allyn, Treasurer	65.83
In the hands of R.B. Cooper, Trustee	210.00
In the hands of W.B. Niven, Acting Secretary	40.83
In the hands of F.M. St. John, Trustee	50.00
In the hands of E.F. Quinlan, Treasurer	34.18
	<hr/>
	\$1,172.25

At the same meeting the death of Bradley Hall, first Secretary of the lodge, was reported.

Under Bro. Beebe the lodge saw the beginning of plans for the erection of a Masonic temple. At a meeting held on March 18, 1870, Bro. D.G. Starr moved that the Committee on Masonic Hall be authorized to consult with capitalists of the village and ascertain so far as possible what amount can be raised towards the erection of a building for Masonic or other purposes. Wor. Bro. Beebe was added to the committee.

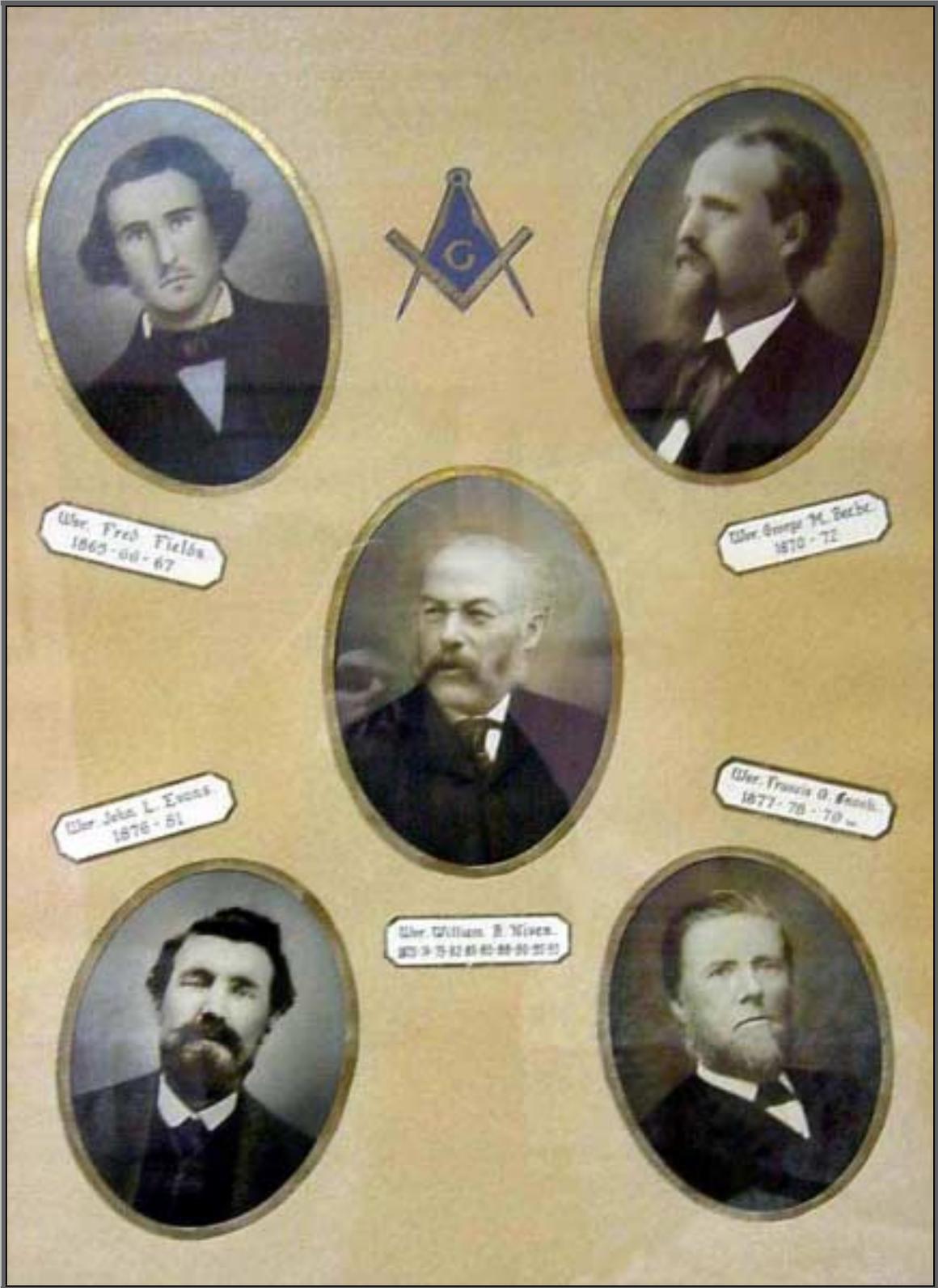
The committee to procure a lot suitable for the erection of a: Masonic Hall report as follows:

"To the Worshipful Master, Wardens of Monticello Lodge No. 532, F. & A. M.

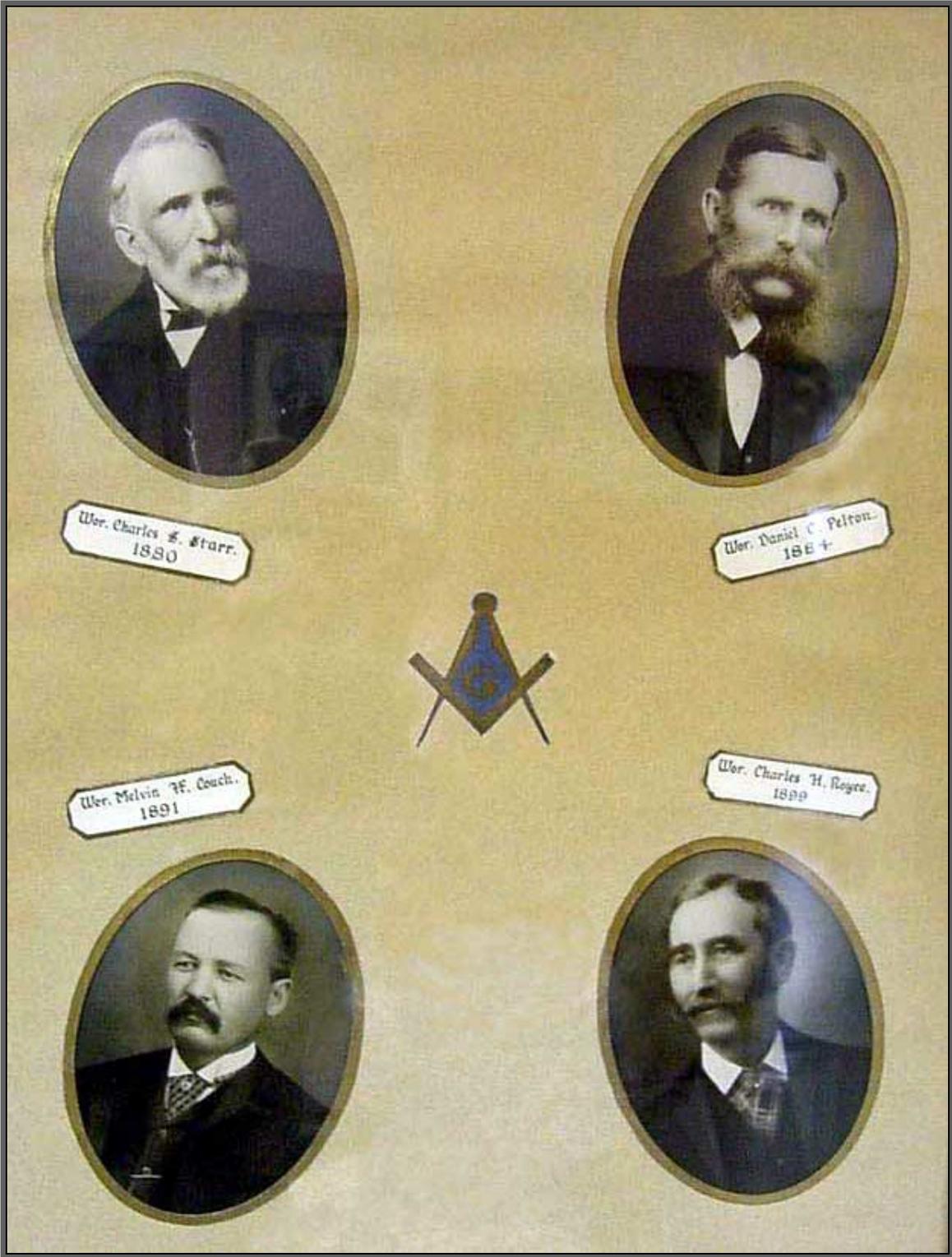
"Brethren, your committee charged with the duty of inquiring into the matter of a site for a Masonic Hall respectfully report that they can purchase a lot of Bro. S.W. Royce in back of the Mansion House 40x70 feet for \$1,500. One of Benjamin Low immediately adjoining the village school lot on the south for \$300. One of A.J. Bush on Mill street' between the lot of J. H. Foster and F. M. St. John's barn, 80x200, for \$1,500. Your committee reports the facts without recommendation."

The lodge was then meeting in rooms located in a building owned by Billings and Hatch. A bill for rent due and the matter of renting the lodge rooms for the coming year was laid over for the next meeting when Bro. C.R. Kelton moved that the lodge rent the rooms of Billings and Hatch for a year from the 10th day of May, 1870, at seventy-five dollars a year, the owners agreeing to make the necessary repairs.

Masters of Monticello Lodge



Masters of Monticello Lodge



Erection of a temple was laid over with the expectation of making definite plans upon expiration of the lease. Beebe was called to the Assembly, however, and George R. Kelton was elected. Kelton was a wagon maker and painter and while he was a good ritualist he nevertheless did not have the organizing ability of Beebe. The lodge had planned to complete plans for the building of the temple during the following year when Beebe said he would serve. Plans were well under way on February 23, 1872, when a disastrous fire struck Monticello. This fire took place only six months after the serious fire of August 1871, and was succeeded by another in April, 1872, which destroyed the newspaper office of Bro. Beebe.



Serving the longest number of years as Master was William B. Niven, a Monticello lawyer, who succeeded George M. Beebe in 1873. After completing that year he served in 1874, 1-1875, 1882, 1883, 1885, 1889, 1890, 1891; 1892 and 1893. He served through the lodge's most trying years which lead up to the panic of 1893, when agricultural depression, farm mortgages, reckless railway financing and unsound banking in the United States contributed to the crisis. The panic began in the spring of 1893 with the failure of the Reading Railway and the collapse of the National Cordage Company, one of the numerous examples of reckless trust financiering into which large banks had also been drawn. It was during one of these many years he served (1875) when the new Masonic Temple in New York City was dedicated. Records available do not indicate that any of the members of Monticello Lodge attended.



Robert J. Brome, 1886, '87, '88, '94, '95, '96

Robert J. Brome, the tenth Master of Monticello Lodge, served for six years. He conducted a boarding house (the Branlip Hotel near South Fallsburg) for a number of years.

There were no automobiles when he was Master and lodge attendance was not great. This, however, was not due to any fault of Bro. Brome. While he was Master and for many years after that he would drive his horses and buckboard from his home, picking up brethren along the way.

Both he and his successor, Robert McNickle, are remembered by our older members as the brothers mostly responsible for keeping the lodge from going into inactivity.

He enjoyed participation in lodge work and was especially fond of his role in the third degree, which required little or no make-up.

He was Master on October 31, 1885, when the Most Worshipful Grand, Master of the State of New York sent out a circular letter to the craft calling their attention to the fact that the sum of \$485,000 was still due and if permitted to run to maturity would incur an expenditure of \$165,000 for interest. Bro. Niven addressed the lodge on matters pertaining to the Hall and Asylum fund and proposed that the lodge should proceed to take action toward paying its portion of the debt. He pointed out that if the lodge paid its full assessment at that time it would result in a reduction in Grand Lodge dues and

eventually result in a saving to the lodge. It is known that collections were made for this fund but as to the amount no record is available.

Evans, Snook, Starr and Pelton

During the years from January 1, 1873, to December 31, 1893, when William B. Niven did not serve as Master, John L. Evans, F.G. Snook, C.G. Starr, D.C. Pelton, Robert Brome and Melvin Couch served.

John L. Evans, a merchant who conducted a hardware store at the corner of Oakley Avenue and Broadway, served during the year 1876 and in 1881.

On July 4, 1876, the lodge, under his direction, celebrated the centennial anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The lodge room was appropriately decorated for the occasion and special exercises were conducted. A page in the minute book was dedicated to the meeting. We have been unable to determine the exact order of the program because the lodge's records were all destroyed in the fire which destroyed the temple in 1909.

Bro. Evans was friendly, very accommodating and generally liked in this community. After many successful years in the hardware business here he sold his business, demitted from Monticello Lodge and moved to Ellenville.

1877-78-79

F.G. Snook (Sevenoak) was, a man of unusual intellect as well as an earnest and enthusiastic Mason. Monticello Lodge was under his leadership for three years (1877-78-79), and during these three years lodge ritualists who had been careless with pronunciation and delivery were schooled in their work as never before.

Snook was considered one of the best a speakers of the day and, in keeping with the style of the day, used no notes. Once while addressing the brethren he failed miserably in pronouncing a word. Instead of "skipping it" as our great speakers of today would, he paused in embarrassment and explained that while concentrating his speech his memory had lapsed into his boyhood idiosyncrasies.

During his mastership Snook was owner and principal of the Monticello Academy. He affiliated with Monticello Lodge in 1865. Prior to coming to Monticello he had been principal of the Liberty Normal School Institute.

His private Monticello Academy was continued under a special act of Legislature and was subject to the visitation of the Board of Regents and the control of a Board of Trustees. Boarders were required to study from six until eight in the evening and from seven until eight in the morning.

He was stern in the school room and his austerity was actually as great in the lodge room.

He allowed no idle talk, and carefully guarded the interest of the lodge.

Upon discontinuing the Monticello Academy he moved to Hoboken, N.J. The old academy was then transformed into what was known as the Feiner House. The property was later purchased by the County of Sullivan for \$16,000 and the buildings were dismantled.

1880

C.S. Starr was a brother of the first Master of Monticello Lodge. He was raised in a lodge in Illinois in the early 50's and affiliated with Monticello Lodge in 1863. Before his death on November 30, 1917, he was the oldest living member of Monticello Lodge. Bro. Starr served not only as Master in 1880 but was also trustee for a number of years.

Although no important Masonic events and not even a funeral service was necessary, during the year 1880, Bro. Starr served with credit to the fraternity and won respect for himself in the minds of the brethren whom he loyally served in the capacity of trustee in later years. He was trustee when the present temple was erected and Masons who knew him say that it was perhaps due to him more than any other one man that the lodge had a home in the latter part of the nineteenth century and has a home today.

As he served his lodge well so did he served the community. As one of the proprietors of the Monticello tannery, he was considered by his employees as exacting but nevertheless human and understanding.

His organizing ability was recognized by the Sullivan County Board of Supervisors when the present Election Commissioner's office was created in 1911. He served as president of the Board until his death.

Although Daniel Comfort Pelton was not the first of his family to make worthy contributions to the fraternity he nevertheless was the first Pelton in Monticello to wear the purple of the craft.

He served as Master in 1884 and for years was owner of the building in which Monticello Lodge convened.

Bro. Pelton was born at Sackett Lake on March 12, 1839, attended the district school until fourteen years old and then finished his schooling at the Monticello Academy. He followed his teaching vocation for a number of years, having schools at Barryville, Rock Hill, Mongaup Valley, and other places.

About twelve years before he was Master he purchased property which is where Bogner's meat market is now located, and opened a boot and shoe store. It was over the store where the lodge held its meetings.

His service as teacher, school trustee under the old system, and a member of the newer Board of Education gave him a Master's requisites and so nobly did he perform his duties that recognition soon came from Grand Lodge.

He was a man who firmly held to his own convictions and these he asserted with such force and vigor as to sometimes shock the more timid of his associates.

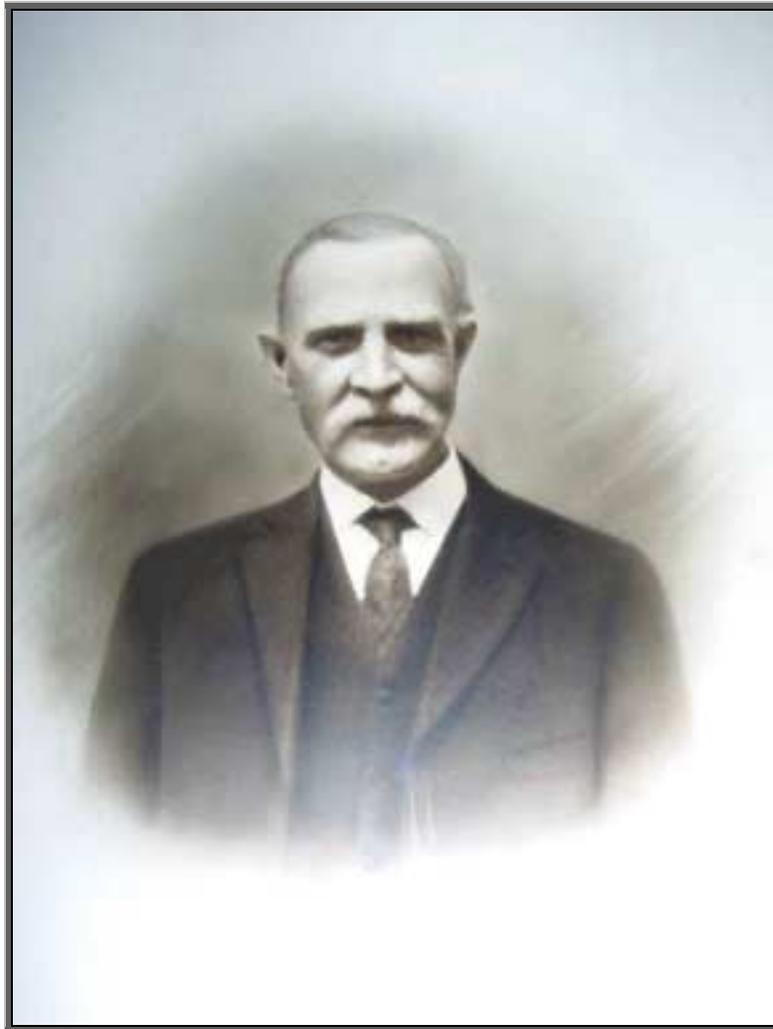
During his funeral services all business places in Monticello were closed.

Robert J. Broome ended his sixth year as Master in 1896 and was succeeded by Robert McNickle, superintendent of the Monticello tannery. Bro. McNickle had been a frequent visitor of neighboring lodges throughout the county and had a thorough knowledge of the ritual. In addition to a good memory and accuracy in his lodge, work he was a good planner. The clamor for a new temple had been heard for years but no Master had taken the initiative to build. The lodge was then meeting in rooms located over the Daniel C. Pelton shoe store. It was in these rooms that Reinzi Stratton, our fifty-

year member; John Brown, our oldest living Past Master; Andrew J. Hammond and Arch Rosenstrauss received their three degrees.

The Pelton building was a frame structure with a French roof. The lodge-room windows, of which there were few, were cut through the hip-shaped roof. In the winter the brethren found it difficult to keep warm and in the summer the nearness to the roof provided little opportunity for ventilation and heat penetrated almost to a degree of suffocation.

Two old-fashion chunk stoves provided heat and consumed large quantities of wood, which was usually provided by the brethren.



ROBERT McNICKLE

for years the leading spirit of Monticello Lodge, served while the first temple was being built. He had a thorough knowledge of the ritual and was devoted to Masonry. On many occasions in the absence of officers, he is said to have gone from one lodge station to another ably performing the work of the absentees.

The new temple was completed in the early fall of 1898 and it was dedicated with an imposing ceremony on October 29, 1898.

William A. Sutherland, Grand Master, and his staff met in the lodge's magnificent reception room at 8 p.m. and the lodge was opened in due form. Assisting the Grand Master during the ceremonies were Grand Treasurer George W. White, Grand Marshal Isaac Frome, Grand Sword Bearer Jacob Heidt, Grand Tiler Andrew Ferguson, Acting Grand Chaplain the Rev. P.C. Creveling, Acting Grand Senior Warden Charles T. Curtis, District Deputy Grand Master of the 16th District.

Also assisting were S.E. Wenzel, Master of Delaware Lodge; Acting Grand Junior Warden Justice Arthur S. Tompkins, District Deputy Grand Master 13th District; Charles Smith, District Deputy Grand Master 18th District; N.B. Wood, District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth District; Walter M. Hand, District Deputy Grand Master of the 28th District; Jesse T. Durland, District Deputy Grand Master of the 27th District, and Henry C. Gillespie, District Deputy Grand Master of the District.

The brethren were seated in the main lodge room and the Grand Marshall announced the entrance of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge officers. The brethren rose and the officers of the Grand Lodge entered. They were received with Grand Honors.

After prayer and symbolic ceremonies the Grand Junior Warden presented a vessel of corn as an emblem of nourishment.

The Grand Master said, "In the name of the great Jehovah, to whom be all honor and glory and praise, I do solemnly dedicate this temple to Freemasonry".

Then followed the same ceremony in the pouring of oil and wine which was followed by a benediction by the Acting Grand Chaplain.

Grand Master Sutherland then delivered an address replete with learning and eloquence. He set forth the high purposed of the order.

The exercises closed with a benediction, after which a banquet was served in the spacious parlor which adjoined the lodge room. This room was in the front part of the building.

Visitors were present from Livingston Manor, Mongaup Lodge of Liberty, Delaware Lodge of Callicoon, Jeffersonville Lodge and several other lodges, including Wawarsing Lodge of Ellenville.

Bro. McNickle's officers were John E. Brown, Senior Warden; Blake H. Bates, Junior Warden; Walter G. Prince, Secretary; William B. McMillan, Treasurer; K.M. Reynolds, Tiler; Derwood B. Tuttle, Senior Deacon; George Hill, Junior Deacon; John C. Taylor, Senior Master of Ceremonies; Silas Demerest, Junior Master of Ceremonies; John Selleck, Chaplain, and Blake H. Bates, Organist, and Seth G. Carpenter and John C. Taylor, Trustees.

A special communication for installation of officers was held Tuesday, January 8, 1901.

A delegation including George Waller, George Armstrong, K. M. Reynolds, John Brown, J.C. Taylor, S.W. Demerest, Blake H. Bates, George O. Fraser, A.J. Hammond, W.G. Prince and D.B. Tuttle attended the convention of the Tenth Masonic District which was held that year at Walton on January 11 and 12. Fifteen lodges were then in the district and the membership of all of the lodges in the, district totaled 1,382, of which 104 attended the convention.

1899

It was only a short time after the temple dedication when Charles H. Royce was elected Master, Bro. Royce was then 56 years old and had been a member of Monticello Lodge since September 9th, 1894. At that time he was one of the most popular and influential men in Sullivan County. He had already served as clerk of the Sullivan County Board for eleven years. He had served with the U.S. Treasury Department in Washington and as Consul to Prague in Austria. The latter position he held for five years. He served during the Civil War, entering the army as a private, and he was several times wounded and received various promotions in recognition of his gallantry. At the end of hostilities he held the rank of captain. In 1867 he was promoted to the rank of Major by brevet.

Bro. Royce was a lawyer by profession and was graduated from the Liberty Institute, Eastman Business College and the Columbia Law College at Washington.

He had a very successful Masonic year, adding to the lodge roster as well as to its treasury.

He died on July 19, 1903.

In August of the same year a highly successful Masonic fair was held. The fair's success was evidenced by one of the largest crowds ever brought to Monticello up to that time. The spacious Music Hall was artistically decorated for the occasion and the dozen or more booths were managed by more than thirty men and women.

Attracting crowds from the far ends of Sullivan County were souvenirs of all descriptions and booths displaying candy, sportsmen's equipment and game, household equipment and supplies as well as a variety of novelties, including a fish pond, Japanese bazaar, Egyptian bazaar and a gypsy camp. Receipts for the first day were \$131.57.

Royce - 1899

In August, 1899, Monticello Lodge conducted another highly successful fair at the Central Music Hall in Monticello. The fair opened on Tuesday, August 8, 1899, and continued through August 11.

Many valuable articles including a kitchen range, lamp, set of dishes, table covers, table, chairs and other items were donated by businessmen of Monticello.

The Citizens' Band of Monticello was employed for the second night of the fair and on Thursday evening an excursion was run from Port Jervis. Accompanying the trainload of people was the Erie Band.

Friday was White Lake day and Saturday marked the ending of one of the most successful fairs held up to that time.

Bro. Royce reported receipts of \$1,125 for the week. This amount was \$50 more than receipts the year before.

1900

At the turn of the century Monticello Lodge elected George Eldridge Waller its Master. He was then thirty-one years old. He had a very successful year as Master despite his personal business reverses which resulted in his dissolving a partnership with his

brother, J. Hammond Waller, and discontinuance of his work as publisher and editor of the Sullivan County Republican.

The brothers had leased the newspaper business from their father, Major John Waller, who founded the Sullivan County Republican in May 1856.

W. Bro. Waller had spent his boyhood in Monticello and with the exception of a short period when he attended, Susquehanna Collegiate Institute he also spent his early days of manhood here. He was well acquainted through the county and the fact that he had made many friends in Masonic and other fraternal and business organizations was demonstrated at his funeral, which was conducted by Masons on the Sunday following his death, which occurred on September 25, 1901.

He and his wife, the former Miss Lenora Pitcher, daughter of Captain H.A. Pitcher, whom he married in May 1892, were living in New York City at the time of his death.

Wor. Bro. Waller's body was brought to Monticello for services at the Episcopal church, which were in charge of the Masons. Sixty-eight Masons appeared in the line of march to the cemetery. Other organizations were lodges from Ellenville, Liberty, New York City and Mt. Vernon. The Neptune Hose Company, of which he was once foreman, and the Mountain Hose Company appeared with members in full uniform. Masons included among the pall-bearers were Andrew J. Hammond and John Armstrong. Wor. Brothers William Carpenter, Walter Smith and S.G. Osborn were among the flower carriers.

1901

The year 1901 again presented a perplexing problem for those who were planning the future and welfare of the lodge. The lodge had new members who were young and enthusiastic but nevertheless their experience with ritualistic work, which at that time was taught from mouth to ear, was insufficient to qualify them as Master. Wor. Bro. Waller had moved to the city. Wor. Bro. Robert T. Broome, one of the pillars of the lodge, who had already served six years guiding the lodge through years when the effects of the Cleveland panic were still in evidence and years before that when lodges were finding it very difficult to operate, could no longer serve.

The only choice was between choosing an inexperienced brother to head the lodge or to fill the vacant chair with a Past Master. Wor. Bro. Robert McNickle was the only one to volunteer. He had distinguished himself as Supervisor of the Thompson Township and was foreman of Monticello tannery, which was then employing about sixty men. Many of the brethren were employed there. Wor. Bro. McNickle was determined to have the degree and other work of the lodge property executed and on many occasions occupied his own chair for the Master's work and, when completed with his part, would go to the chairs of other officers to execute their work when they were absent. He occupies a place of honor in our lodge and those who knew him do not hesitate to say that he was a Mason, worthy and well qualified - a Mason who laid down his working tools to hear the welcome words, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

Aside from routine lodge work, Wor. Bro. McNickle reported a successful year in charitable work. His only funeral that year was conducted in December, 1901, for George O. Fraser, a former County Clerk, who died on December 3, 1901.

He served ably as Deputy Sheriff for three years under George D. Pelton, who was a Past Master of Monticello Lodge and, District Deputy. Among his contributions in public life was a vote in the Board of Supervisors which blocked a move to designating Liberty as the county seat. He was trustee of the village of Monticello in 1895 when the water supply system we now have was under construction and was a vestryman of the Episcopal church.

He had been a Mason only three years when he became Master. He was a Patron of the Kiamesha Chapter of Eastern Star and one of the charter members.

His funeral was attended by a large number of Masons who marched in a body from the lodge rooms to his house where services were held by Masons.

He was born in Roosky, County Tyrone, Ireland, on January 3, 1853, and came to America when 19 years old. He had been connected with the tannery for 30 years.

1902

In 1902, with the election of Bro. John H. Brown, a young and energetic Master, who was ably assisted by a staff of officers with unusual ability, the lodge saw the fulfillment of many things for which Masons had been wishing for years.

H. Lynden Hatch was the new Senior Warden; D.B. Tuttle, Junior Warden; Benjamin McMillan, Senior Deacon; Hiram Harding, Junior Deacon; John C. Taylor, Senior Master of Ceremonies, and Silas Demerest, Junior Master of Ceremonies. Tuttle, Taylor and Demerest were much older than their superior officers but nevertheless were not wanting in the requisites of officers.

The officers were prompt and attentive and the old story of "no officers and poor work" was past history.

New ideas and new plans were now being laid before the brethren. These ideas and plans in contrast to the discussions and concern about lodge inactivity which had featured the meetings of preceding years, brought new interest and a better attendance.

Popular in those days were festivals known as "The Kirmess". The Kirmess or church fair derives its name from the old Germanic words Kirch-messe, meaning "Church-ale", referring to that portion of the brew and village given as a tithe to the churches. A tithe to the Monticello Lodge was considered by the brethren as fitting and necessary. The Masonic Temple, completed and dedicated in November 1898, was a lovely and imposing structure but was still encumbered with debt.

Miss Lila Stewart, a former Monticello resident, was then winning fame throughout the country as the promoter of Kirmesses and Carnivals. Her services were sought and arrangements were completed during early summer 1902 for a Kirmess week.

Bro. Hatch devoted a full week doing nothing other than to help execute plans for the festival, which was directed by Miss Stewart.

With more than 175 local and out-of-town people participating, the Kirmess opened at the Palatine Music Hall on August 5th, 1902. The festivities, which continued

through August 9th, attracted thousands and netted the lodge \$2,200. It was considered one of the most brilliant and most successful events of its kind ever given in Monticello.

The attendance of 700 on the opening night surpassed the fondest expectations. Palatine Hall was transformed with beautiful robes and artistic decorations more brilliant than anything seen before in Monticello. Circling the hall were spacious and prettily decorated booths where everything that the most fastidious taste could desire was offered for sale.

The flower booth was completely filled with fragrant cut and potted flowers and palms and was decorated with evergreens, laurels, etc. Women assisted their Mason husbands and friends. Mrs. M.C. Duryea was superintendent of the booths. Her assistants were Mrs. B.S. Johnson, Mrs. J.W. Coates, Mrs. J.P. Roosa, the Misses Harriet Jones, Harriet Rundle, Louise Bush, Mildred Bennett, Agnes Fairchild, Dorothy Diehl, Miss Menner, and Judge George H. Smith, Messrs. H.A. Glennie, Dehial Decker and J.P. Roosa.

Masters of Monticello Lodge



Wor. George E. Waller
1900



Wor. John H. Brown
1902



Wor. Walter O. Prince
1906-07

Wor. Walter D. S. h
1908-09



Wor. H. Lynden Hatch
1903-04-05



Masters of Monticello Lodge



Wor. Arthur C. Kyle
1910-11



Wor. George D. Pelton.
1912-13



Wor. John H. Hess
1916-17

Wor. Lewis N. Stanton.
1918



Wor. Derwood B. Tuttle
1914-15



The country store and post office booth combined was unique and attractive. On sale at this booth was everything from a pair of shoestrings to a barrel of flour. Some of the signs displayed on the "store" were, "Love letters and kisses taken with molasses at reduced rates", "Tooth picks and pick ax", "Shoestrings and string beans", "Shoes and salt", etc. The decorations were of corn, oats and pumpkins. The superintendent was Mrs. William McMillan. Miss Annie Crandall was postmistress. Her assistants were Mrs. J.A. Cauthers, Mrs. K.M. Reynolds and Ben McMillan.

The smokers' wigwam was for men only. The entrance was through a pine grove which was lighted by subdued colored lights. Inside the decorations were Japanese lanterns and the booth was filled with divans and large comfortable chairs.

This was the only place where tobaccos were sold and smoking permitted in the hall. Among the articles disposed of by chance at this booth were boxes of excellent cigars, meerschaum pipes, cigar holders and a leather hanger. This resort was very popular with smokers. The superintendent was Mrs. Jean Caldwell, who was assisted by Mrs. B.B. Williams, Miss Mary D. Niven and others.

A beautifully decorated candy booth was superintended by Mrs. Charles G. Burns, who was assisted by Mrs. D.W. Sherwood, Mrs. N.W. Thompson, Mrs. William Mapes, Mrs. A.P. Bennett, Mrs. H. Harding, Mrs. Sadie Saxton, the Misses Grace O'Neill, Julia Starr, Mary Turner, Louise Armstrong, Jennie Smith and Mrs. E.R. Wright and, Mrs. F.A. Starr.

The fancy booth was superintended by Mrs. B.H. Lefferts, who was assisted by Mrs. Robert McNickle, Mrs. W.H. Hand, Mrs. G.H. Mitchell, Mrs. W.B. Niven, Mrs. C.S. Thornton, Mrs. M.H. Couch, Mrs. W.H. Melka, Mrs. A.G. Stafford, Mrs. G.H. Bullard, Mrs. J.R. McDonald, Mrs. G.L. McLaughlin, Mrs. Pettit, the Misses Margaret VanNette, Ethel Strong, Helen Strong and Jennie Dann.

The soft drink booth was superintended by Miss Mabel Royce, who was assisted by Mrs. G.L. Hatch, Mrs. Robert Bradley, the Misses Grace Mitchell, Fannie Stoddard, Isabelle Miller, Beatrice Miller, Lulu Bradley, Catherine Watts, Alice Royce, Lorena Garaghty, Messrs. Blake H. Bates, H. Lynden Hatch, Walter Smith, and Burton Royce.

The refreshment booth was superintended by Mrs. LeGrand Morris, who was assisted by Mrs. H.F. Holmes, the Misses Jessie Broome, Hatty Garner, Jessie LeRoy, Annie Rundle, Mrs. John Selleck, Mrs. A. Dinn, Mrs. John Yeager, Mrs. Samuel Mearns, and the Misses Hall, Mrs. Joseph Engelmann, Mrs. G.W. Rockwell, Mrs. W.W. Williams, Mrs. E.A. Rockwell, Mrs. George Bush, Mrs. R.E. Bradley, Mrs. Minnie McNeeley, and Mrs. Engham.

The first Kirmess number was the mirror dance of the troubadours. "Julie", while preparing for the gala day festival, hears the serenade and throws a rose from the window to the supposed favorite one. Then with the aid of a false mirror and in cooperation with "Hortense" rehearses a trick for the amusement of royalty. The trick is discovered by the sudden entrance of the two serenaders. The four join in a dance until by the entrance of numbers of their friends the gayety continues.

The serenade (Love's Sorrow) was sung by John V. Ennis in a very pleasing manner. The mirror dancers were the Misses Beatrice and Isabelle Miller, who executed the movements with such perfect grace and unison that the mirror effect was complete.

Other dances included the Hungarian Gypsy dance, the Hornpipe dance, the Dutch Wooden Shoe dance, the Carnival dance, the Serpentine dance, the Scarf dance, the Scotch reel, the Dance of the Summer Girls, the Spanish dance, the Indian dance, the Dance of Fairies, Cinderella Gavotte dance, the Dutch reel and the Flower dance.

On Friday evening of the carnival week a special train brought over 200 people from Port Jervis. Every night brought an increase in patronage. Saturday night more than 1,500 people were present.

One of the interesting events of Saturday night was the final voting for the most popular dance, which was won by the Indians, who received 2,078 votes. Next highest was the Carnival dance, with 1,720 votes. For each vote the voter paid five cents.

The officers of Monticello Lodge were kept busy with rehearsals for several weeks but they were well satisfied with their reward. Rehearsing took place in the lodge refreshment rooms which were located in the front part of the building.

1903

In January 1903, Masons of Monticello Lodge witnessed the installation of a Master who was to serve three years with distinction and credit to the lodge and was later to become Deputy Grand Master for the 10th Masonic District.

Brother Hatch was only 25 years old when elevated to the Master's station and still holds the record of being the youngest Master ever elected by the lodge.

His unusual organizing ability and planning won for him a place of respect in the hearts of his brethren which has continued throughout the years. He served as senior Warden during the highly successful Kirmess of 1902 when a large part of the temple debt was retired and had the honor of being identified as the youngest Master of the State of New York when he attended the annual Grand Lodge convention in June 1903.

Bro. Hatch's conduct of office was so satisfactory during the years 1903 and 1904 that he was prevailed upon to serve during the year 1905.

On July 19, 1903, the death of Wor. Bro. Charles H. Royce was announced. Bro. Royce had been suffering for a long time with cancer of the face. The funeral was held on Tuesday, July 21, with 124 Masons in attendance.

Bro. Royce was born in the Town of Bethel on June 13, 1844, and in 1871 he was married to Miss. Marrietta Hamilton Bushnell, daughter of the wealthy Munson L. Bushnell of Monticello. He spent his honeymoon in Prague, Austria, where he was Consul for the United States Government.

At Prague he entertained many distinguished Americans and dignitaries of foreign countries. Among the Americans were General Sherman and others. Many from abroad and out of the county were present at his funeral to testify as to their friendship and esteem for the deceased.

Masons attending were from Ellenville, Chapter of Royal Arch, the Delaware Commandry of Port Jervis, and every Blue Lodge throughout the county was represented.

Masons in Newburgh were represented by Joseph Embler, Ben Quinlan and J.B. Quinlan. Hoffman Lodge at Middletown was represented by U.T. Hayes and Edward VanDuser.

Pallbearers were his old Masonic Companions, George Rockwell, John P. Roosa, George Hill, Seth G. Carpenter, George Armstrong and D.S. Avery.

Wor. Bro. Hatch had a thorough knowledge of the, ritual and very capably delivered the Masonic funeral oration. He was assisted by the Rev. Mr. VanRoesen.

At the conclusion of the services his close friend and brother, John P. Roosa, moved to the head of the casket and said:

"My Brothers and Friends:

"In this sacred city of the dead we have today paid our final tribute of love and respect to our departed friend and brother. It is hard for us to realize that he who but a short time ago was so strong and to all appearances had a long lease of life before him should be stricken, and laid cold to death. It has been apparent for some time to the friends of our departed brother that the sands of life were nearly run. But with that spirit of bravery and energy which characterized his life he made a desperate battle. To those of us who knew him personally his memory will be a pleasant one. The reputation he made upon the field of battle will never die. Untarnished by time and to it we pay our homage in this tribute to his memory. He evaded no peril but faithfully and loyally performed the work allotted to him. He never turned his back upon an enemy or friend. There is something which suggests to us thoughts of another world in a head shrouded in white and hence there is that veneration for grey hairs which has become noticeable among the virtues of our race. But when death enters the tanks of those of fresh maturity he seems to come before his time to gather today the harvest of tomorrow. But as it is with our departed brother so must it be sooner or later with you and me. Nothing is left for us as we drop our tears of sorrow but to cherish his memory and to remember that our end and object in life should be to perform the duties of our life work well. At this hour We pause to do honor to his memory and as we try to convey to the hearts of those who mourn him most our sympathy in their great sorrow, let us believe in the truth of the sentiment:

*"There is no death! What seems so is transition;
This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life elysian
Whose portal we call Death."*

Wor. Bro. Hatch's second year saw the birth of the Kiamesha Chapter of Eastern Star. And as the members of the Eastern Star have worked diligently with the Monticello Masons for nearly two score years we would be ungrateful if we were not to give them recognition in this history.

Kiamesha Chapter No. 309 was instituted on April 5th, 1904, by Grand officers of the old 5th district of the Star, which comprised Ulster, Orange and Sullivan counties.

Organization of the chapter was the result of an appeal by Miss Louise Armstrong and Mr. and Mrs. Alexander J. Glennie to the Grand Chapter for the formation of an Eastern Star chapter in Monticello.

The chapter was formed with fifteen more than the twenty necessary for organization. Seven of the members were Masons.

Officers chosen for the first year were Mary C. Glennie, W.M.; Alexander J. Glennie, W.P.; Kathryn Rockwell, A.M.; Emma C. Holmes, Treasurer; Flora A. Smith, Secretary; Sadie M. Selleck, Cond.; Nettie M. Bradley, A. Cond.; Hattie F. Dunn, Chaplain; Lizzie E. Prince, Marshall; Grace E. McLaughlin, Organist; Violet H. Burns, Warden; Thomas Garner, Lieutenant; Rose Beecher, Adah; Eleanor Louise Armstrong, Ruth; Fannie M. Mitchell, Esther; Mildred McNickle, Martha, and Marrietta St. John Avery, Electa.

The annual dues were \$2, the initiation fee, \$3, and application fee, \$2, and the first and third Monday of each month were designated as the meeting nights. In 1927 the dues were increased to \$4 and the initiation fee to \$10.

When the Kiamesha Chapter was formed there was only one other chapter in Sullivan. That was the Sullivan Chapter at Livingston Manor.

Contributions made by the Eastern Star have been liberal since the chapter was organized. When the temple burned in 1909 they assisted greatly in raising funds for purchasing carpet and other lodge fixtures.

The most depressing event during Bro. Hatch's Mastership was the Masonic trial of Delbert Sherwood. Sherwood, a native of Livingston Manor, was married to Lillian Royce, a daughter of Past Master Charles H. Royce. He was accused of "abusing his wife while under the Influence of intoxicating liquor."

At the trial, held during the early part of 1904, Sherwood was defended by Melvin H. Couch. He offered little in defense of his client was found guilty and expelled in March 1904.

In 1906 Walter G. Prince, a book keeper and clerk at the lumber concern, Stephen Trowbridge and Son, was elected Master. Lodge meetings started with a first degree which was conferred upon Charles W. McClurg, a Hurleyville chef. During the year eight were admitted to membership, eight of them having been raised.

Prince was re-elected in 1907 and had another successful year raising eight and affiliating one. Bro. Prince was regular in attendance and popular among the members of the lodge. His ability and loyalty won for him in later years the lodge secretaryship which he held for two years. Bro. Prince moved to Swan Lake a number of years ago where he purchased a farm which he is still operating.

Elected Master in, 1908 was Walter D.B. Smith, a carpenter and contractor, who also served during the year 1909. Upon him fell the responsibility of providing lodge quarters after the disastrous fire of 1909 had destroyed the Masonic Temple and a large

part of the business section in Monticello. The fire occurred in August 1909, and the Masonic Temple, which was of brick and about the same style of construction as the present building, simply melted away in the fierce heat which developed around it as the old National Union Bank on the corner and the small brick Surrogate's Court building next door went down before the flames.

One of the features of the new Temple built after the fire were metal shutters designed to keep the building protected against a similar disaster. The only thing saved from the old lodge records was the treasurer's book. The old building's cornerstone was incorporated in the new building, which was completed and put in use in 1910.

The cornerstone laid for Sullivan Lodge No. 272 at the corner of what is now Pleasant Street and Broadway in 1829 was suggested for the new structure in 1909.

The large stone weighed 940 pounds and contained an 8" x 10" cavity which was twelve inches' deep. From the cavity was removed a zinc box which had been carefully sealed. It contained only copies of the Republican Watchman, Sullivan County Whig and The Examiner, the latter a York City publication. Dampness deteriorated the old newspapers and their use for record purposes was of little value.

It was a notable occasion when at last the Masons of the village once again had a fine lodge hall in their own building after the somewhat primitive accommodations left after the fire in the business district. There was general rejoicing and not only members of the lodge but many of their friends enjoyed a memorable social evening in the newly completed lodge rooms.

The Masons, like many others forced to face losses of the fire, probably did not find it easy at that time to raise the necessary funds and go ahead but there was never any question about rebuilding as soon as possible on the old site. Almost as soon as the ruins could be cleared away following the August fire, the new building was started and the gradual restoration of the town which suffered nearly a million dollar loss over night was undoubtedly greatly encouraged by the rebuilding of the lodge home.

Many of the Masons had themselves suffered the loss of their business places in the big blaze. But the Masonic Lodge, like other elements of the community, pitched in with might and main to make a fresh start. They never had reason to regret this prompt and effective action. The fine building was completed and the lodge has known some of its most prosperous years since this big fire.

Brother Smith was highly respected in the community and was a leader in the Presbyterian church, where he organized the men's club which today bears his name. He died on April 20, 1934, at the Hamilton Avenue Hospital after undergoing an operation.

Arthur C. Kyle, Sr., was serving the first of his two years as Master when the second Masonic Temple was dedicated on October 10th, 1910.

The Most Worshipful Robert Judson Kenworthy and his staff of officers dedicated the new structure.

The ceremony of dedication was under the able direction of Right Worshipful Joseph Klinck, Grand Marshal. Assisting in the service were R. W. Arthur Bouton, District Deputy of the 16th district; Earl; J. Adams, Grand Senior Warden; John J. McCrum, Grand Junior Warden; the Rev. William R. Watson, Grand Chaplain; Robert A. Stewart, Grand Standard Bearer; James McCourt, Grand Senior Deacon; Albert J. Wilson, Grand Junior Deacon; Joseph McElroy, Grand Tiler; James E. McGiffert, District Deputy of the 13th

District; John E. Sparrow, Past District Deputy of the 3rd District; Matthew W. Bronson, Past District Deputy; H. Lynden Hatch, Past District Deputy; J. Floyd Halstead, Past District Deputy of the 13th District; Joseph A. Lawson, District Deputy of the 17th District, and Brothers George W. Rockwell, George D. Pelton, David S. Avery, Harry Keating and Rev. W.I. Stetcher of the Monticello Lodge.

The ceremony of dedication was carried out in an able and impressive manner. As the Grand Lodge formed and took possession instituting a symbolic lodge for the occasion, the Master of the lodge, in an eloquent address, importuned the Grand Master to dedicate the new, temple to its proper usage."

Accepting the appeal the Grand Master, in accordance with ancient rites and usages proceeded to comply with the emblems of dedication at the hands of several officers, did with corn, wine and oil dedicate the building to Freemasonry, Virtue and Universal Benevolence. The Grand Master in his charge spoke feelingly of the situation, expressing his, satisfaction at the great work accomplished in the erection of the new temple, describing the sense of appreciation that must be in every heart to a coming "home". Other addresses were made the request of the Grand Master by Right Worshipful Arthur R. Bouton, H.W. Joseph Lawson, R.W. the Rev. William R. Watson and the Rev. W.I. Stetcher.

A large attendance was present from Mongaup Lodge, Liberty, Port Jarvis, Middletown, Mamaroneck and other places.

The cornerstone for the temple was laid in November 1909, with special exercises at St. John's Episcopal Church. The speakers were the Master, Walter D. Smith, and Bro. J.M. Maybe, Sullivan County's silver-tongued orator.

We value our present temple at more than \$25,000 and when we consider that Bro. John H. Brown and Henry Washington completed construction of the building in 1910 at a cost of \$13,789.21. We can only pause to pay tribute to our trustees who have so ably planned our course.

When the new Master started his work he was confronted with more than the ordinary work of one in his station, it was true that brethren had just completed a new temple to replace the one destroyed by fire but he and the brethren also realized that there were many things within the temple walls which the building contractors did not have in their specifications.

Ralph B. Towner headed a committee which very ably raised funds and purchased the "G". Dr. James A. Cauthers presented a new Bible and with the help of brethren such as they the task of acquiring the necessary lodge equipment became less burdensome.

The announcement that Grand Lodge was refurnishing its chambers came as welcome news to the brethren in 1910 and judicious action of a committee headed by the lodge's venerable treasurer, William B. McMillan, comprised of trustees and the Master, resulted in the lodge's purchasing the used Grand Lodge furnishings at \$1,000. This sum was only a fraction of what the equipment is worth. The solid mahogany chairs, benches, altar, together with priceless pillars, decorated with all the splendor of King Solomon so aptly described in the Middle Chamber lecture; the solid brass pedestals and other necessities have now adorned our lodge room for more than thirty years but still retain their luxurious appearance.

When purchased the upholstering was of red plush. The carpet which also came with the furniture harmonized very well with the other fixtures of the room.

About the time the furniture was purchased H.B. Roosa gave \$25. This donation and many others swelled the lodge's treasury and made their financial Condition less embarrassing during those trying times when insurance had covered only \$10,000 of the lodge's \$25,000 fire loss.

The year 1911 saw the lodge gradually recovering from the stunning blow of 1909. Interest was renewed and contacts both among its members as well as those belonging to other lodges were made. The sympathy of all was offered and willing hands were still eager to work.

H.B. Stratton installed an organ and the daughter of Past Master C.R. Kelton presented to the lodge an oil painting of her father.

The official visit of William B. Hand, the District Deputy, was made that year on December 8.

1912

District Deputy for the following year was Joseph Rosch. He held his convention at Livingston Manor on February 2, 1912, with a sizeable delegation attending from Monticello.

With the election of George D. Pelton. for the year 1912 Monticello Lodge became one of the most active organizations of its kind in the district.

The new Master was energetic and his associations with other lodges and in public life brought many visitors and brethren to meetings.

A minstrel show early that year netted the lodge \$273.48.

In the Fall of that year the lodge celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with a large attendance, including Masons from this and adjoining counties of Delaware, Ulster and Orange.

Serving on the Celebration Committee were the Masters, John T. Curtis, William B. McMillen, B.H. Lefferts and Robert McNickle. The celebration was one of the most notable events of the year.

In making his contribution to the lodge in 1912, William Moore, of Sackett Lake, deeded a lake lot to the lodge. This lot was owned by the lodge until 1937, when the lodge held it would be inadvisable to continue ownership with a view of developing it.

Accordingly and in compliance with a clause in the deed the lake lot was returned to its owner.

On September 30, 1912, the Grand Master, Charles Smith, warned Masons that the Fera Organization had been set up in Italy and issued an edict forbidding the members of the Craft from holding intercourse with the organization.

1913

The duties of Master were so well executed during the year 1912 that Bro. Pelton was re-elected for another year. District Deputy George F. Sullard made his official visit that year on February 24, 1913.

The lodge reported a large attendance at a joint picnic of the Kiamesha Chapter of Eastern Star and the Masons held on July 1 at Seth Pelton's at Sackett Lake. Bro. Pelton's friendly attitude won for him many new friends during the year he served and in 1921 he was honored with the appointment to the District Deputyship.

1914

In 1914 the lodge installed Derwood B. Tuttle, who was regarded as one of the lodge's best ritualists. He mastered the Middle Chamber lecture to a degree of perfection and both he and the brethren enjoyed the hours spent in addressing newly made brethren. His delivery was forceful but mastered to a degree of perfection which enabled him to control the attention of all, bringing both laughter and tears.

A printer by trade, Bro. Tuttle was as precise in his duties in the shop as he was in the lodge. His popularity both among Masons and the village band, which he led for many years, made him a lasting friend with all who knew him.

It was George S. Sloan, a close friend of Bro. Tuttle and a member of the lodge, who gave the lodge the valuable antique sideboard which now is in our lodge reception room. Announcement of this gift was made on August 14, 1914, when a resolution of I thanks to the donor was approved. At the same meeting the gift of a Masonic history was acknowledged.

The Master, his officers and brethren were busy during the year 1914. A Masonic fair held during the summer netted the lodge over \$1,000. The Master gave due credit to the members of the Kiamesha Chapter of Eastern Star for their cooperation.

During the year eleven members of the lodge died and three were unaffiliated, making a loss of fourteen. Several names had been added that year but the final figures showed a loss and brought the number of members to 218.

When District Deputy Nial Curry made his official visit on October 9, 1914, the degree of Fellowcraft was conferred upon the Middle Chamber lecture and it so impressed the visitor that the story about this incident was made known throughout the district.

Elected again at the end of his first term, Bro. Tuttle served faithfully and devotedly. During the year 1915 organizations, including the Knights of Columbus and Grange, had expressed their desire to rent the lodge rooms but the lodge refused to grant their request.

1916

Succeeding Brother Tuttle was John H. Hess, a telephone executive who was gifted with ability, foresight and a pleasing personality, with these requisites he brought both financial and social progress during the two years he served.

Degree work was a part of nearly all of the meetings for both years. A record was set during the year 1916 when fourteen were raised and two were affiliated. Lodge rooms were redecorated and many other improvements were made.

Bro. Hess and his officers visited regularly at all of the lodges in the county and won a wide Masonic acquaintance.

As the summer of 1916 neared the brethren set a precedent by voting a summer recess. Before that time meetings had been held during the summer.

When lodge opened on September 8, 1916, C.S. Starr, a Past Master of Monticello Lodge, was voted a life member. Bro. Starr had affiliated with the lodge on April 1, 1863, and was then a 53-year Mason. Up to that time life memberships had not been granted.

District Deputy Grand Master G.M. O'Connor conducted the district convention at Hobart on December 13, 1916, with Bro. Hess and his lodge officers attending.

A socially successful oyster supper was served by the lodge on December 13, 1916, thus ending a big year.

1917

The officers who served during the year 1917 were publicly installed on January 12, 1917, by Past District Deputy Nial Curry. Acting as Master was L.C. Payne. a Past Master of Mongaup Lodge, Liberty. The Marshal was Grant Palmer, who also was a Past Master of Liberty Lodge.

Installed for the year were John H. Hess, Master; Lewis Stanton, Senior Warden; John T. Curtis, Junior Warden; W.B. McMillan, Treasurer; W.W. Carpenter, Secretary; Sanford W. Starr, Tiler, and H. Lynden Hatch, Trustee, for three years.

Every Tuesday evening during the year 1917 the lodge conducted a school of instruction under the supervision of John Smith. Bro. Smith was a close friend of Edward M.L. Ehlers, who was the Grand Secretary, and had previously instructed Masons in New York City.

Bro. Smith occupied quarters in the temple and served as Senior Deacon in 1917. He and other brethren were greatly shocked when he learned of the Grand Secretary's death on May 28th of that year and not before had his duty of draping the lodge's altar meant so much to him.

The United States had been at war since April of that year and there were many developments affecting the craft which Grand Lodge could not consider in convention the preceding June.

A special session of Grand Lodge took place on September 10, 1917, with Bro. Hess in attendance. Among the noted Masons who were heard at this session was ex-President Theodore Roosevelt.

Masons were present from every section of the State and were eager to help in arranging a "plan and scope of Masonic service for the period of war."

After the convention Grand Master Thomas Penney announced that more than one degree upon more than five candidates at a less interval than two weeks would be permissible in cases where a candidate had actually enlisted, had been drafted or commissioned in the service.

Bro. Hess kept in close contact with the lodge's twenty Masons who had answered the call to arms. He appointed a correspondence committee instructed to write each week to those serving in the war. Serving on this committee were Frank G. Mitchell, Walter G. Prince and W.W. Carpenter.

Dues of the brethren were remitted for the duration. This resulted in a loss of revenue but nevertheless demonstrated the lodge's love and admiration for those serving.

The death of F.G. Snook (Sevenoak), one of the lodge's oldest living Past Masters, was reported on November 5th, 1917.

Snook had moved to Hoboken several years before. Also reported was the death of R.T. Sailman, a former member. He had been killed on the battle front.

Grand Lodge had inaugurated a war relief program which served the same purposes as our present War Chest. H. Lynden Hatch, Lewis N. Stanton and Frank G. Mitchell were appointed to serve on the committee to raise funds for this work.

1918

Elected for the year 1918, Lewis N. Stanton was the first to serve as Master of Monticello Lodge after the 16th Masonic District was changed to the present Delaware-Sullivan District.

Bro. Stanton was a descendant of one of the county's oldest and most respected families and had graduated from Yale College with the degree of LLD shortly before becoming Master.

For a time he was rated as one of Sullivan County's most brilliant lawyers.

As a speaker and trial lawyer he was unexcelled. On many occasions he held the brethren spellbound while dwelling on the subject of Masonry and reviewing the hardships of World War No. I which was near the start of its second year when he was elected Master.

Sons of Sullivan were dieing on the battlefield during his year and many a word of prayer and praise were uttered that year for the 19 members of the lodge who were serving their country. The twenty other soldiers who were then members of Monticello Lodge were: Frank Armstrong, Henry G. Calhoun, James A. Dunn, Luis deHoyos, Herbert E. Hess, Ralph S. Breakey, William Hill, Roy L. Holmes, Rev. Aaron R. Lief, John P. Mapes, Ralph G. Moore, George Y. Palmer, S. Wilson Poley, Ralph L. Smith, Homer S. Silkworth, Harvey J. Tappen, Arthur A. Thornhill, Robert S. York and Elmer J. VanKeuren.

Fifteen other additional names were added to this list at the end of 1919. These soldiers were: Elmer L. Bennett, Floyd P. Brown, Roy F. Carpenter, Harold J. Hitton, Douglas Hill, George L. Hill and James Hill (all brothers of William Hill), Harold E. LeRoy, Charles Levy, A.B. Marshall, Harold J. Millspaugh, Ralph S. Osborn, Benjamin H. Porson, Jay C. Pelton and Harry E. Allen.

Bro. David Mearns, who so heroically served in the Rainbow Division; Stanley Sengstacken; who was in the Army of Occupation after the war; Ralph Coddington, George L. Dann, Stephen Contos and many others who served their country have since become members of the lodge.

The most delightful of all meetings during the year were those after the November 11th Armistice when the brethren came marching back to once again enjoy the fellowship of Masonry in Monticello Lodge.

In later years Br. Stanton's star of success began to set. He lost many of the Masonic friends he had won and business reverses caused him such financial

embarrassment that even his lodge dues were too great a financial burden for him to carry. His membership with the lodge ceased and he died at a very early age.

1919

Although the armistice of November 11, 1918, officially ended World War No. 1, most of the pleasure of welcoming home the brethren who had served their country came to John T. Curtis, editor of the Sullivan County Republican, who was elected Master for the year 1919.

Bro. Curtis retired with the satisfaction that the lodge had enjoyed a socially successful year. This reward had come to him in face of post war conditions which were imposing hardships upon the brethren. A war costing \$35,500,000,000, including \$9,500,000,000 in loans to other countries had been won with great satisfaction to all but expenditures after peace continued on a scale far beyond any previous experience of the country.

Bro. Curtis' association with public officials and other notable residents of the county while serving as clerk of the Sullivan County Board of Supervisors and in other civic capacities won him many friends, among whom was Daniel Downs. County Superintendent of the Poor. Bro. Downs was a frequent visitor and in recognition or useful service he had rendered to the lodge he was voted an honorary member.

A crowded trestle board gave Bro. Curtis and his staff of officers little time for programs other than those which included degree work. During his year two men who were later to become Master were raised and a third future Master was elected to membership. Samuel B. Levy and John Jenkins were raised on May 23, 1919, when District Deputy R.W. Davis made his official visit. Bro. Davis very ably delivered the historical lecture. Fred Golterman was the candidate who was elected to membership.

1920

The retirement of Editor Curtis at the end of the year 1919 came with the election of Senior Warden John S. Mearns, another newspaperman, to the mastership. Bro. Mearns was the youngest Master elected since 1905 and in addition to having a thorough knowledge of the ritual he was energetic and eager to work.

The biggest event of the year was a four-day fair and carnival which the lodge brethren they reported that they had been conducted in July. Receipts of the fair amounting to approximately \$900 were applied on a lodge note and the mortgage as on the temple. This was the last fair to be held by the lodge.

Bro. Mearns married at an early age while an apprentice printer in the employ of the Republican Watchman. He arranged his hours with his employer so that he could attend high school in addition to performing his regular duties. The oldest of his seven children, now 25 and with the Presbyterian Red Cross unit in England, he started school in the grades before her father received his regents diploma.

Miss Clara Tracy, who had served long and well over a period of 25 years teaching in the Monticello High School, instructed Bro. Mearns in history. One day when

she demanded an explanation from her pupil regarding his failure to complete an assignment. Bro. Mearns replied: "I'm sorry, Miss Tracy, but the kids made so much noise that I found it impossible to study." She accepted his excuse, which brought an outburst of laughter such as was never before experienced under her strict discipline.

Bro. Mearns' determination and eagerness to find further light in his lodge and society could not be lessened, however, and he has enjoyed a record of success in both.

Now 48, Bro. Mearns is a valued and trusted employee at Albany, where he revision clerk in the State Senate. In addition to his daughter he has three sons in the service. His oldest son, John, is serving with the Air Corps in South Carolina; Robert D. is now in Palestine and Thomas is stationed in Florida with the Navy.

1921

W.W. Carpenter, who had served for a number of years with great efficiency as lodge secretary and as officer in several of its chairs, was elected Master for the year 1921.

He and his officers, Charles Burns, Senior warden; William Pelton, Junior Warden; John Mapes, Senior Deacon; Fred Golterman, Junior Deacon; Harold Hifton, Senior Master of Ceremonies; Otis Stratton, Junior Master of Ceremonies; William McMillan, Treasurer; John Jenkins, Secretary; William Schroeder, Chaplain, and Blake H. Bates, Organist were installed publicly. After installation the lodge conducted a dance at St. John's Parish House.

The year started with a crowded trestle board and remained so until a new Master was elected.

Early in the year the Odd Fellows Lodge expressed a desire to rent the lodge room but the Lodge voted again not to lease their premises. A movement to alter the lodge rooms was launched during that year but was not brought to definite action until 1922.

The lodge and one of its members received honor in June 1921, when the Grand Master appointed George D. Pelton his deputy for the Delaware-Sullivan District. A committee consisting of, William B. McMillan, Blake H. Bates, Walter D. Smith and William Pelton was appointed to raise funds for the Masonic Hospital. These men worked hard and successfully raised a sizeable fund.

The District Deputy called his convention at Monticello on November 29. Arrangements for this gathering were made by Charles G. Burns and Leon Q. Brooks. Bro. Carpenter was a post office clerk when Master. He later served as assistant postmaster and for twelve years was postmaster.

1922

One of the busiest years of the lodge came in 1922 when Charles G. Burns and his staff of officers raised twenty. In addition to this number two affiliated.

As the summer neared and the names of candidates were continually being added to the trestle board Bro. Burns asked for and received special dispensation for raising nine in one class. This set a precedent and not since have so many been raised at one time.

Along with new members came prosperity. On March 10 the lodge committee reported that \$745 had been collected for the Hospital Fund.

On April 14, 1922, eleven Past Masters received the certificates In the presence of an overcrowded lodge room, a District Deputy and four Past District Deputies. The latter were H. Lynden Hatch, of Monticello; William B. Hand, of Liberty; Samuel Fancher, of Walton, and William Parshall, of Port Jervis.

The honored Past Masters included John H. Brown, W. G. Prince, Walter D. Smith, George D. Pelton, Derwood B. Tuttle, John H. Hess, Lewis N. Stanton, John H. Mearns and W.W. Carpenter.

In addition to degree work for new members of Monticello Lodge the third is conferred upon Buthold Mattison for Faith Lodge, of Charleston, Mass.

Extensive improvements were made in the lodge rooms, which cost \$175. Of this sum, the O.E.S. paid \$150.

The O.E.S. during the year had netted and \$23.70 from a chicken supper and \$58.85 from a food sale. The difference between the total of these two sums and the amount they gave to the lodge was taken from their treasury.

Bro. Burns Is a native of Oakland Valley, Sullivan County, and the son of Fred W. Burns, a blacksmith and Civil War veteran who was raised in Monticello Lodge in 1864. Bro. Charles Burns' mother died when he was eight. He lived with his mother's father, John McMillen, until he was a young man.

Bro. Burns was District Deputy in 1936-1937. He was popular and rendered great Masonic service both while Master and District Deputy. He still is very much interested in lodge work and a year and demonstrated that he still can do lodge work when he acted as Master for the third degree.

The only special communication of the year was held on August 10th, when the lodge assembled and observed a period of mourning, and prayer for Bro. Warren G. Harding, President of the United States, who died on August 2nd.

1923

Following the years of plenty under Bros. Curtis, Mearns, Carpenter, and Burns came a year of famine as far as new members are concerned. Although petitions of worthy citizens were presented there still remained those from the old school who were both satisfied and determined to keep certain individuals out.

During the year several petitions were presented only to be rejected, and finally no petition received the unanimous approval of the brethren.

This condition brought two factions into existence and finally a proposition for forming a new Monticello Lodge was presented.

Special notices were sent to the brethren and of the 92 ballots cast 69 were again the proposition and 23 were in favor of it.

Bro. Pelton's devotion to the craft was manifest and his knowledge of the ritual was thorough. He sought to do good wherever possible and the minute book indicates that he ended his year with his work well done.

Masters of Monticello Lodge



Wor. John C. Curtis.
1919



Wor. John S. Mearns.
1920



Wor. Charles G. Burns
1922

Wor. William W. Felton
1923



Wor. William W. Carpenter.
1921





Wor. Fred L. Stratton
1924



Wor. Eth. G. Osborn
1926



Wor. John Jenkins
1927

Wor. Frank C. Daylor
1928



Wor. Fred Goltzman
1926



Officers for the year 1923, other than the Master, were Fred L. Stratton, Senior Warden; John P. Mapes, Junior Warden; Fred Golterman, Senior Deacon; Henry E. Miller, Junior Deacon; William B. McMillan, Treasurer; Ralph Pelton, Secretary; James Hindley, Senior Master of Ceremony; Ralph Osborn, Junior Master of Ceremony; John Mearns, Senior Steward, and Frank C. Taylor, Junior Steward, and Burnett H. Lefferts, Tiler.

1924

In 1924 for the first and only time the lodge and the Kiamesha Chapter of Eastern Star were installed publicly.

Installed were Fred H. Stratton, Master; Seth G. Pelton, Senior Warden; Fred Golterman, Junior Warden; Henry G. Miller, Senior Deacon; John Jenkins, Junior Deacon; William B. McMillan, Treasurer; Ralph Pelton, Secretary; Clarence Maine, Chaplain; William W. Pelton, Marshal; Ralph Osborn, Senior Master of Ceremony; Frank Taylor, Junior Master of Ceremony; John V. Ennis, Senior Steward; Herman Albrecht, Junior Steward; Blake H. Bates, Organist, and Burnett H. Lefferts, Tiler.

From the beginning of the year until its end the lodge was busy conferring degrees. Prosperity seemed to be enjoyed by all and a record number of names (26) were added to the lodge rolls.

It was during this year that our degree team actually began to work. New uniforms were suggested and the work of raising money for them was begun. By the year's end it was no longer necessary to seek services of outside teams. However, this did not mean discontinuance of the practice of inviting outside teams here.

In May, 1924, the Newburgh degree team dramatized the work in an excellent manner in Monticello Lodge. They were assisted by vocal selections by their lodge quartet. About sixty from the Newburgh Lodge were present. On the same evening the altar and jewels were draped in memory of Robert McNickle, "a faithful and devoted servant of the lodge," who had done more than any other one Master to help the lodge.

In reciprocation for the visit by the Newburgh degree team the Monticello degree team went to Newburgh on June 25th during the year Bro. Stratton served as Master.

James Mance, District Deputy Grand Master, made his official visit on November 28, 1924, when he announced that the district convention would be held at Liberty in December. The convention attended by a large delegation from Monticello Lodge including the Master.

As William B. McMillan had just completed his 29th year as Treasurer of the Monticello Lodge, a part of the year's last meeting was devoted to honoring him. He was escorted to the East and accorded Grand Honors.

1925

Elected in 1925 as Master was Seth G. Osborn, a dentist. His Senior Warden was Fred Colterman; the Junior Warden, John Jenkins; Senior Deacon, Frank C. Taylor:

the Junior Deacon, Arthur W. Merritt; Treasurer, William B. McMillan; Secretary, Ralph Pelton; Senior Master of Ceremony, Leslie Hicks; Junior Master of Ceremony, Harry G. Allen; Chaplain, Luke Davies; Marshal, Fred L. Stratton; Organist, Blake H. Bates, and the Tiler, B. Lefferts.

One of the lodge's first acts was to contribute \$25 for the Monticello Rotary Club's winter sports program.

With many new members who had new ideas and suggestions the lodge gradually found itself losing some of the conservatism by which it had been identified for many years.

The most urgent demand seemed to be for a greater degree of sociability than had been shown in preceding years. This, it was pointed out, could be realized with the organization of a square club.

The members of the lodge generally seemed to be in favor of the plan and Fred Stratton and John Jenkins were appointed as a committee to organize the same. They did not succeed for some reason which even they did not explain.

The year 1925 brought an addition of two future Masters to its membership, Charles Horton and Emory Stalker.

On April 10, 1925, a communication was received from Grand Master William A. Rouen, which pointed out that the Grand Lodge of the Orient of Belgium had removed the Bible from its altars, thus abandoning the requirement and belief in God. This action, the Grand Master warned, has terminated all relations existing between the Belgium Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

The lodge had a Masonic orchestra during the year 1925 and its services were rendered so well and faithfully that the lodge voted it \$25 with which to purchase new music.

A move to the more modern trend was indicated when "No Smoking" signs, for years a permanent wall decoration, were taken down.

Certificates were awarded to nine life members during the year's last meeting.

1926

One of the most energetic and enthusiastic Masons ever elected Master was Frederick Golterman, a n accountant, whose zeal for the fraternity resulted in his presence in the lodge room every Friday night.

He announced at the beginning of the year that he would open the lodge rooms every week and was willing and ready to practice or discuss any lodge problem the brethren desired to present.

His Senior Warden was John Jenkins; Frank C. Taylor was the Junior Warden; H. L. Hatch, Treasurer; Ralph Pelton, Secretary; Arthur W. Merritt, Senior Deacon; Leland Silvieus, Senior Master of Ceremony; Harry G. Allen, Junior Master of Ceremony; Clarence Maine, Chaplain; Herman Albrecht, Senior Steward; William Hoose, Junior Warden; Blake H. Bates, Organist; Fred L. Stratton, Marshal, and B. Lefferts, Tiler.

Attending the installation were 450. During the year many improvements were made. The work of procuring pictures of all the Past Masters of the lodge was started.

Appointed to serve on the picture committee were Clinton N. Overton, Frank C. Taylor and James Hindley. The lodge donated \$50 for the Monticello Hospital Fund.

A new lamp was presented by John H. Pabst, an oilcloth was procured and on it Bro. Ralph Masten artistically as well as instructively painted the winding stairs and other important objects alluded to in the Middle Chamber lecture.

The initiation fee was raised to \$50; affiliation fee to \$10; dues to \$8.00 per year; the Secretary's salary was increased to \$100; the Tiler's salary to \$50; the Steward's to \$25 each, and the Treasurer's, Organist's and Chaplain's salaries were set at \$10 each.

The greatest achievement of the year was the completion of the work of redecorating the lodge room.

In appreciation for this and other outstanding work of the year the lodge had spread on the minutes a resolution of thanks which recognized the fact that funds had been raised during a Masonic day on July 20, 1926, at the Amusement Park, an affair for raising funds was held at the Parish House on August 19, 1926, by the O.E.S., that the lodge room were very beautifully and artistically redecorated throughout with new draperies at the windows, new lights and fixtures added, new rugs on the ante-room floors, etc.

Those other than the Master receiving thanks in the resolution were Frank C. Taylor, Clarence Maine, John Jenkins, David Mearns, Walter R. Pelton, the Kiamesha Chapter of Eastern Star, Philip Kreuder, the interior decorator who had charge of the painting; Guilford Armstrong, Ralph Towner, Burnett Lefferts, James Hindley, Harry G. Allen, and Reuben Strong, all of whom ably assisted the Master in his work.

The expense of the undertaking was nearly \$1,100 but the completed work still gives Monticello Lodge an appearance beauty which is unexcelled anywhere in this district.

Bro. Golterman was not the Master who believed in having his job half done. What he set out to do he finished and an example of his thoroughness is indicated in the lodge minutes where the Secretary noted that the Master was dissatisfied because only 44 had subscribed for the Masonic Outlook. His is a record which any Master might be proud of.

1927

John Jenkins, a life insurance agent, was elected Master for the year 1927, during which large delegations from lodges in the Delaware-Sullivan and other neighboring districts returned visits.

When the third degree was conferred upon a class of brothers on June 24 of that year there were more than 200 masons present. Fifty of this number were members of Newburgh Lodge 309.

Besides taking care of the Lodge's own sick and distressed that year the lodge gave \$50 for the Grand Lodge fund for flood sufferers along the Mississippi. Also approved was a \$10 donation to the Boy Scouts.

The funerals included one for Seth G. Osborn, a past Master who died in September 1927.

At the year's end nine more life members were added to the eleven which had served thirty years before 1927.

Frank C. Taylor was Senior Warden in 1927; A.W. Merritt, Junior Warden, David Mearns, Senior Deacon, Leland W. Silvieux, Junior Deacon, H.L. Hatch, Treasurer; Ralph Pelton, Secretary; Clarence Maine, Chaplain; Grant Davison, Senior Master of Ceremony; William Hoose, Junior Master of Ceremony and B.H. Lefferts, Tiler.

1928

Lodge officers for the year 1928 were Frank C. Taylor, Master; Arthur C. Merritt, Senior Warden; David Mearns, Junior Warden; H.L. Hatch, Treasurer; Ralph Pelton, Secretary; B.H. Lefferts, Tiler, and Charles G. Burns, Trustee for three years.

Considerable charity work was done during the year and included in the program was the payment of \$100 toward the funeral of a brother, and the investigation of a case which resulted in the acceptance of a Mason's Widow into the Home at Utica.

Relations with those supervising the Home were close and \$10 was given by Monticello Lodge for the Grand Lodge fund, for placing a bust of Commodore John Paul Jones, a group picture of M.W. William J. Wiley, his wife and daughter and a portrait of M.W. John W. Voorman, Senior Past Grand Master in the Hall of Fame at Utica.

Perhaps no Master had been more interested in his work or had a more thorough knowledge of the ritual than Bro. Taylor.

Before Grand Lodge officials frowned upon such meetings, Bro. Taylor would convene with his officers and other members of the craft in a room in the back of his store, and rehearse their work. On many occasions he would invite an automobile load of brothers to go for a ride with him and while driving to Middletown, Port Jervis and other places would go through the work of the three degrees pointing out differences that existed between the old and new rituals and improving parts of the work.

The photo committee which was headed by C. N. Overton announced on February 24, 1928 that their work was completed and much to the amazement of the brethren they reported that they had been successful in obtaining pictures of all of the past masters.

When the committee started their work in 1926, many believed that they had undertaken a hopeless task, but perseverance on the part of all, correspondence with descendents of the deceased past masters, and photographic copying eventually resulted in the finished job, which excels any photographic display of lodge Masters in this district.

Vincent Elwood, district deputy Grand Master from Hancock, made his official visit on September 28, 1928.

The initiation fee was increased from \$50 to \$60. The Dual Membership fee was set at \$25 and an additional \$10, was voted Grand Lodge for each initiate.

1929

Arthur W. Merritt, a school teacher and life insurance agent, was elected Master for the year 1929. The Senior Warden was Leland W. Silvieux. Ralph Pelton was

the Junior Warden; H. L. Hatch, Treasurer; Charles Maine, Secretary; B.H. Lefferts, Tiler, and W. W. Carpenter, Trustee for three years.

Early in the year the Fellowcraft team purchased uniforms and equipment costing about \$1,000. With their needs well supplied and in possession of equipment unexcelled by any degree team in this section the members of the Fellowcraft team were both proud and anxious to participate in degree work.

They rehearsed regularly and became 80 proficient in their work that their services were sought in many other lodges.

The lodge had started to raise funds In 1924 when Harold Hifton was captain of the team. About \$200 was added to the fund in 1926; another \$200 was netted from a show sponsored by the team at the Rialto Theatre in 1927 and about \$600 was raised during the year 1928 from Chautauqua, entertainment arranged by Bro. Frank C. Taylor.

Bro. David Mearns was captain of the team in 1929, having succeeded Bro. Hitton in 1926.

Perhaps no Master has been more attentive to the sick and distressed than Bro. Merritt. During his year and during the years that have followed, Bro. Merritt has assisted the lodge greatly in charitable work. In addition to the sums spent in 1929 for such work the lodge" voted \$50 for the Boy Scouts. One of the most notable meetings of the year was on Roll Call night, when members absent for many years were present.

With the Fellowcraft Club organizer there came a desire for quarters in which to meet for recreation and club purpose. This movement resulted in the appointment of a committee to work with the trustees for the purpose of reducing the customary ten-year leases on the second floor so that the lodge would eventually be able to use this part of the building. H. Perry, of Sidney, District Deputy Grand Master, made his official visit on November 8, 1929. This was among the more important year-end meetings.

1930

The effects of the 1929 stock market crash were already being realized when Leland Ward Silvius was elevated to the Mastership.

Despite conditions, however, the lodge enjoyed a highly successful year under his leadership.

Nine new names were added to the membership roll and five were taken away by the Grim Reaper.

Among the 1930 departed was Burnett Lefferts, the lodge's 26-year Mason, who had served faithfully, efficiently and continually over a period of eight years as the lodge's Tiler.

Another was George D. Pelton, a Past Master upon whose honored shoulders the purple of the craft had rested in 1921.

Ralph Pelton was Senior Warden during the year 1930; Grant Davison, Junior Warden; H. Lynden Hatch, Treasurer; Clarence Maine, Secretary, and William Moore was elected Trustee for three years. Burnett Lefferts was elected Tiler to serve his eighth term but died on February 1, 1930. Herman Albrecht was elected to succeed him.

A petition of the Order of Amaranth asking the lodge to reconsider a request of two years previous to rent the lodge rooms created a lively discussion and resulted in a

thorough perusal of the minute books for rules and regulations regarding rental of the rooms.

Bro. Silvius called the lodge's attention to a proposed resolution of several years previously, which would restrain the Trustees from renting the rooms to any organization other than the Blue Lodge of Masonry or the Order of Eastern Star. Because of the close relation between the Order of Eastern Star and Order of Amaranth it was cited that both organizations should be entitled to use of the lodge rooms.

Finally an amendment to the original resolution which required that the organization desiring a lease be "recognized by Grand Lodge, F. & A. M., or the Grand Chapter of Eastern Star" was submitted for approval of the lodge. Of 60 votes cast, 48 were for the amendment and 12 were against.

In addition to his regular duties as Master of the lodge, Bro. Silvius visited the Masonic Home at Utica, attended and took part in the convention held by District Deputy Grand Master William Perry at Sidney in April and attended the Grand Lodge session.

In his report on his Grand Lodge visit Bro. Silvius stated that eight new lodges had been organized during the year ending in June 1930, giving a total of 2,713 new members. He pointed out that there had been more unaffiliations than usual and said that Grand Lodge had expressed its disapproval of public installations.

One of the most noteworthy contributions during 1930 was made by Bro. Archibald Hargest, a Wurtsboro druggist. Bro. Hargest had watched with great interest Bro. Silvius' progress through the chairs and shortly after he became Master Bro. Hargest wrote a third-degree drama and entrusted the new Master with the work of making it serve its purpose.

Bro. Hargest was not wrong in presenting the drama when he did. New interest grew and soon the services of the degree team were sought in New York City, Kingston, Newburgh, Port Jervis, Ellenville, Liberty and many other places.

The drama was presented for the first time on June 13, 1930, when Clyde F. Stratton, a son of Past Master Fred Stratton, Howard G. Clements and George Pick were raised.

Bro. Silvius did not lay down his working tools and stand idly by when his year ended. His ability was recognized by the Grand Lecturer, Henry Meacham, who appointed him Assistant Grand Lecturer for the year 1931 and reappointed him until 1935. In 1938 he was appointed Grand Lodge Service Man. He served in this capacity through 1941.

Bro Silvius believed in doing a thorough job and asked no one to do the work he thought a Master should do. He conducted funerals and mastered the ritual to a degree of perfection.

William Lieb, of Jeffersonville, was District Deputy Grand Master that year. He made his official visit on December 12 and conducted two conventions, one at Liberty on December 1, and the other at Walton on December 2. M.W. Charles Johnson, our present Grand Secretary, was then Grand Master.

As one of our lodge stewards he provides refreshments which are both satisfying and economical. In this as well as in other lodge work there are few who can equal him.



Wor. Arthur W. Merrill
1920



Wor. Roland W. Elvins
1930



Wor. Grant A. Davison
1932

Wor. Emory Stalker
1933



Wor. Ralph Pelton
1931



Emerson



Wor. Harold S. Stecher
1934

Wor. John P. Mold.
1935



Wor. Chas. W. Horton
1937

Wor. Delmont R. Race
1938



Wor. Earl A. Stratton
1936



1931

After serving for five years as Secretary and as Junior and Senior Warden, Ralph Pelton was elected Master. Grant A. Davison was Senior Warden; Emory Stalker, Junior Warden; Clarence Maine. Secretary; Herman Albrecht, Tiler, and Charles G. Burns, Trustee for three years.

Among the donations made during the year 1931 was \$25 to the Red Cross and \$30 for the George Washington Shrine at Tappan, N.Y.

Bro. Pelton had been a Mason eleven years and during most all of this time had been actively engaged in lodge work. He was and still is a member of the Fellowcraft Team and on a number of occasions had delivered the Middle Chamber and other lectures.

His work as Secretary, Junior and Senior Warden and Master was equally as exacting and efficient as the thoroughness of his knowledge of the ritual. For several years he has served as Trustee.

When the announcement came that Bro. Silvieus had been appointed Assistant Grand Lecturer, Br. Pelton ordered his predecessor escorted to the East where he was presented a Past Master's apron and carrying case.

Bro. Pelton was among the New York State Masons who attended the 150th Anniversary Grand Lodge banquet held in New York City in May.

The biggest event of the year was ladies' night, which took place at St. John's Parish Hall' in Monticello on October 26. Among those present were District Deputy Grand Master Archie H. Holmes and Mrs. Holmes of Downsville.

1932

The depression which had gripped the country since the Fall of 1929 had affected Masonry as well as the economic structure of the nation to a degree of seriousness when Grant A. Davison was elected Master.

A man of ability and progressive ideas, the new Master was both willing and anxious to work for the things essential to Masonry and had it not been for leadership such as his during this trying time the lodge's financial structure may not have weathered the storm.

One of the first acts of the year was the appointment of a committee consisting of John Jenkins, Ralph Pelton and Walter D. Smith to peruse the lodge's bylaws and make changes deemed by them to be necessary and submit them for the lodge's approval.

Life membership was set at 30 years and the affiliation fee was reduced from \$25 to \$10. These were among the several important changes made.

Linoleum was laid during the year in the hallways and on the stairs at a cost of \$397.50. This amount was covered by funds taken from the Trustees' Fund.

On returning from the Grand Lodge session Bro. Davison reported that employment had been given through the Grand Lodge employment service to 4,000 during the year. The Masonic Home, according to his report, was caring for 3,633 men, women and children. The membership, he said, had totaled 3,797 or 34.2 persons per 1,000 during the year.

The lodge celebrated the Sesquicentennial of the birth of George Washington in 1932 by dedicating a tree at the Izaak Walton Farm. The Waltonians had planted 12,000 trees on the farm that year.

The lodge responded quickly and generously to a communication from the Board of Masonic Relief in Los Angeles, Calif., which informed the brethren that the widow and child of a brother were in need. Contributions continued throughout that and succeeding years. Another widow and family received \$100.

The District Convention was held at Hobart on October 28th with Ralph A. Hoyt, District Deputy Grand Master, presiding. Nine members of Monticello Lodge attended.

The Senior Warden during the year 1932 was Emory Stalker; Harold Stecher was Junior Warden; H. Lynden Hatch, Treasurer; Clarence Maine, Secretary; Edward Norris, Chaplain, and James A. Brimelow, Associate Chaplain. District Deputy Archie Holmes made his official visit on January 22, 1932.

1933

When Emory Stalker took over the duties of Master in 1933 presiding in the East was not altogether new to him. He had served on several occasions during Bro. Davison's absence doing degree work and handling other, lodge business with a high degree of efficiency.

The Senior Warden was Harold I. Stetcher; John P. Mold was Junior Warden; H. Lynden Hatch, Treasurer; Clarence Maine, Secretary; A.B. Mapledoram, Tiler, and John Jenkins, Trustee for three years.

Application for a brother to enter the Masonic Home at Utica had been submitted during the Fall of 1932, and after a thorough investigation by the Trustees of the Home the application was rejected. Notification of this action was received by the lodge shortly after the 1933 officers were installed. Although the sick and infirm brother had relatives who could care for him he was sent to the Broome County Home, where he died in 1933.

Ralph Hoyt, District Deputy Grand Master, made his official visit on April 3, 1933, and Donald Albee, the District Deputy Grand Master, appointed after the 1933 session of Grand Lodge, made his official visit on November 4th. The District Convention was conducted that year at Livingston Manor.

Returning from the Grand Lodge session Bro. Stalker reported that the Grand Lodge financial report showed a deficit of \$214,000. This resulted in an increased of Grand Lodge dues from \$1.10 to \$3.00.

Along with Grand Lodge financial troubles came a threat to both finances and membership in Monticello Lodge. New members were considered as essential in view of a loss in membership caused by the depression. Many had sought admittance into the fraternity but the initiation fee of \$60 was considered too exorbitant in view of the times.

After giving the matter due consideration, Bro. Stalker appointed Delmont R. Race, John P. Mold and Charles Horton to serve as a committee to report on the advisability of a reduction of \$10. They returned with a comprehensive report which pointed out both the good and unfavorable features of a plan for a reduction.

Summing up their report they advised that it would not be a good policy to give men an idea that it would be bargain time in Masonry, reminded the brethren that the fraternity needs "more Masonry in men rather than more men in Masonry."

For the second time within a year an application for admitting a brother to the Home at Utica was submitted to the Home Trustees.

This application was accepted in May and on June 10 the aged brother, accompanied by the Master, Senior Warden and Secretary, journeyed to Utica.

The brother appeared in lodge the night before departing for his new home. He expressed great satisfaction over the work the brethren had done for him and bade them farewell.

He expressed the hope of some day visiting again but that was not to be. He suffered a stroke in September 1933, and journeyed to his long home.

Less than a month before the lodge received the shocking news of the death of Derwood Tuttle, a Past Master who had labored long and faithfully for the interests of the lodge.

1934

Harold I. Stetcher, Wire Chief for the New York Telephone Company, was elected for the year 1934.

Bro. Stetcher, who is now serving overseas as captain in the Army Signal Corps, was thorough in his work and did not overlook any of the duties of Master during his year. His Senior Warden was John Mold; Earl Stratton was Junior Warden; H.L. Hatch, Treasurer; Clarence Maine, Secretary, and A.B. Mapledoram, Tiler.

Only one new member was taken into the fraternity but 30 names were dropped from the rolls. Eight of these had been taken by death.

Blake H. Bates night on February 9, 1934, was an event long to be remembered. Masons old and young were present to greet Bro. Bates, who had furnished music for the lodge over a period of 34 years.

On March 9th a committee appointed to get estimates on repairing the lodge furniture and a new carpet reported that it would cost \$300 to repair the furniture and the carpet would cost \$600. No action was taken at that time, however, and it was left in the hands of the committee. Andrew J. McCullough, the only candidate for the year, received the degree of Entered Apprentice the same evening.

The area meeting for lodges in the Delaware-Sullivan, Otsego-Schoharie and Delaware Counties, held at Oneonta on Wednesday, March 28th, was attended by the Master and several brothers.

R.W. Thomas C. O'Donnell, editor of the Masonic Outlook, visited the lodge on May 25th. Bro. O'Donnell pointed out that the Board of General Activities was formed in 1927 as a service station for the craft and told of the many opportunities it afforded.

At the, annual communication of Grand Lodge in May it was unanimously agreed to increase the per capita levy of 50c for each member of the lodge for the Hall and Asylum Fund to \$1.25 per member.

This amendment was approved by Monticello Lodge during its June 22, 1934, meeting. The District Convention was held at Deposit on October 26 with Ira C. Clearwater, District Deputy Grand Master, presiding. Bro. Clearwater made his official visit to Monticello Lodge on November 9th.

A new gas stove was obtained and on November 9th the committee reported that it had been installed in the kitchen.

1935

John P. Mold was elected Master on the same meeting night when the lodge's record list of unaffiliations was read. Late that Fall the roll call of the several bands of workmen brought eleven Past Masters with summaries of their activities during the years they served.

These reports were both interesting and entertaining. They were placed on file in the lodge but unfortunately could not be located when this history was written. Hours spent in scanning the pages in the minute books has given satisfactory results, however.

The lodge was honored on November 9 with a visit from Henry Meacham, Grand Lecturer. During his visit here Bro. Meacham was so impressed by the manner in which the Master and officers performed the duties of their stations and places that he remembered the Master in 1936 and appointed him Assistant Grand Lecturer for the Delaware-Sullivan District. Bro. Stalker served in this capacity during 1937, 1938 and in 1941. He frequently visits lodges in this district and has a large following of friends wherever he goes.

In recognition of his outstanding work Grand Master Henry C. Turner appointed him Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana near the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Bro. Stalker is principal of the White Lake school.

As Senior Warden he had been given a first hand knowledge of conditions which led up to this action.

Lodges throughout the State were experiencing similar losses in membership and, like Monticello Lodge, were adding the names of few new members to their rosters. He and his officers fully realized that the dark days of depression had not ended with Bro. Stetcher's year. Senior Warden for the year was Earl Stratton. The Junior Warden was Delmont R. Race. H. Lynden Hatch was treasurer; Clarence Maine, Secretary; Donald Kiel, Chaplain, and Andrew Engle, Tiler.

Although members of the lodge did not attend in a body a number of the brethren witnessed ceremonies for the dedication of the new post office in Monticello on May 20, 1935.

A check for \$10 was given to the Monticello Fire Department to help it defray expenses of the Hudson Valley Firemen's Convention, held in Monticello in June. The District Convention was held at Walton on October 23rd with Albert D. Kingsbury presiding as District Deputy Grand Master. Bro. Kingsbury made his

official visit on September 27th. A set of seven Masonic history books was presented to the lodge on October 25th, by the widow of R.W. Bro. George D. Pelton.

About 40 members of the lodge attended services at the Methodist Church in Monticello on Sunday, November 3rd.

1936

Earl A. Stratton, a South Fallsburg banker, was elected Master for the year 1936. Delmont R. Race was Senior Warden; Charles Horton, Junior Warden; H. Lynden Hatch, Treasurer; Clarence Maine, Secretary; Leland Silvieus, Chaplain; Charles Heath, Senior Deacon; John P. Mold, Marshal, and Andrew Engel, Tiler.

A new safe was procured from the New York Telephone Company early in the year for the purpose of keeping important lodge papers in it. The safe was moved to the basement of the temple, the combination was lost and it is not known whether or not any of the lodge records were deposited in it.

At the June 12, 1936, lodge meeting it was announced that the Grand Master, Jacob C. Klinck, had appointed Bro. Charles G. Burns Deputy Grand Master for the Delaware-Sullivan District. After words of praise and appreciation by Leland Silvieus, Emory Stalker, Harold I. Stetcher and David Mearns the Master appointed a committee to purchase an apron for presentation to the new District Deputy. The apron was presented to Bro. Burns at the June 26th meeting, which was attended by Past Masters of five lodges and a large gathering of the brethren.

A new committee for repairing the furniture and procuring a new carpet reported that they had received an estimate of \$750.00 for repairing and upholstering the furniture.

Added to the lodge furniture that year was a valuable piano, which was a gift of Bro. Charles Ellison, a member of Mongaup Lodge, Liberty.

The big event of the year was the Delaware-Sullivan Masonic District Convention held at Monticello by District Deputy Burns.

1937-1939

The election of Charles Horton, the youngest Master since the early twenties, saw the beginning of a new lodge at South Fallsburgh and brought many improvements to the lodge room.

The furniture, which had been badly in need of repairs since it was purchased from Grand Lodge in 1909, was completely re-upholstered and repaired. The old red mohair covered benches and chairs were given a new covering in blue. This transformation cost the lodge \$800 but gave us the best furnished lodge room in the State.

When Bro. Horton ended his first term in 1927 he had a record of accomplishments including an increase of members. Many of the projects he started were not completed, however, and when a vacancy occurred in 1939 he was re-elected. During this year the lodge arranged to purchase a new carpet at the cost of

\$1,200. Other improvements included the installation of Venetian blinds. Three names were added to the membership roster that year.

1938

Bro. Delmont R. Race succeeded Bro. Charles Horton in 1938. Bro. Horton, who was Junior Warden before his election to the Mastership, retired as Master in 1938 to occupy the station of Senior Warden. Bro. Charles Heath, who served as Junior Warden in 1937, did not seek further advancement because of ill health. Another vacancy was caused by the retirement of John O. Scriber, who had served as Senior Deacon.

The Junior Warden's station was occupied by Fred L. Stratton, a Past Master of Monticello Lodge. Andrew McCullough was advanced to Senior Deacon; Howard Clements was Junior Deacon; Samuel B. Levy, Senior Master of Ceremony, and A.O. Benton was started through the chairs with the Junior Master of Ceremony appointment. Roy L. Holmes was Organist and Andrew Engel, Tiler.

The two outstanding events were the sesquicentennial anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States and the continuation of the 200th anniversary of organized Freemasonry in the State of New York.

On February 7 members of Monticello Lodge received a summons to attend a communication of Monticello Lodge to be held on February 11, 1938, for the purpose of taking action upon a request of Brothers Harry C. Resnick, Charles Tarrow, Morris Heller and others for a recommendation, of their petition praying for dispensation to establish a new lodge at South Fallsburg.

The petition was signed by twenty-seven Masons, namely: Harry C. Resnick, Morris Heller, Dr. Irving Greenberg, Louis E. Halprin, David Rapp, Charles Tarrow, Jacob Katz, Morris Singer, Louis Rozofsky, Boris Roselman, Joseph Berman, Jacob Hecht, Isadore Gold, S. Wallace Kagan, Philip Rosen, Emanuel Feldman, Samuel Sloan, Charles Gleich, Samuel Simon, Philip Kaplan, Samuel Sprayregen, Hyman E. Levine, Al Kronenberg, Jacob Rittberg, Philip Morgenstern and Osias Fleischer.

The Monticello Lodge unanimously granted their request.

A delegation of 20 from Monticello Lodge attended Old-Timers' Night at Hoffman Lodge on March 15 in Middletown.

On April 14 the Master and Wardens of the newly forming Fallsburg Lodge demonstrated with a high degree of efficiency the opening and closing of lodge on the first degree.

The second degree was worked by these Masons on April 22 and the third degree on May 20th.

Monticello Lodge was satisfied with the work of the Master, his Wardens and Deacons and recommended a charter for them.

Installation of officers of Fallsburg Lodge took place in the Monticello Lodge rooms on November 22, 1938, with Deputy Grand Master Henry C. Turner in charge. An evening with the ritual on May 27 provided both entertainment and important lessons in Masonry.

The District Convention was held at Margaretville on October 12 with Ira Terry presiding as Deputy Grand Master.

Bro. Thomas C. O'Donnell, editor of the Masonic Outlook, visited the lodge on October 14, and in an interesting and inspiring address reported that there were then over 262,000 Masons in the State. He called the attention of the brethren to the 28,000 volumes in Grand Library and invited the brethren to make use of them along with the 10,000 who were then borrowers of books from the Grand Lodge Library. After his talk Bro. O'Donnell conducted a "What Do You Know" contest.

1940

Andrew J. McCullough was elected Master for the year 1940. Samuel B. Levy was Senior Warden; Alvin O. Benton, Junior Warden; J. Maxwell Knapp, Senior Deacon; E. Edward DeCamp, Junior Deacon; Milton H. Armstrong, Senior Master of Ceremony; Frederick J. Bulken, Junior Master of Ceremony; Charles W. Horton, Marshal; Charles Atwell, Organist, and Wesley G. Durland, Tiler.

Immediately after installation Bro. McCullough appointed a Committee on the Lodge system of Education. Serving on this committee, which is still active, are Clarence Maine, Leland Silvieux, Emory Stalker, Delmont R. Race and William Yates.

On February 9th the Rev. Bro. James A. Brimelow addressed the lodge on the subject "Why I Believe in Masonry." It was one of the best and most inspiring addresses of the year.

On February 18th funeral services were conducted for William Moore, an old and faithful member of the fraternity who had served as Trustee and had given the lodge a building lot at Sackett Lake. This was the largest Masonic funeral held in Monticello in years.

Jay O. Newkerk made his official visit on February 23rd. The District Convention was held that year at Liberty.

It was on the night of Bro. Newkerk's visit that Bro. Emory Stalker was present ed with an apron and carrying case. His appointment as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana near the Grand Lodge of New York had been announced a short time before that. The rest of the evening was devoted to a patriotic program, with Frederick C. Lewis the speaker.

Among the other speakers of the year were James J. Brooks, an instructor at the Woodbourne Prison, and the Rev. William Robinson, of Fairhaven, Lytham, England.

Reverend Robinson had seen the tragic effects of World War No. 2 in his home town in England and gave an interesting word-picture of the destruction Axis bombers were bringing to the historic towns and villages of England.

The story of Reverend Robinson's coming to America with his aged wife, his daughter and granddaughter is one of love and sacrifice which a Mason made manifest for his friend.

When war dangers made it necessary for Rev. Robinson to evacuate he was invited by the Rev. Bro. James A. Brimelow to come to America. After considerable correspondence the Reverend Robinson arrived safely in America.

The Robinson family made their home with the Brimelows for many months. Harry A. Ward made his official visit on September 13. Much credit should be given to Bro. Ward for organizing the Wardens Council, which elected its first officers at Walton on September 30. Bro.

Samuel B. Levy brought honor to Monticello Lodge as the first president of the Council.

The District Convention was held at Franklin on October with Bro. Ward presiding. The brethren were recently shocked to learn of the death by drowning, of Bro. Ward. He won many friends during his years as a Mason. At his Franklin Convention Monticello's delegation was the largest next to that of Franklin.

1941

Perhaps there has been no Master more interested in Masonry or more concerned about the financial and social welfare of Monticello Lodge than Samuel B. Levy, who served during the year 1941.

When Bro. Levy was elected he was faced with a \$302 deficit but by the year's end his budget was balanced and no unaffiliations were necessary because of failure of the brethren to pay dues.

The sum of \$200 was raised through a minstrel show and \$24.90 was realized from a card party conducted jointly by the Eastern Star and Masons.

In view of valuable services rendered on behalf of the lodge for more than a decade the lodge voted the Rev. Bro. James A. Brimelow an honorary member on February 28, 1941.

Bro. Brimelow was the first honorary member elected since 1919 when Bro. Daniel Downs, County Superintendent of the Poor was so honored.

Another name proudly added to the membership rolls was that of Hugh Richman, who is now the only member of our lodge to hold a dual membership.

The Sons of the American Legion Fife and Drum Corps took part in the Patriotic Night which was held on June 13.

Jay F. Hager of Masonville made his official visit on October 10th; the second degree was on October 23rd, in charge of the Junior Warden, J. Maxwell Knapp. The Senior Warden, Alvin, O. Benton, delivered the Middle Chamber Lecture. The first degree had been in charge of Bro. Benton, who had only a week before presided as Master for the first degree at the District Convention, which was held at Sidney.

The Past Masters conferred the third degree in a commendable manner on November 28. The average attendance for the year was 45.

At the year's end Bro. Levy expressed his thanks to the brethren for their cooperation and in expressing his love for the lodge presented a beautiful and valuable set of ashlar.

Masters of Monticello Lodge



Wor. Andrew McCullough Jr.
1940



Wor. Samuel B. Long
1941



Wor. J. Maxwell Knapp
1943

Wor. Frederick G. Bulken
1944



Wor. Alvin O. Bentor
1942



Monticello
MONTICELLO

1942

The election of Alvin O. Benton to the Mastership was contemporaneous with the United States' declaration of war upon the Axis. A dark and trying future was envisioned and both the lodge and its Master realized that much was to be done if the attendance and other records set by Bro. Levy and his predecessors were to be maintained.

The new Master's first work was the completion of a program in which he noted the problems confronting the lodge and made suggestions for their solution. The program listed the committees and described the duties of its members. The twelve-page folder also set forth the Master's objectives and contained a schedule of meetings.

With their duties both described and defined the committee members and brethren showed keen interest and worked diligently throughout the year. Even the gas and tire shortage did not result in a drop in attendance.

The Gavel, which had been printed on a mimeograph, was revised and given the appearance of a magazine.

Through this medium members of the Monticello Lodge have been kept in close contact with its brethren some of whom had joined the armed service and were in Hawaii and other distant points. Many were the letters which commended the lodge and its officers for this medium of information.

The cost of the "Gavel" is no greater than the usual lodge notices and has been received with great interest by all.

Much of the material which appeared in the Gavel was a history of Masonry which had been compiled over a period of years by Bro. A.O. Benton. This is included in this history.

Along with the war came a desire of Masons to do something for their fellowmen. The Grand Master created a Masonic War Chest and appealed to the brethren of the State to contribute at least one dollar per year for the duration. Bro. Benton was appointed key War Chest man for the Delaware-Sullivan District.

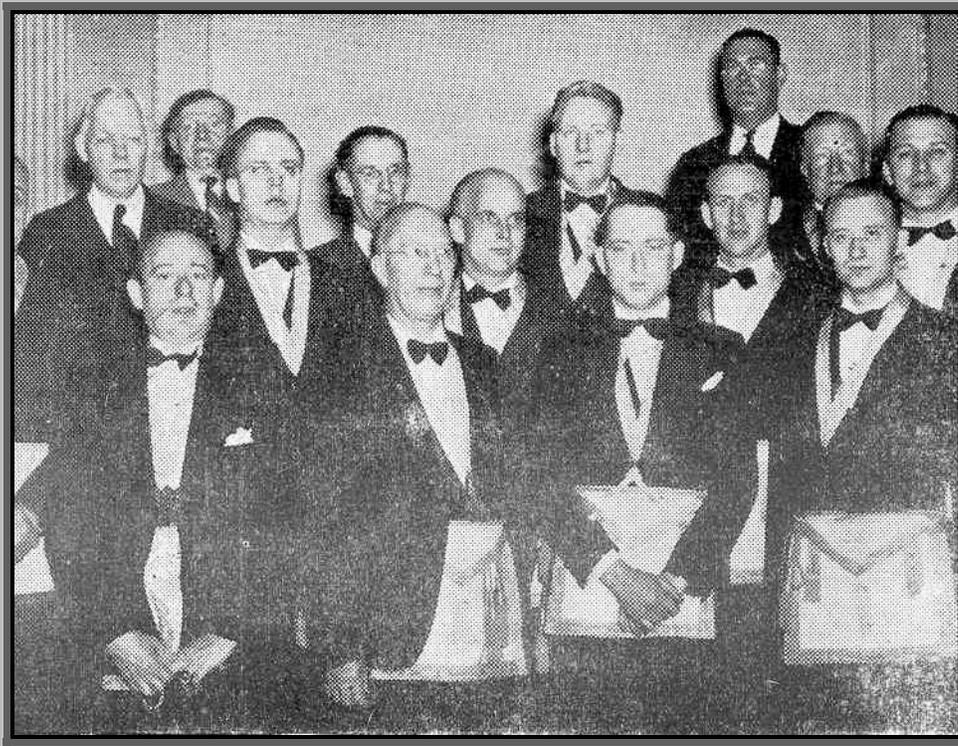
A service flag which was presented to the lodge by the Master was dedicated in May. Six men then serving in the armed forces were Lieut. Col. Henry E. Miller, Captain Harold I. Stetcher, Lieut. Robert F. Baker, Private Floyd L. Elmore. Flying Cadet George Gregory and Chief Pharmacist's Mate Wilfred A. Thunquest.

Since that time stars have been added for Captain Charles Solms, Private Chauncey F. Benton, Private Alfred Rheinshagen, Private Allen D. Seaman, Private Ralph L. Stratton.

A proposition to divide the Delaware-Sullivan Masonic District for the duration because of a shortage in gasoline and automobile tires was voted on by the lodge and rejected. The action of the lodge was reported by Bro. Benton when he and other Masters attended a special meeting called by Judge Advocate Bradford Butie the evening before the Grand Lodge session. Grand Lodge shortened its session from three to two days that year because of war conditions.

The lodge purchased a flag for the airplane observation post near the court house in Monticello.

Officers of Monticello Lodge

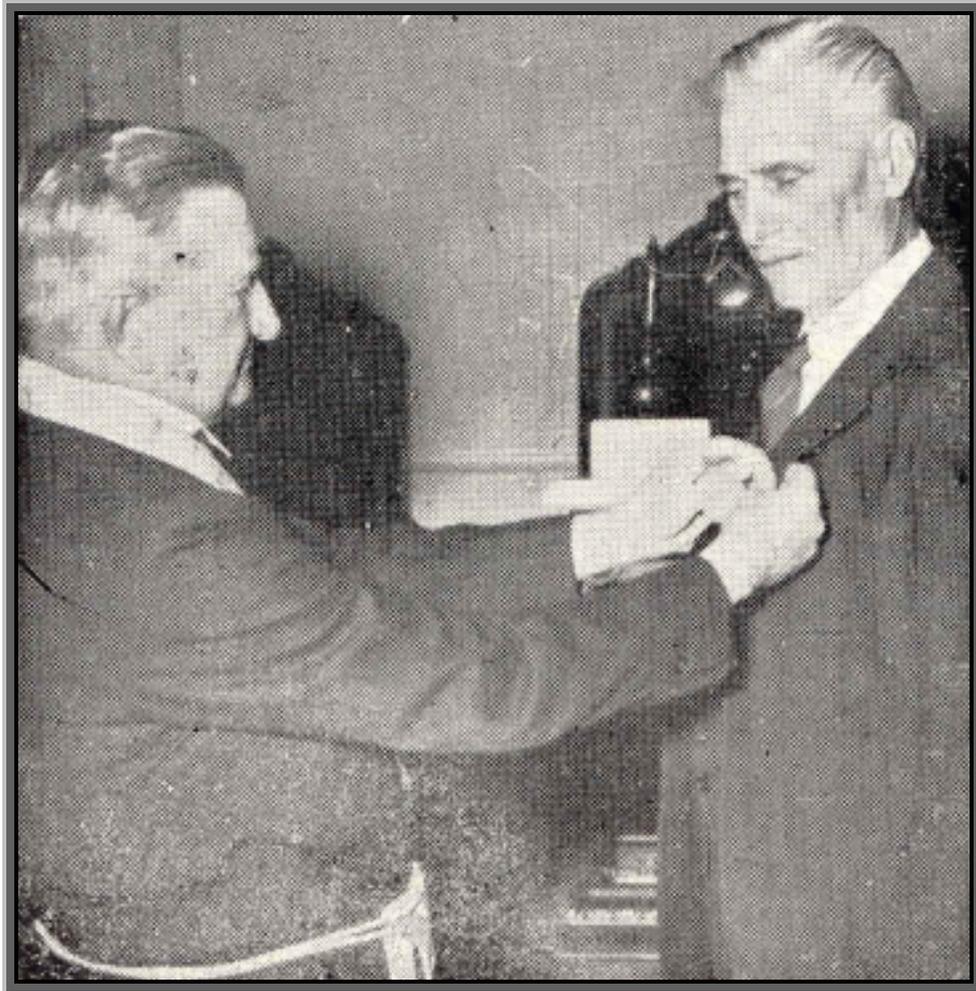


When the Monticello Lodge officers for 1942 were installed the United States had been engaged in war with the Axis forces only a month. The lodge was faced with an attendance problem which resulted from a shortage of automobile tires and gasoline. Activity of lodge officers and committees has overcome the problem, however, and attendance has been far better than expected. Above is a picture of the elected and appointed officers which was taken after they were installed in January.

From left to right, front row, are, Charles Atwell, Jr., organist; Samuel B. Levy, the retiring Master and Marshal; J. Maxwell Knapp, Senior Warden; Alvin D. Benton, Master; Frederick G. Bulken, Junior Warden. Second row, Clarence Maine, Secretary; William Yates, Senior Warden; Fred Durland, Senior Master of Ceremony; H. Lynden Hatch, Treasurer, and Charles Solms, Junior Deacon. Back row, William Gregory, Junior Steward; Wesley Durland, Tiler; Earl Stratton, Chaplain, and Leland Silvieus, Senior Steward.



Fifty-Two Year Members



One of the most happy events of the year 1942 was the presentation of a fifty-year Grand Lodge Service medal to Brother Reinzi Stratton of South Fallsburg.

The medal was presented by R.W. H. Lynden Hatch at the installation meeting in January. Bro. Stratton was entitled to the service medal in 1940 but it was not received until late in the Fall of 1941.

Bro. Stratton was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on a sweltering hot evening on August 22, 1890, in the lodge rooms which were then located over the old Daniel Pelton shoe store, then on the site of the present Bogner building on Broadway.

The oldest living member of Monticello, he remembers many pleasant evenings in the old lodge rooms.

During his fifty-two years of service he helped build the lodge's first temple in 1898, saw it destroyed by fire in 1909 and made his contribution toward the erection of the present structure.

He is a carpenter by trade and is the father of Wor. Bro. Earl A. Stratton. Pictured above Bro. Stratton is receiving the 50-year medal from R.W. H. Lynden Hatch.

Our Honored Brothers



GEORGE D. PELTON

Deputy Grand Master
Delaware-Sullivan District
1921



H. LYNDON HATCH

Deputy Grand Master
Delaware-Sullivan District
1908



CHARLES G. BURNS

Deputy Grand Master
Delaware-Sullivan District
1936



Grand Lodge Workers



EMORY STALKER

Representative of the Grand Lodge of
the State of Louisiana Near the Grand
Lodge of the State of New York
Assistant Grand Lecturer
1936, 1937, 1939, 1940 and 1941



LELAND W. SILVIEUS

Representative of the Grand Lodge of
the State of Louisiana Near the Grand
Lodge of the State of New York
Assistant Grand Lecturer
1936, 1937, 1939, 1940 and 1941

— ▼ —

Grand Lodge Service Man
1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941



In Memoriam

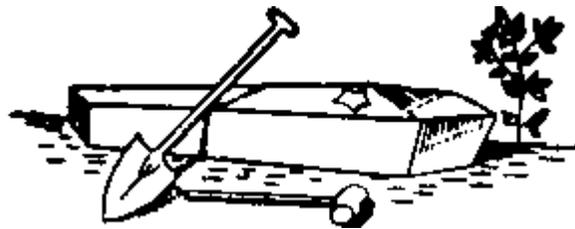
- A. J. Baldwin — November 22, 1866
N. Moulthrop — March 31, 1867
Fred'k A. Field — June 27, 1867
John C. Holley — January 29, 1868
Wm. H. McLean — October 15, 1868
Wm. F. Bowers — May 15, 1869
C. C. Raymond — October 1, 1869
Reuben K. Scudder — March 7, 1870
Seth M. Mitchell — November 27, 1871
A. J. Bush — February 28, 1872
Robert Tarteton — October 27, 1873
O. A. Carroll — Date unknown
M. Tonery — Date unknown
Amasa B. Potter — August 26, 1876
Jas. W. Tallman — March 11, 1878
Geo. N. Pratt — December 13, 1879
James C. Curtis — February 21, 1881
John McGarvin — February 23, 1883
Martin Hoar — 1886
Frank Hahn — May 30, 1888
Philander M. Avery — Dec. 31, 1888
LeGrand Morris — October 31, 1889
Seth B. Allyn — October 31, 1890
Charles H. Kerr — June 1, 1892
John J. Allyn — September 20, 1892
N. L. Stern — March 7, 1899
Samuel Mearns — April 2, 1900
George B. Waller — Sept. 27, 1901
Geo. O. Fraser — December 4, 1901
Daniel C. Pelton — June 16, 1902
Chas. H. Royce — July 19, 1903
Chas. W. Piper — August 10, 1903
Ben C. McMillen — February 29, 1904
Ellsworth LeRoy — November 18, 1904
Andrew G. Stafford — March 24, 1906
Reuben R. Jeliff — May 14, 1906
Harding T. Horton — June 15, 1906
John L. Evans — October 21, 1906
George W. Adams — February 1, 1907
George F. Perry — April 14, 1907
Andrew Dunn — November 27, 1907
Ridley C. Paine — February 2, 1908
Wm. Berrigan — June 28, 1908
John F. Simpson — November 3, 1908
- Albert C. Pagel — March 19, 1909
Samuel B. Green — May 10, 1909
Samuel A. Burtis — May 20, 1909
Robt. S. O'Neill — November 11, 1909
John D. O'Neill — December 3, 1909
Thomas Bates — January 8, 1910
John P. Roosa, Jr. — February 22, 1910
Wm. H. Spencer — April 4, 1910
Seth G. Carpenter — June 2, 1910
Geo. L. McLaughlin — August 15, 1910
Chas. S. Tuttle — October 25, 1910
John M. Seeley — September 5, 1912
Ernest G. Rundle — November 16, 1912
Geo. M. Wright — March 4, 1913
T. M. Maybee — March 10, 1913
T. N. O'Neill — March 13, 1913
W. I. Stecher — September 22, 1913
M. H. Couch — December 21, 1913
S. B. Smith — December 24, 1913
John J. Howard — March 11, 1914
Fred N. Robinson — March 29, 1914
Edwin H. Avery — May 3, 1914
Wm. M. O'Neill — May 14, 1914
E. Otto Neske — June 28, 1914
James A. Fulton — July 14, 1914
Ferdinand Wheeler — July 21, 1914
Charles L. Morris — August 1, 1914
George Millen — August 28, 1914
George Hill — October 2, 1914
Jas. H. Millspaugh — December 7, 1914
Geo. A. Mitchell — January 5, 1915
Robert J. Brome — March 29, 1915
James Gray — April 3, 1915
John E. Gray — April 22, 1915
Harvey F. Holmes — June 10, 1916
Alpheus A. Crain — July 24, 1916
Wm. J. Trobwardge — Sept. 8, 1916
Robert W. Carley — October 7, 1916
Wm. H. Case — January 25, 1917
Hobart L. Tremain — June 29, 1917
James Y. Parker — July 16, 1917
Paul W. Burdge — August 22, 1917
David S. Yeoman — September 9, 1917
Francis G. Sevenoak — Nov. 5, 1917

Charles S. Starr — Nov. 30, 1917
Jay Harper Bostwick — April 2, 1918
Carl L. Cook — June 11, 1918
Charles W. McClurg — Oct. 13, 1918
Robt. C. Brome — Oct. 17, 1918
Wm. W. Johnes — Jan. 22, 1919
Robert K. Bradley — March 8, 1919
Frederick W. Burns — July 5, 1919
John M. Watson — July 31, 1919
John C. Taylor — February 12, 1920
Samuel P. Lynch — February 13, 1920
Philip Kinney — May 28, 1920
John H. Smith — Nov. 3, 1920
George M. Gillett — April 8, 1921
Edward R. Ness — April 23, 1921
Thomas N. Kane — June 6, 1921
Andrew Mitchell — July 1.3, 1921
William L. Parish — September 6, 1921
Albert Zisset — September 8, 1921
Riley Cross — December 5, 1921
Ernest W. Kinne — January 22, 1922
Jos. J. Gerhardt — March 11, 1922
Daniel Smith — May 2, 1922
Harrison Beecher — July 13, 1922
John B. Armstrong — Nov. 29, 1922
Mack Allan — November 4, 1922
Marvin E. Gardner — December 4, 1922
Thomas Garner — January 22, 1923
Robert McNickle — May 10, 1924
Geo. W. Rockwell — Sept. 21, 1924
Joseph I. Stahl — October 19, 1924
George Armstrong — Dec. 24, 1924
Joseph D. Pierce — Dec. 24, 1924
Robert A. Whitaker — Jan. 12, 1925
Chas. H. Mapledoram — March 27, 1925
Daniel Downs — June 30, 1925
George B. Millspaugh — Sept. 20, 1925
Otis L. Stratton — April 25, 1926
Wm. B. McMillen — June 14, 1926
Wesley M. Culver — April 10, 1927
Fritz Ringer — July 18, 1927
Fred M. Linson — August 17, 1927
Seth G. Osborn — Sept. 16, 1927
George Loderhose — Jan. 5, 1928
Isaac Gorton — June 29, 1928
James A. Cauthers — Nov. 19, 1928
Roscoe T. Branch — Feb. 8, 1929
George H. Smith — March 8, 1928
George D. Smith — May 21, 1929

Reuben C. Strong — Aug. 12, 1929
John R. Bates — Dec. 8, 1929
Burnett H. Lefferts — Jan. 29, 1930
George D. Pelton — Feb. 20, 1930
Andrew Campbell — Oct. 4, 1930
Charles Winters — Nov. 2, 1930
George M. Merritt — Dec. 24, 1930
Charles A. Denniston — April 30, 1931
Irving W. Campbell — May 11, 1931
Charles G. Topping — July 28, 1931
John V. Ennis — Sept. 15, 1931
William H. Palmer — Nov. 18, 1931
Lincoln W. Lawrence — Dec. 17, 1931
George A. Orloff — April 11, 1932
Alexander Henry — May 4, 1932
William Albrecht — Oct. 12, 1932
Hobart Hill — Nov. 29, 1932
John A. Young — Jan. 5, 1933
Ernest H. A. Kiel — Jan. 25, 1933
Deighton D. Bishop — March 4, 1933
George F. George — April 12, 1933
Benjamin B. Decker — May 31, 1933
Derwood B. Tuttle — Aug. 22, 1933
George F. Gore — Sept. 16, 1933
Dr. W. S. Lyon — Jan. 23, 1934
Alva F. Ketchum — Jan. 28, 1934
Jos. S. Kile — Feb. 6, 1934
Frank Sanzone — March 16, 1934
Seth S. Pelton — April 12, 1934
Walter D. Smith — April 20, 1934
David S. Avery — May 31, 1934
Edward I. Ager — Aug. 21, 1934
Silas W. Demerest — April 11, 1935
Frank L. Brown — May 4, 1935
Fred Carlisle — Dec. 5, 1935
Melvin Osborn — Feb. 1, 1936
Bernard Harris — Feb. 3, 1936
Augustus S. Stone — Feb. 11, 1936
Walter H. Smith — March 9, 1936
McKee DuBois — March 25, 1936
Emery Jones — April 14, 1936
Sanford M. Starr — May 7, 1936
Benjamin T. Clark — June 15, 1936
Joseph VanBenschoten — Nov. 5, 1936
Alfred Wells — Nov. 27, 1936
Jacob Wierman — Dec. 19, 1936
Howland B. Roosa — May 19, 1937
John W. Eberlin — May 23, 1937
Charles Unkenholz — June 24, 1937

John T. Curtis — Oct. 8, 1937
Grant Lupton — June 3, 19, 1938
Harold C. Webb — Nov. 5, 1938
Harry M. Benedict — April 14, 1939
James G. VanVactor — May 13, 1939
Darius T. Drennon — Sept. 19, 1939
K. M. Reynolds — Dec. 15, 1939
George M. Margison — Jan. 7, 1940
William H. Moore — Feb. 15, 1940
Chester A. Stanton — June 10, 1940
Frank A. Howard — Nov. 9, 1940

George Palmer — Date unknown
Ralph B. Towner — Dec. 16, 1940
Harrison Stanton — April 6, 1941
Frank G. Robbins — May 23, 1941
George Pick — June 5, 1941
M. C. Duryea — Aug. 31, 1941
Elijah H. Moore — Oct. 30, 1941
Howard Beecher — Nov. 22, 1941
Isaac Levins — June 6, 1942
William Whittaker — Sept. 12, 1942



**Members of Monticello Lodge No. 532
Now Serving With the Armed Forces
In 1942**



MAJ. HENRY E. MILLER
CAPT. HAROLD I. STETCHER
CAPT. CHARLES SOLMS
C.P.M. WILFRED A. THUNQUEST
LIEUT. ROBERT F. BAKER
CADET GEORGE GREGORY
PVT. CHAUNCEY F. BENTON
PVT. ALFRED RHEINSHAGEN
PVT. ALLEN D. SEAMAN
PVT. FLOYD L. ELMORE
PVT. RALPH L. STRATTON

Write to these brothers as often as you find it possible – our secretary will gladly give you their addresses.

Members of Monticello Lodge		Date Raised or Affiliated	* Dropped ‡ Dimited † Died
Name, Occupation, Residence			
David G. Starr, Lawyer, Monticello		Charter Member	* 04-22-1881
James Matthews, Lawyer, Monticello		Charter Member	* 02-22-1884
Eli S. Pelton, Farmer, Monticello		Charter Member	* 04-22-1870
Solomon W. Royce, Hotel Monticello		Charter Member	* 04-30-1875
John A. Thompson, Lawyer, Monticello		Charter Member	* 04-22-1870
Lewis Dickinson, Carpenter, Monticello		Charter Member	* 04-22-1870
F. M. St. John, Gentleman, Monticello		02-25-1863	* 04-24-1874
Stephen W. Royce, Merchant, Monticello		02-25-1863	* 04-30-1875
A. J. Bush, Lawyer, Parksville		A 02-05-1863	† 02-28-1872
A. J. Wood, Hotel, Woodbourne		A 02-05-1863	† 01-10-1896
Charles R. Kelton, Painter, Monticello		A 02-05-1863	* 04-22-1881
Stephen Sweet, Hotel, Bethel		A 02-05-1863	† (1865)
David J. Knapp, Mechanic, Fallsburgh		02-28-1863	† 12-13-1872
Isaac C. Knapp, Farmer, Fallsburgh		02-28-1863	* 04-22-1870
Melvin S. Wells, Lawyer, Liberty		04-01-1863	* 04-24-1874
William Roper, Farmer, Cochection		08-07-1863	† (1865)
Jesse L. Towner, Merchant, Monticello		04-01-1863	* 04-30-1875
Reuben K. Scudder, Teacher, Woodbourne		04-15-1863	* 03-07-1870
O. E. Crandall, Merchant, Monticello		A 02-18-1863	* 04-28-1882
P. F. Perry, Inn Keeper, Mongaup Valley		A 02-18-1863	* 04-28-1876
Charles Meyers, Dealer, Monticello		A 02-18-1863	-----
John M. Seeley, Farmer, Fallsburgh		04-01-1863	* 09-05-1912
James E. Quinlan, Printer, Monticello		04-01-1863	* 04-22-1870
John B. Nixon, Teacher, Monticello		A 04-11-1863	† (1865)
F. W. Johnston, Merchant, Barryville		A 03-04-1863	* 04-24-1879
A. B. LeRoy, Farmer, Parksville		A 04-11-1863	* 04-22-1870
William A. Rice, Farmer, Glen Wild		A 03-04-1863	* 04-28-1876
James C. Curtis, Assessor, Cochection		A 03-04-1863	* 04-24-1870
John Milliken, Blacksmith, Woodbourne		04-15-1863	* 04-22-1870
N. L. Stern, Dealer, Monticello		04-25-1863	03-07-1899
F. Wheeler, Farmer, Thompson		A 04-01-1863	-----
N. W. Rumsey, Farmer, Monticello		A 04-01-1863	04-22-1870
C. S. Starr, Farmer, Monticello		A 04-01-1863	† 11-30-1917
Edwin Bowen, Merchant, Monticello		08-07-1863	* 04-22-1870
O. A. Carroll, Surgeon, Monticello		05-04-1863	-----
George W. Jones, Blacksmith, Woodbourne		08-07-1863	* 04-22-1870
G. O. Canfield, Physician, Barryville		08-07-1863	* (1909)
Jacob Depuy, Farmer, Woodbourne		08-07-1863	* 12-14-1888
Martin F. Merritt, Farmer, Woodbourne		08-07-1863	* 04-22-1870
H. A. Ennis, Merchant, Barryville		09-11-1863	04-25-1879

R. C. Shimeall, Jr., Clerk, Monticello	09-11-1863	*	(1865)
Albert Wyckoff, Gentleman, Monticello	09-11-1863	*	06-09-1868
George F. Perry, Physician, Glen Wild	09-11-1863	†	04-14-1907
George Lackner, Artist, Monticello	09-11-1863	*	04-27-1870
James S. Swan, Farmer, Mongaup Valley	09-11-1863	*	12-27-1889
George E. Swan, Merchant, Mongaup Valley	09-25-1863	*	04-24-1874
Thamas H. Niven, Carpenter, Monticello	11-18-1863	†	06-19-1868
Joseph R. Dodge, Carpenter, Monticello	11-18-1863	†	07-12-1872
Philander M. Avery, Blacksmith, Monticello	12-26-1863	†	12-31-1888
Harvey J. Sarles, Farmer, Monticello	12-26-1863	*	12-10-1897
Henry R. Osborne, Clerk, Monticello	01-23-1864	†	01-25-1867
James Williams, Merchant, Monticello	01-23-1864	*	04-24-1874
Sullivan H. Stephens, Clerk, Monticello	02-27-1864	*	04-24-1874
LeGrand Morris, Farmer, Monticello	03-19-1864	†	10-31-1889
Hiram Gumaeur, Farmer, Monticello	03-19-1864	*	03-03-1867

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Theodore Decker, Turner, Oakland	05-26-1882	*	12-23-1892
Melvin H. Couch, Lawyer, Monticello	07-14-1882	†	12-21-1913
Ira Martin, Hotel, So. Fallsburg	07-28-1882	*	12-25-1891
R. P. Schoonmacher, Agent, Fallsburgh	08-04-1882	*	12-14-1888
Samuel P. Lynch, Bookkeeper, Centerville	08-04-1882	*	12-14-1888
A. T. Ketchum, Carpenter, Oakland Valley	08-25-1882	†	28-34 [<i>sic</i>]
George B. Divine, Merchant, Hurleyville	11-10-1882	*	12-23-1892
Jehial Clark, Farmer, Bridgeville	02-27-1864	*	12-27-1889
William F. Bowers, Farmer, Glen Wild	03-19-1864	†	05-15-1869
John Billings, Miller, Fallsburgh	01-16-1864	*	12-25-1891
John H. Drake, Farmer, Sandburgh (§ = First Degree only)	§ 01-16-1864		-----
N. Moulthrop, Farmer, Kenoza Lake	12-14-1864	†	03-31-1867
Peter Millspaugh, Farmer, Bridgeville	05-14-1864	‡	04-02-1887
Milton Gray, Farmer, Thompsonville	08-13-1864	*	12-27-1889
Benjamin T. Clemence, Farmer, Thompson	05-28-1864	*	04-22-1870
Fred W. Burns, Blacksmith, Thompson	07-19-1864		-----
William Crandall, Hotel, Thompson	A 03-19-1864	‡	03-15-1867
Arch D. O'Neill, Drover, Thompson	04-30-1864	*	12-25-1891
Daniel Clark, Farmer, Bridgeville	04-16-1864	*	04-22-1870
Robert W. Carley, Farmer, Fallsburgh	08-31-1864	†	10-07-1916
Joseph Cook, Merchant, Monticello	A 04-09-1864	*	04-22-1870
Fred A. Field, Civil Engineer, Monticello	A 04-30-1864	†	06-27-1867
William H. Murphy, Bookkeeper, New York City	A 04-30-1864		-----
Joseph S. Westcott, Merchant, Morston	07-05-1865	†	05-17-1867
Reuben B. Towner, Hotel, Monticello	07-23-1869	*	04-24-1874
William H. Applebee, Farmer, Thompson	08-13-1864	‡	02-12-1869
Jackson Case, Mason, Thompson	08-18-1864	*	12-25-1891
James O'Neill, Farmer, Fallsburgh	08-31-1864	*	04-24-1874
John M. Prince, Farmer, Thompson	08-31-1864	*	12-23-1893

James W. Tallman, Mechanic, Wurtsboro	07-05-1865	†	03-11-1878
Charles W. Borland, Manufacturer, Thompsonville	01-25-1865		04-24-1874
D. S. Decker, Farmer, Liberty	01-25-1865	‡	03-24-1893
S.V. Velie, Farmer, Fallsburgh	02-16-1865	*	04-22-1870
George Gumaer, Farmer, Fallsburgh	08-16-1865	*	04-11-1866
John H. Drake, Teacher, Fallsburgh	12-17-1864		-----
Abram Osterhout, Farmer, Bethel	03-08-1865	*	04-30-1875
George A. Johnston, Farmer, Barryville	07-05-1865	*	04-22-1870
U.D. Wakeman, Merchant, Thompsonville	06-21-1865	*	04-24-1874
Lemuel F. Benedict, Farmer, Thompson	05-03-1865	‡	12-11-1876
James H. Millspaugh, Farmer, Thompson	04-19-1865	†	12-07-1914
Isaac Appleby, Farmer, Thompson	04-19-1865	*	04-22-1870
F.G. Snook, Teacher, Thompson	A 04-26-1865	†	11-05-1917
Thomas Mack, Minister, Liberty	A 04-26-1865	‡	09-11-1868
O.B. Grant, Farmer, Liberty	07-05-1865	‡	04-28-1871
John C. Holley, U.S. Official, Thompson	06-21-1865	†	01-29-1868
Seth B. Allyn, Farmer, Thompson	06-21-1865	†	10-31-1890
Hanson W. Davis, Clerk, Thompson	06-21-1865	‡	05-09-1888
A.J. Baldwin, Lawyer, Thompson	A 05-24-1864	†	11-22-1866
David C. Homan, Miller, Stevensville	08-16-1865	*	04-24-1874
Joel C. Fisk, Surveyor,	08-16-1865	‡	05-11-1917
Isaac F. Smith, Merchant, Phillipsport	08-16-1865	*	04-25-1879
John Wood, Hotel, Sandburgh	02-23-1866	*	04-22-1870
Charles Goldsmith, Farmer, Thompsonville	03-22-1867		-----
John, W. Conklin, Hotel, Mongaup Valley	12-07-1866	*	04-24-1874
Elias W. Sanford, Farmer, Bethel	02-28-1866	*	04-25-1879

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Floyd Pelton, Farmer, Monticello	03-10-1866	*	12-23-1898
August Rambour, Jeweler, Monticello	03-10-1866	*	12-22-1893
Henry Terwiliger, Hotel, Monticello	05-01-1866	*	04-22-1870
William Turner, Boatman, Monticello	05-10-1866	‡	01-14-1870
C. C. Raymond, Lawyer, Monticello	06-19-1868	†	10-01-1869
I. C. Bedford, Hotel, Monticello	05-01-1866	*	04-30-1875
I. A. Knevels, Wagon Mfg., Monticello	05-01-186	‡	02-14-1873
William H. McLean, Physician, Monticello	A 11-08-1865	†	10-15-1868
B. B. Donaldson, Millwright, Fallsburgh	A 02-14-1866	*	04-24-1874
Stoddard Norris, Farmer, Monticello	03-22-1867	*	12-22-1899
William H. McMullen, Laborer, Monticello	12-07-1866		-----
Thomas Robinson, Teacher, Liberty	01-11-1868	‡	03-06-1868
George M. Beebe, Printer, Monticello	02-22-1867	*	04-22-1881
Charles L. Morris, Merchant, Monticello	04-26-1867	†	08-01-1914
Lucius C. Hatch, Miller, Monticello	05-17-1867	*	04-24-1874
Daniel C. Pelton, Teacher, Monticello	05-17-1867	†	06-16-1902
Edwin Hardenberg, Farmer, Fallsburgh	A 04-26-1867	*	04-28-1876
Thomas M. Harder, Peddler, Monticello	11-08-1867	*	04-22-1870

John L. Evans, Tinsmith, Monticello		11-08-1867	†	10-21-1906
Darius, M. Stewart, Manufacturer, Neversink		06-25-1869	*	04-24-1874
Isaac M. Brown, Dentist, Monticello		11-08-1867	*	04-28-1876
Thomas Neil, Farmer, Monticello		11-08-1867	*	04-25-1879
Thomas Crary, Merchant, Parksville		11-01-1868	‡	02-26-1886
Cyrus Gray, Merchant, Parksville		11-01-1868	*	04-30-1875
George W. Bush, Lawyer, Parksville		11-01-1868	*	04-30-1875
Henry M. Sherwood, Landlord, Parksville		11-01-1868	*	04-28-1876
Amos B. Potter, Butcher, Monticello (§ = First Degree only)	§	12-13-1867	†	08-26-1876
Henry D. Coats, Farmer, Bethel		06-19-1868	*	04-25-1879
Oliver Fraser, Sullivan County		06-19-1868	*	01-09-1903
Nathan J. Sharp, Sullivan County		12-11-1868	‡	02-27-1880
Edwin W. Fox, Sullivan County		08-21-1868	‡	10-12-1888
Charles R. Gregory, Sullivan County		08-21-1868	‡	12-10-1897
Schuyler Duryea, Sullivan County		09-25-1868	*	12-87-1889
Efrium H. Gillett, Sullivan County		08-21-1868	*	1909
John G. Shindler, Sullivan County		09-25-1858	*	12-23-1892
Lyman Lirison, Sullivan County		08-21-1868	*	04-24-1874
John Burr, Sullivan County		08-21-1868	‡	03-27-1877
Benjamin Reynolds, Sullivan County		03-12-1869	*	04-28-1876
John H. Corby, Sullivan County		12-11-1868	‡	01-26-1894
Robert Bradley, Sullivan County		03-12-1869		Unknown
Ira Whipple, Sullivan County		02-12-1869	*	12-27-1889
John W. Johnston, Jr., Sullivan County		05-14-1869	*	04-24-1874
William A. Bradley, Sullivan County		03-12-1869	*	04-24-1874
William B. Niven, Lawyer, Monticello		01-29-1869	*	12-23-1898
Donald Thompson, Sullivan County		01-29-1869	‡	05-13-1887
Pehnius Stoddard, Sullivan County		05-14-1869	*	04-28-1876
Jacob Snyder, Sullivan County		05-14-1869	*	04-25-1879
John J. Allyn, Sullivan County	A	04-02-1869	†	09-20-1892
Seth M. Mitchell, Physician, Thompson	A	05-21-1869	†	11-27-1871
Seth S. Royce, Clerk, Thompson		06-25-1869	*	04-30-1875
Richard Gross, Miner, Mamakating		06-25-1869	‡	11-14-1890
R.B. Cooper, Artist, Thompson	A	05-16-1866	*	04-30-1875
DeWitt C. Sprague, Farmer, Thompson		07-23-1869	*	04-30-1875

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John J. Kortright, Farmer, Bethel		12-17-1869	‡	12-13-1872
Robert L. Trumain, Naval Officer, Thompson		11-05-1869	†	06-29-1917
Robert Morrison, Miller, Bethel		12-27-1869	‡	02-14-1873
Daniel Downs, Farmer, Thompson		07-23-1869	†	Unknown
Edwin F. Quinlan, Physician, Thompson		07-23-1869	*	12-27-1889
Philip H. Woolsey, Lumberman, Rockland (¶ Second Degree)	¶	10-31-1871		Unknown
Vicotry Champlin, Farmer, Neversink		12-17-1869	*	12-22-1905
Stephen Burr, Farmer, Bethel		04-15-1870	‡	03-28-1890
Bronson Robertson, Carpenter, Thompson		04-15-1870	‡	07-02-1875

Isa C. Berry, Hotel, Thompson	A	12-17-1869	*	04-28-1876
Ignatius Clineburgh, Farmer, Liberty		05-06-1870	*	04-30-1875
A.T. Pauley, Hotel, Highland		05-06-1870	*	04-22-1881
James Robertson, Carpenter, Thompson		04-15-1870	*	-----
David Watkins, Unknown, Unknown		10-07-1870	‡	02-12-1904
Nathan Federgreen, Unknown, Unknown		09-30-1870	*	12-23-1892
Robert Tarleton, Clergyman, Monticello		10-07-1870	†	-----
James L. Stewart, Lawyer, Monticello		11-25-1870	*	04-28-1876
Calvert King, Laborer, Fallsburgh		11-25-1870	*	04-24-1874
Henry A. Hendrix, Unknown		12-23-1870	*	04-28-1876
Charles Gildersleeve, Farmer, Forestburgh		04-28-1871	‡	02-11-1876
Thomas Bates, Unknown, Unknown		04-28-1871	†	01-08-1910
Oscar B. Seaman, Unknown, Unknown		10-27-1871	‡	05-24-1872
C. M. Rhodes, Unknown, Unknown		07-13-1871	*	04-30-1875
Maximilian Bastian, Unknown, Unknown		07-13-1871	‡	01-10-1873
George Parker, Unknown, Unknown		07-13-1871	*	04-28-1876
George H. Fisk, Unknown, Unknown		04-26-1872	‡	10-12-1882
William C. Bastian Unknown, Unknown		07-26-1872	‡	10-06-1876
Albert H. Robertson, Unknown, Unknown		01-26-1872	*	04-25-1879
William C. Bradey, Farmer, Bethel		05-23-1873	*	1909
Charles E. Finch, Marble Cutter, Monticello		07-24-1874	‡	10-14-1904
Robert J. Brown, Farmer, Fallsburgh		10-24-1873	†	03-29-1915
Charles Cooper, Farmer, Liberty		12-26-1873	*	04-28-1882
M. B. Hill, Railroad Agent, Liberty		12-26-1873	*	04-25-1879
Spencer Hardenberg, Lumberman, Liberty		05-24-1874	*	04-22-1881
William Hilliard, Hotel, Thompson		04-24-1874	*	12-25-1891
Charles B. Green, Farmer, Thompson	A	10-09-1874	*	04-25-1879
William R. Jelliff, Lawyer, Woodbourne		12-25-1874	†	05-14-1906
Frank Hahn, Hotel, Monticello		12-18-1874	†	05-30-1888
Michael Walter, Currier, Monticello		12-18-1874	*	12-25-189
Thomas M. Kane, Hotel Monticello		03-19-1875	†	06-06-1921
Harvey R. Daugherty, Clerk, Monticello		03-19-1875	‡	05-08-1888
Theodore Warren, Farmer, Fallsburgh		02-04-1876	*	12-28-1889
John McGarvin, R. R. man, Liberty		05-05-1876	†	02-23-1883
Samuel McWilliams, Unknown, Unknown	A	12-22-1876	‡	-----
James M. Black, Music, Teacher		07-13-1877	†	12-21-1938
Richard S. Oakley, Postmaster, Monticello (§ First Degree only)	§	01-22-1877	‡	09-28-1900
George N. Pratt, Minister, Monticello		03-18-1878	†	12-13-1879
John P. G. Smith, Bookkeeper, Gillmans		07-12-1878	*	04-22-1881
Isaac Gorton, Farmer, Monticello		04-25-1879	†	06-21-1928
George A. Mitchell, Cabinet Mfg., Monticello		03-28-1879	†	01-05-1915
William Berrigan, Unknown, Unknown		07-11-1879	†	06-28-1908
Frank B. Delaplaine, Clerk, Sullivan Co.		11-06-1882	‡	02-09-1883
DeWitt Morse, Unknown, Unknown		04-22-1881	*	04-10-1885
William, H. Palmer, Unknown, Unknown		04-08-1881	†	11-18-1931

George E. Parker, Butcher, Hurleyville	04-28-1882	* 12-28-1889
John M. Crispell, Wagon Maker, Hurleyville	06-23-1882	* 12-14-1888
George W. Dudley, Postmaster, Monticello	See note	‡ 01-27-1893
Henry S. Holley, Carpenter, Fallsburgh	10-27-1882	* 12-31-1895
George W. Adams, Laborer, Monticello	09-28-1882	† 12-01-1907
John Reiner, Undertaker, Liberty	07-13-1883	* 08-14-1906
Curtis L. Fisk, Clerk, Liberty	04-28-1883	* 12-22-1893
Martin Hoar, Bookkeeper, Gillmans Depot (§ First Degree only)	§ 04-25-1884	† 1886
Eleazer Everard, Tanner, Gillmans Depot	1868	‡ 02-22-1884
Harry F. Holmes, Clerk, Monticello	04-25-1885	† 06-10-1916
Andrew Campbell, Lumberman, Gillmans Depot	01-13-1888	† 10-04-1930
William O'Neill, Mason, Woodbourne	02-13-1885	† 05-14-1914
Bernett H. Lefferts, Salesman, Monticello	11-25-1904	† 01-29-1930
Stephen A. Cisco, Insurance, Monticello	11-21-1885	* 12-25-1891
Edwin N. Avery, Blacksmith, Fallsburgh	11-21-1885	† 05-03-1914
John R. Bates, Blacksmith, Monticello	06-11-1886	† 12-08-1929
Levy Warren, Railroading, Centerville	11-12-1886	† 12-27-1895
R.D. Clark, Merchant, So. Fallsburgh	06-28-1889	* 12-27-1907
Samuel Mearns, Deputy Sheriff, Monticello	07-08-1887	† 04-02-1900
W. G. Steele, Physician, Monticello	09-23-1887	* 12-22-1902
John R. Robinson, Physician, Woodbourne	01-13-1888	‡ 10-12-1888
John T. Simpson, Farmer, So. Fallsburgh	10-28-1887	† 11-03-1908
John P. Shaver, Dairyman, Cheyenne, U. (¶ Second Degree)	¶ 10-26-1888	-----
James E. VanHeusen, Farmer, Bethel	02-01-1889	* 12-25-1891
George Millsbaugh, Painter, Monticello	04-12-1889	† 10-20-1925
Charles H. Kerr, Barber, Monticello	02-14-1890	† 06-01-1892
Eugene Marrett, Farmer, Fallsburgh	04-11-1890	* 12-27-1907
John D. O'Neill, Hotel, So. Fallsburgh	04-25-1890	† 12-03-1909
George A. Waldorf, Hotel, Hurleyville	06-27-1890	* 12-22-1899
Ridley C. Paine, Physician, Bethel	05-30-1890	† 02-02-1908
Harding T. Horton, Blacksmith, Bethel	05-30-1890	† 06-15-1906
George Hill, Keeper, Monticello	05-30-1890	† 10-02-1914
George D. Bates, Blacksmith, Monticello	06-27-1890	* 12-22-1893
George H. Bullard, Furniture, Monticello	05-30-1890	* 12-22-1899
Robert S. O'Neil, Contractor, Fallsburgh	05-30-1890	† 11-11-1909
John N. Hall, Watchmaker, Liberty	06-27-1890	* 08-14-1896
Reinzi H. Stratton, Carpenter, Thompsonville	08-22-1890	-----
James A. Stratton, Farmer, Fallsburgh	08-22-1890	* 12-24-1915
Albert Reid, Physician, Woodbourne	09-25-1891	‡ 02-26-1904
James Osterhout, Furniture, Woodbourne	09-25-1901	* 12-31-1896
Ezra Prince, Hotel, Woodbourne	09-25-1891	* 12-28-1917
Joseph D. Pierce, Teacher, Woodbourne	01-08-1892	† 12-24-1924
Charles L. Porter, Merchant, So. Fallsburgh	02-05-1892	* 12-23-1893

David S. Avery, Sheriff, Monticello	01-15-1892	†	05-31-1924
George Armstrong, Livery, Monticello	01-08-1892	†	12-24-1924
James A. Cauthers, Physician, Monticello	01-08-1892	†	11-19-1928
Millan Misner, Laborer, So. Fallsburgh	06-24-1892	*	12-25-1903
George N. Gillette, Farmer, Glen Wild	06-24-1892	†	04-08-1921
Howland B. Roosa, Carpenter, Hurleyville	12-09-1892	*	12-31-1896
William H. Moore, Manufacturer, Forestburgh	12-09-1892	†	12-15-1940

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Jas. F. Callbreath, Jr., Insurance, Monticello	05-12-1893	‡	11-08-1895
A. Sniffen, Farmer, Glen Wild	10-12-1894	*	12-31-1896
Ellsworth Lervy, Hotel, So. Fallsburgh	05-12-1893	†	11-18-1904
Andrew Mitchell, Boarding, Monticello	06-09-1893	†	05-11-1921
Darius Depuy, Farmer, Woodbourne	07-28-1893	‡	11-24-1905
Ernest Wainright, Gloves, Monticello	07-28-1893	‡	09-08-1911
Robert C. Brome, Farmer, Fallsburgh	09-22-1893	†	10-17-1918
William K. Lain, Teacher, Monticello	10-01-1893	‡	01-22-1909
Frank Hahn, Barber, Liberty	01-11-1895	‡	05-09-1997
Thomas Garner, Farmer, Monticello	04-13-1894	†	01-22-1923
Clarence Smith, Hotel Clerk, Monticello	06-27-1894	‡	01-24-1896
Chas. H. Royce, Deputy Co. Clerk, Monticello	09-14-1894	†	07-10-1903
Robert McNickle, Farmer, Monticello	09-14-1894	†	05-10-1924
George O. Fraser, County Clerk, Monticello	11-09-1894	†	12-04-1901
Hobart Hill, Laborer, Monticello	02-22-1895	†	11-29-1932
William J. Garner, Printer, Monticello	02-22-1895	‡	12-14-1923
George E. Waller, Printer, Monticello	02-22-1895	†	09-08-1901
Philip Kinney, Clerk, Monticello	04-26-1895	†	05-28-1920
Adolph E. Rudolph, Harness Maker, Monticello	06-28-1895	*	12-25-1914
William H. Spencer, Foreman, Fallsburgh	06-28-1895	†	04-04-1910
Alonzo H. Gorman, Bridge Builder, So. Fallsburgh	12-13-1895	*	12-25-1907
John Lodge, Carpenter, Forestburgh	08-23-1895	*	12-25-1914
Jesse L. Perry, Teacher, Bethel	08-23-1895	*	12-22-1916
John H. Brown, Jr., Builder, Monticello	08-23-1895		-----
John Selleck, Well Driller, Monticello	08-23-1895	‡	01-26-1917
William H. Hahn, Barber, Monticello	08-23-1895	‡	12-22-1905
George M. Wright, Farmer, Neversink	02-14-1896	†	03-04-1913
Harry C. Wienant, Miller, Fallsburgh	12-13-1895	*	12-28-1917
D. Andrew, Dunbar, Merchant, Monticello	12-13-1895	‡	11-08-1901
Samuel B. Perry, Engineer, Bethel	04-10-1896	‡	06-14-1918
Robert C. Michael, Bridgeman, Fallsburgh	01-24-1896		-----
Harrison Beecher, Farmer, Monticello	11-13-1896	†	07-13-1922
Andrew J. Hammond, Merchant, Monticello	06-12-1896		-----
Andrew Dunn, Merchant, Monticello	06-12-1896	†	11-27-1907
George T. Carlisle, Salesman, Monticello	09-25-1896	*	12-25-1903
Edwin Y. LeFevre, Paper Mfg., Fallsburgh	06-25-1897	*	12-31-1940
George H. Smith, Lawyer, Monticello	06-25-1897	†	03-08-1929

David T. Howell, Clergyman, Monticello	A	05-28-1897	‡	12-19-1901
George L. McLaughlin, Insurance, Monticello		09-10-1897	†	08-15-1910
Edwin A. H. Rockwell, Hotel, Monticello		09-10-1897	-----	
John P. Roosa, Jr., Attorney, Monticello		09-10-1897	†	02-22-1910
Moses C. Duryea, P. O. Inspector, Monticello		10-15-1897	†	08-31-1941
Fred Carlisle, Merchant, Monticello		09-10-1897	†	12-05-1935
Arch B. Rosenstraus, Lumberman, Rock Hill		10-08-1897	-----	
Frank A. Howard, Hotel, Monticello		10-08-1897	†	11-09-1940
Albert C. Pagel, Farmer, So. Fallsburgh		10-08-1897	†	03-19-1909
Charles A. Denniston, Farmer, Glen Wild	A	09-10-1897	†	04-30-1931
Isaac D. Lain, Teacher, Monticello		11-12-1897	‡	01-22-1909
John A. Wilson, Grocer, Maplewood		11-12-1897	-----	
Daniel T. Hoffman, Boarding, White Lake		11-12-1897	*	12-27-1912
Samuel B. Green, Lawyer, Monticello		01-28-1898	†	05-10-1909
John C. Taylor, Merchant, Monticello		01-14-1898	†	02-13-1920
Seth G. Carpenter, Merchant, Monticello		01-14-1898	†	06-02-1910
Silas W. Demerest, Plumber, Monticello		01-14-1898	*	12-27-1918

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Alpheus A. Crain, Druggist, Monticello		01-14-1898	†	07-24-1916
Robert Allingham, Laborer, Monticello		03-25-1898	*	12-22-1895
David S. Yeoman, Retired, Monticello		05-13-1898	†	09-09-1917
Nathaniel Rosenstraus, Lumber, Rock Hill		05-13-1898	-----	
Sanford N. Starr, Carpenter, Monticello		05-13-1898	†	05-07-1936
Arthur T. Hatch, Miller, So. Fallsburg		11-11-1898	-----	
William E. Wright, Butcher, Sa. Fallsburg [<i>sic</i>]		06-24-1898	*	12-08-1922
Charles Winters, Butcher, So. Fallsburg		06-24-1898	†	11-02-1930
John E. Gray, Builder, White Lake		06-24-1898	†	04-22-1915
Alex Moore, Jr., Park Supt., Merriewold		12-09-1898	-----	
Frank A. Starr, R. R. Agent, Monticello	A	12-09-1898	*	12-22-1916
John S. Armstrong, Livery, Monticello		12-09-1898	-----	
Robert L. Jones, Livery, White Lake		10-13-1899	*	01-09-1903
Lewis A. Goldsmith, Clerk, White Lake		01-28-1899	-----	
Leander H. Durland, Livery, Monticello		02-11-1899	-----	
Frank E. Reynolds, Lineman, Monticello		01-28-1899	-----	
George W. Rockwell, Hotel, Monticello	A	05-13-1898	†	09-21-1924
Blake H. Bates, Copyist, Monticello		06-09-1899	-----	
George H. Goble, Carriages, Monticello		12-08-1899	*	12-31-1940
Fred M. Linson, Foreman, White Lake		10-13-1899	†	08-17-1927
John R. Rice, Farmer, Glen Wild		10-13-1899	*	12-25-1908
Alfred T. Tattam, Engineer, Wurtsboro		10-13-1899	-----	
George M. Merritt, Carpenter, Woodbourne		12-08-1899	†	12-24-1930
Paul W. Burdge, Publisher, White Lake		02-23-1900	†	08-22-1917
Jos. L. Johnson, Doctor, Monticello	A	11-10-1899	‡	12-14-1906
George F. George, Farmer, Monticello		05-11-1900	†	04-12-1933
Fred N. Robinson, Teacher, Monticello		09-14-1900	†	03-29-1914

Lincoln W. Laurence, Salesman, Hurleyville	09-14-1900	†	12-17-1931
Derwood B. Tuttle, Printer, Monticello	09-14-1900	†	08-22-1933
Walter G. Prince, Timekeeper, Monticello	09-14-1900		-----
Julius Briere, Farmer, Monticello	11-23-1900	*	12-24-1915
Stanley B. Smith, Jeweler, Monticello	11-23-1900	†	12-24-1913
Isaac Levens, Cigarmaker, Monticello	11-23-1900	†	06-06-1942
Hezekiah K. Reynolds, Policeman, Monticello	11-09-1900	†	12-15-1939
Fred Porter, Merchant So., Fallsburgh	A 08-24-1900	‡	01-10-1913
James Y. Parker, Hotel, Eldred	A 10-26-1900	†	07-16-1917
William E. Turney, Farmer, Monticello	02-22-1901	*	12-24-1915
H Lynden Hatch, Clerk, Monticello	02-22-1901		-----
Delbert W. Sherwood, Clerk, Monticello	02-22-1901	*	03-11-1904
Charles S. Tuttle, Carpenter, Monticello	04-26-1901	†	10-25-1910
Ernest G. Rundle, Clerk, Monticello	04-26-1901	†	11-16-1912
Daniel W. Purdy, Clerk, Monticello	04-26-1901		-----
Julius M. Dekay, Medical Student, Hurleyville	09-13-1901		-----
Hiram Harding, Carpenter, Monticello	09-13-1901		-----
Henry W. Whipple, Builder, Monticello	09-13-1901		-----
James S. Whipple, Builder, Monticello	12-13-1901	‡	-----
Charles G. Burns, Conductor, Monticello	12-13-1901		-----
Ben C. McMillen, Grocer, Monticello	12-13-1901	†	02-29-1904
Edwin F. Branning, Merchant, New York City	03-28-1902	‡	01-25-1907
Joseph Rosch, Jr., Lawyer, Wurtsboro	01-24-1902	‡	11-10-1905
Albert Zisset, Farmer, Monticello	A 02-22-1901	†	09-09-1921
J.F. Curlette, Physician, Mountindale	A 05-24-1901	*	04-27-1917
James A. Fulton, Merchant, Wurtsboro	A 10-25-1901	†	07-14-1914
Samuel A. Burtis, Farmer, Rock Hill	06-27-1902	†	05-20-1909

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Lamont C. Mitchell, Undertaker, Monticello	06-27-1902		-----
Wm. H. Holmes, Law Student, Monticello	06-27-1902		-----
Andrew G. Stafford, Druggist, Monticello	08-22-1902	†	03-24-1906
Elijah H. Moore, Carpenter, Yulan	09-12-1902	†	10-30-1941
Fredk. D. Heyen, Farmer, Barryville	09-12-1902	*	12-08-1922
Wm. L. Burnham, Carpenter, So. Fallsburgh	10-24-1902		-----
Royal H. Reynolds, Clerk, Luzon	10-24-1902	*	12-27-1907
Frank E. Mitteer, Butcher, Luzon	10-24-1902		-----
Chas. W. Piper, Physician, Wurtsboro	10-24-1902	†	08-10-1903
Chas. G. Topping, Station Agent, Luzon	10-24-1902	†	07-28-1931
John M. Yeager, Salesman, Monticello	11-14-1902	*	12-31-1930
Chas. B. Campbell, Bank Clerk, Mountindale	02-13-1903	‡	02-12-1904
Frank Hunter, Blacksmith, White Lake	02-13-1903		-----
Theron R. Bradley, Druggist, Monticello	02-19-1903		-----
John M. Watson, Insurance, Monticello	A 04-25-1902	†	-----
John B. Armstrong, Clerk, Monticello	02-13-1903	†	11-29-1922
John D. Lyons, Lawyer, Monticello	04-24-1903		-----

Wm. J. Trowbridge, Farmer, Kiamesha	04-24-1903	†	09-08-1916
Chas. H. Stage, Jr., Druggist, Monticello	09-11-1903	‡	11-01-1919
Chas. H. Mapledoram, Mail Clerk, Monticello	10-09-1903	†	03-27-1925
Wm. W. Carpenter, Clerk, Monticello	10-09-1903	-----	
Bert Wyant, Jr., Tacker, Monticello	10-09-1903	-----	
Walter H. Smith, Butcher, Monticello	11-25-1903	†	03-09-1936
H. Blake Stratton, Postmaster, Monticello	11-25-1903	*	12-28-1917
William W. Johnes, Merchant, Monticello	03-11-1904	*	-----
Walter D. Smith, Merchant, Monticello	03-11-1904	†	04-20-1934
Eli F. Rundle, Laundry, Monticello	03-11-1904	-----	
Seth G. Osborn, Dentist, Monticello	05-13-1904	†	09-16-1927
Melvin Osborn, Merchant, Monticello	07-18-1904	†	02-01-1936
Francis R. Hill, Contractor, Centerville	11-25-1904	*	12-24-1909
William F. Curlette, Farmer, Mountaindale	11-25-1904	-----	
Arthur C. Kyle, Clerk, Monticello	05-26-1905	-----	
Gavin R. McCoach, Carpenter, Tuxedo	04-14-1905	‡	11-10-1911
Gilbert P. Marble, Salesman, Hurleyville	04-28-1905	*	12-31-1935
George D. Smith, Carpenter, Hurleyville	05-24-1905	†	05-21-1929
Deighton D. Bishop, Well Driller, Monticello	04-28-1905	†	03-04-1933
Ralph B. Towner, Merchant, Monticello	07-14-1905	†	12-16-1940
George Sloan, Farmer, White Lake	12-08-1905	‡	01-13-1932
Philip S. Harris, Farmer, Monticello	10-27-1905	*	12-08-1922
John W. Eberlin, Carpenter, Kiamesha	12-08-1905	†	05-23-1937
John J. Howard, Blacksmith, So. Fallsburgh	10-27-1905	†	03-11-1914
Rush C. Ross, Plumber, Monticello	12-08-1905	-----	
Seth G. Pelton, Farmer, Monticello	12-08-1905	†	04-12-1934
Chas. W. McClurg, Chef, Hurleyville	05-25-1906	†	10-13-1918
Chas. G. Royce, Contractor, Monticello	03-23-1906	-----	
Riley Cross, Laborer, So. Fallsburgh	05-25-1906	†	12-05-1921
Edward Ager, Blacksmith, So. Fallsburgh	05-25-1906	†	08-21-1934
William R. Mitchell, Farmer, White Lake	07-13-1906	*	12-14-1923
Wm. E. F. Behrens, Hotel, Monticello		-----	
Benj. N. Bell, Carpenter, N. White Lake	07-13-1906	-----	
George Miller, Liveryman, N. White Lake	01-11-1907	†	08-28-1914
Washington Bailey, Merchant, Kiamesha	07-13-1906	*	12-28-1917
William Bonnell, Clerk, Hurleyville	01-11-1907	*	12-28-1917
Arba W. Fayerweather, Merchant, N. White Lake	01-11-1907	*	12-31-1937
Levi Countryman, Carpenter, N. White Lake	01-11-1907	-----	

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Walter S. Stecher, Clergyman, Monticello	A	02-23-1906	†	09-23-1913
George C. Gould, Physician, Bethel		03-22-1907	‡	
Chas. F. Hogencamp, Carpenter, White Lake		07-26-1907	*	12-25-1914
John Naylor, Undertaker, Bethel		07-26-1907	-----	
Norman M. Misner, Teacher, Woodbourne		07-26-1907	-----	
James Mairs, Retired Policeman, Monticello		07-26-1907	*	12-31-1931

E. Alto Neske, Prof. of Music, Monticello	A	01-11-1907	†	06-28-1914
James Gray, Creamery, Centreville		02-28-1908	†	04-03-1915
Ernest W. Kinne, Justice, Centreville		02-28-1908	†	01-22-1922
Frederic L. Stratton, Engineer, Monticello		02-28-2908		-----
Frank P. Stoddard, Engineer, Monticello		04-10-1908	*	12-31-1937
John F. Kitchen, Jr., Agent, Centreville		04-10-1908		-----
Chester A. Stanton, Druggist, Wurtsboro		04-10-1908	†	06-10-1940
George Loderhose., Merchant, Monticello		05-22-1908	†	01-05-1928
Augustine J. Walsh, Dentist, White Lake		05-22-1908		-----
George D. Pelton, Merchant, Monticello		05-22-1908	†	02-20-1930
George F. Gore, Foreman, Monticello		05-22-1908	†	09-16-1933
John T. Curtis, Fruit Broker, Hurleyville		11-13-1908	†	10-08-1937
John Townsend, Supervisor, Bethel	A	12-25-1908		-----
Fred H. Carpenter, Clerk, Monticello		04-09-1909		-----
Geo. E. Terwilliger, Engineer, So. Fallsburgh		04-09-1909		-----
LeRoy R. Robinson, Clerk, Monticello		04-23-1909		-----
George W. Scott, Theatrical Mgr., So. Fallsburgh		07-23-1909	*	12-31-1937
Jacob M. Maybee, Counsellor at L., Monticello		11-12-1909	†	03-10-1913
Van Hornbeck, Insurance, Monticello		11-12-1909		-----
Melvin Harris, Farmer, Monticello		02-25-1910	*	12-31-1934
Charles T. Neumann, Policeman, Hartwood		02-25-1910	‡	04-11-1913
Irving W. Campbell, Carpenter, Forestburgh	A	02-25-1910	†	05-11-1931
William W. Pelton, Lineman, Monticello		04-08-1910		-----
Carl L. Cook, Telegrapher, So. Fallsburgh		04-08-1910	†	06-11-1918
William D. Labagh, Merchant, Hurleyville		07-08-1910		-----
Albert W. Keating, Jr., Merchant, Hurleyville		07-08-1910	*	12-31-1932
Charles H. Corwin, Engineer, So. Fallsburgh		07-08-1910		-----
Thornton N. O'Neill, Farmer, So. Fallsburgh		07-08-1910	†	03-13-1913
Frank G. Robbins, Hatter, Oakland Valley		11-25-1910	†	05-23-1941
William H. Case, Farmer, Oakland Valley		11-25-1910	†	01-25-1917
George A. Griffin, Farmer, Oakland Valley		11-25-1910		-----
Augustus S. Stone, Hotel, Monticello		11-25-1910	†	02-11-1936
Henry J. Neumann, Policeman, Tuxedo Park		12-05-1910	*	12-11-1926
Thomas Poley, Tile Layer, Maplewood	A	02-24-1911	‡	01-24-1919
Emery Jones, Telegrapher, So. Fallsburgh		02-24-1911	†	04-14-1936
Ezekiel A. Pickard, Foreman, Monticello		06-23-1911	‡	02-22-1918
Charles S. Lambie, Eng. & Contr., Monticello		06-23-1911	‡	02-22-1918
George H. York, Barber, Monticello		06-23-1911		-----
George N. Hembdt, Trucking, Monticello		08-25-1911		-----
George O. Woodelton, Clerk, Monticello		08-25-1911	*	12-31-1937
Arthur A. Thornhill, Baggage Agent, So. Fallsburgh		08-25-1911		-----
Melvin Loring, Carpenter, Monticello (§ First Degree only)	§	-----		-----
Frank L. Brown, Theatrical Bus., Monticello		12-08-1911	†	05-04-1935
Ellsworth Baker, Lawyer, Hurleyville		12-08-1911		-----
Joseph S. Kile, Feed Merchant, Hurleyville		12-08-1911	†	02-06-1924

Robert T. Sailman, Civil Engineer, Bridgeville	12-08-1911	-----
Marvin E. James, Principal, Monticello	A 12-08-1911	-----
John H. Hess, Manager, Monticello	A 01-26-1912	-----

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Roy Leslie Holmes, Music Director, Monticello	02-23-1912	
Charles Grant, Traveling Salesman, Monticello	02-23-1912	* 12-24-1924
David Lee Lounsbury, Merchant, Hurleyville	02-23-1912	* 12-31-1937
Clarence Baker, Law Student, Hurleyville	02-23-1912	* 12-27-1918
Roy F. Carpenter, Clerk, Monticello	07-25-19 [sic]	‡ 05-08-1925
Philip E. Keating, Clerk, Hurleyville	05-24-1912	‡ 05-11-1917
Herbert H. Shannon, Signal Maintenance, So. Fallsburgh	05-24-1912	-----
John H. Smith, Retired, Monticello	A 06-14-1912	† 11-03-1920
Luis deHoyos, Translator, Monticello	07-12-1912	-----
William Albrecht, Jr., Garage, Monticello	12-13-1912	† 10-12-1932
Joseph J. Gerhardt, Hotel, Monticello	A 01-10-1913	† 03-11-1922
Chester A. Osborn, Merchant, Monticello	03-14-1913	-----
Charles W. Hunt, Farmer, Middletown	04-14-1913	-----
Edward R. Ness, Signal Foreman, So. Fallsburgh	03-14-1913	† 04-23-1921
John Quick, Foreman, N. White Lake	03-14-1913	-----
Robert A. Whitaker, Farmer & Lum., Rio	06-13-1913	† 01-12-1925
Chester F. Whitaker, Farm. & Car., Rio	06-13-1913	-----
Louis Roy Moore, Carpenter, Merriewold	06-13-1913	‡ 04-14-1916
Harry Wilson Moore, Carpenter, Merriewold	06-13-1913	* 12-31-1931
Fred Jas. McMorris, Operator & Agent, St. Josephs	06-13-1913	-----
Ralph S. Breakey, Medical Student, Monticello	08-29-1913	-----
Patrick Taccard, Barber, Monticello	08-29-1913	‡ 09-10-1915
Harvey J. Tappen, Farmer, Kiamesha	10-24-1913	-----
Benigno deHoyos, Translator, Monticello	10-24-1913	* 12-31-1934
Alonzo A. Calkin, Monticello	-----	-----
Frank L. Smith, Teacher, Monticello	A 02-13-1914	-----
John C. Metzger, Salesman, Yulan	A 03-27-1914	-----
Daniel Jerome Reardon, Clerk, Wurtsboro	10-09-1914	* 12-09-1927
Lewis N. Stanton, Law Clerk, St. Josephs	10-09-1914	* 12-14-1923
Cornelius A. Reardon, Chauffeur, Wurtsboro	10-09-1914	* 12-08-1922
William H. Dill, Clerk, Monticello	-----	* 12-31-1937
Robert W. Warren, Railroad, Centerville Sta.	11-27-1914	-----
Louis K. Rumsey, Clerk, Monticello	11-27-1914	-----
Fred M. Rice, Insurance, Monticello	03-26-1915	* 12-22-1916
Herman Albrecht, Chauffeur, Monticello	01-22-1915	-----
Robt. E. Vredenburgh, Assistant Manager, Thompsonville	01-22-1915	* 12-31-1937
Herbert E. Hess, Auto Machinist, Monticello	03-26-1915	-----
George V. Palmer, Garage, Monticello	06-25-1915	† 07-14-1941
Robert W. Stirrat, Mail Carrier, Monticello	06-25-1915	‡ 03-23-1923
Samuel Wilson Poley, Farmer, Maplewood	07-23-1915	-----
Aaron Richard Lief, Minister, So. Fallsburgh	-----	-----

Ralph L. Smith, Student, Monticello	12-29-1915	-----
Frank R. Silvieus, Barber, Monticello	12-29-1915	-----
Morris Perlman, Civil Engineer, Monticello	12-29-1915	* 12-31-1936
Philip H. Kreuder, Painter, Monticello	A 03-10-1916	-----
Alexander Henry, Janitor, Monticello	04-28-1916	† 05-04-1932
John S. Mearns, Printer, Monticello	04-28-1916	-----
Robert J. Potter, Teacher, Monticello	04-28-1916	-----
Mack Allen, Painter, Monticello	04-28-1916	† 11-04-1922
Walter C. Hudler, Jr., Lineman, Monticello	06-23-1916	-----
Ralph S. Osborn, Auto Salesman, Monticello	06-23-1916	-----
Daniel Smith, Contractor, Monticello	06-23-1916	† 05-02-1922
William Gettel, Liveryman, N. White Lake	10-27-1916	* -----
Henry G. Calhoun, Clerk, Monticello	10-27-1916	-----
J. Stanton Ennis, Merchant, Monticello	10-27-1916	-----

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Roscoe T. Branch, Garage, Monticello	A 12-08-1916	† 02-08-1929
William A. Smith, Asst. Paymaster, Oakland Valley	12-08-1916	‡ 03-21-1927
John V. Ennis, Plumber, Monticello	12-08-1916	† 09-15-1931
Gilford B. Armstrong, Machinist, Monticello	12-08-1916	* 12-31-1931
Joseph I. Stahl, Lawyer, Monticello	12-08-1916	† 10-19-1924
William L. Parish, Milk Dealer, Monticello	03-23-1917	† 09-09-1921
Frank G. Mitchell, Clerk, Monticello	03-23-1917	* 03-25-1921
Charles H. Ebinger, Clerk, Monticello	03-23-1917	* 12-31-1934
Jay Harper Bostwick, Civil Eng., Monticello	05-11-1917	† 04-02-1918
John Pelton Mapes, Farmer, Monticello	07-27-1917	-----
Leland Ward Silvieus, Farmer, Monticello	07-27-1917	-----
Sanford W. Silvieus, Farmer, Monticello	07-27-1917	-----
Robert Stafford York, Drug Clerk, Monticello	07-27-1917	-----
Ralph Gordon Moore, Carpenter, Monticello	10-30-1917	-----
William Hill, Clerk, Monticello	02-25-1918	-----
Homer S. Silkworth, Telegraph Op., Merriwold, N. Y., Camp Wadsworth, S. C.	05-13-1918	* 12-09-1927
Delmont R. Race, P. O. Clerk, Monticello	07-26-1918	-----
George H. Carr, R. E. & Ins., Monticello	07-26-1918	* 12-31-1930
Wesley G. Durland, Candy Business, Monticello	07-26-1918	-----
James A. Dunn, Auto Business, Monticello	07-26-1918	* 12-09-1927
George W. Budd, Minister, Glen Wild	10-11-1918	* 12-14-1923
Arthur H. Atwell, Standard Oil Co., So. Fallsburgh	10-11-1918	* -----
Elmer J. VanKeuren, Stand. O. Co., N. White Lake	10-11-1918	‡ 06-06-1921
Frank J. Armstrong, Banker, Monticello	10-22-1918	-----
James Rikoon, Farmer, Hurleyville	01-24-1919	‡ 06-24-1938
John Jenkins. Ins. Agent, Monticello	05-23-1919	* 12-31-1937
Willard Ray Elmore, Farmer, So. Fallsburgh	07-11-1919	-----
Edwin N. Gerkin, Clerk, Newburgh	05-23-1919	‡ 09-10-1920
Albert R. Gerkin, Farmer, Newburgh	05-23-1919	‡ 09-10-1920

William S. Walker, Laborer, Woodridge	07-11-1919	*	12-09-1927
Samuel B. Levy, Merchant, Monticello	05-23-1919	-----	
David W. Fraser, Farmer, Monticello	07-11-1919	-----	
Geo. H. C. Beyea, Keeper, P. Farm, Thompsonville	07-11-1919	-----	
Jay Pelton, Farmer, Monticello	06-09-1920	-----	
Henjamin H. Porson, Exporter, New York City	10-10-1919	-----	
Charles Levy, Merchant, Monticello	12-12-1919	-----	
Elmer L. Bennett, Clerk, New York City	10-10-1919	*	12-31-1936
Harold E. LeRoy, Tailor, Lancaster, Pa.	01-09-1920	*	12-31-1930
Chester P. Stanton, O. & W., Clerk Wurtsboro	11-28-1919	-----	
Geo. W. Bradenburgh, U. S. Ser., Wurtsboro	11-28-1919	-----	
Harold M. Stanton, Garage, Wurtsboro	11-28-1919	-----	
Harrison H. Stanton, Accountant, Wurtsboro	11-28-1919	†	04-16-1941
John James Stanton, Merchant, Wurtsboro	11-28-1919	-----	
William T. Lee, Farmer, Wurtsboro	12-12-1919	*	12-11-1925
Jacob A. Wireman, Farmer, Wurtsboro	12-12-1919	†	12-18-1936
Edward L. Wilkinson, Station Boss, Wurtsboro	12-12-1919	*	12-31-1937
Wesley M. Culver, Painter, Wurtsboro	12-12-1919	†	04-10-1927
Walter S. Lyons, Dentist, Rock Hill	A 12-27-1918	†	01-23-1934
Benjamin B. Decker, Auto Mach., Monticello	04-09-1920	†	05-31-1933
Frederick Golterman, Bookkeeper, Monticello	04-09-1920	-----	
Harry E. Allen, Laundryman, Monticello	04-09-1920	-----	
Walter R. Pelton, Bank Clerk, Monticello	04-09-1920	-----	
Harold J. Hifton, Express Agent, Monticello	04-09-1920	*	12-14-1928

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John A. Young, Trapper, Merriewold	05-28-1920	†	01-05-1933
P. H. Currier, Actor, Monticello	A 01-23-1920	-----	
Edward P. Schroeder, Ship. Clerk, Monticello	05-28-1920	-----	
Floyd P. Brown, Plumber, Monticello	02-25-1921	-----	
Ralph Pelton, Clerk, Monticello	05-28-1920	-----	
William H. Hoose, Butcher, Monticello	05-28-1920	-----	
James H. Millspaugh, Phone Op., Monticello	05-25-1920	-----	
Raymond E. Hatch, Bookkeeper, Monticello	06-11-1920	*	12-31-1934
Douglas R. Hill, Clerk, Monticello	06-11-1920	*	12-31-1931
George R. Hill, Clerk, Monticello	06-11-1920	*	12-31-1931
James E. Hill, Clerk, Monticello	05-28-1920	-----	
Aguila B. Marshall, Jr., U. S. A., New York City	06-25-1920	*	-----
Otis L. Stratton, Mechanic, Monticello	09-10-1920	†	04-25-1936
William Schroeder, Clergyman, Monticello	06-11-1920	‡	10-06-1924
William R. Alley, Teacher, Monticello	02-25-1921	-----	
J. Maxwell Knapp, Lawyer, Hurleyville	06-25-1920	-----	
Leslie H. Prince, Merchant, Hurleyville	06-25-1920	*	12-31-1934
Marvin E. Gardner, Ins. Agent, Hurleyville	06-25-1920	†	12-04-1922
Darius L. Drennon Merchant, Bushville	06-25-1920	†	09-15-1939
Augustus B. Findlay, P. O. Clerk, Monticello	A 08-12-1920	*	12-31-1934

Kenneth G. Ross, School, Monticello	09-10-1920	*	12-31-1937
Ralph W. Coddington, Carpenter, Rock Hill	09-10-1920	-----	
James Bishop, Chauffeur, Monticello	09-10-1920	-----	
Arthur C. Sniffin, Machinist, Glen Wild	02-25-1921	‡	05-25-1928
Leon Q. Brooks, Teacher, Monticello	11-12-1920	*	12-31-1940
Floyd L. Brown, Electrician, Monticello	11-12-1920	-----	
Frederick B. Alexander, Salesman, Merriewold	03-09-1922	‡	-----
John A. Kopp, Teacher, Haven	12-17-1920	-----	
Harry Northrup, Creamery, Wurtsboro	12-17-1920	*	12-31-1934
William N. Jacobus, Salesman, Wurtsboro	12-17-1920		12-31-1934
Arthur J. Morsch, Grocer, Wurtsboro	12-17-1920	-----	
Gordon M. Raymond, Laborer, Monticello	02-25-1921	-----	
Harry V. Foster, Clerk, Monticello	05-23-1921	-----	
Joseph Von Benschoten, Teleg. Op., Wurtsboro	05-23-1921	†	11-04-1926
Bruce Misner, Papermaker, Fallsburg	05-23-1921	*	06-26-1925
Henry E. Miller, Chemist, Monticello	A 03-25-1921	-----	
Harry V. Smith, Clerk, Monticello	05-23-1921	‡	05-14-1926
Bertram H. Priest, Farmer, Harris	09-23-1921	*	12-14-1928
George H. Darling, Clerk, Monticello	09-23-1921	*	12-31-1934
Lewis B. Strong, Clerk, Monticello	11-25-1921	*	12-31-1936
Alfred A. Gillispie, Merchant, Bethel	11-25-1921	-----	
Samuel Nerrie, Supt. A&P Stores, Monticello	A 01-27-1922	-----	
Luke Davies, Farmer, Rock Hill	02-24-1922	*	12-31-1937
Reuben C. Strong, Merchant, Monticello	02-24-1922	†	08-12-1929
Eugene Brock, Salesman, Monticello	02-24-1922	-----	
Earl H. Hamilton, Chemist, Monticello	05-12-1922	-----	
David Mearns, Plumber, Monticello	05-12-1922	-----	
James Hindley, Plumber, Monticello	05-12-1922	*	12-31-1939
Frank C. Taylor, Merchant, Monticello	05-12-1922	-----	
William J. Denman, Mail Service, So. Fallsburgh	05-12-1922	*	12-09-1927
William Eberhard, Chauffeur, Monticello	05-12-1922	-----	
Clarence Maine, Chemist, Monticello	05-12-1922	-----	
Raymond H. Wheeler, Electrician, N. White Lake	05-12-1922	-----	
Albert F. Barber, Mail Carrier, White Lake	05-12-1922	-----	
Frank Sanzone, Barber, Monticello	06-23-1923 [sic]		03-16-1934
Sanford Case, Carpenter, Rock Hill	06-23-1922		

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Harry Donaldson, Carpenter, Bethel	06-23-1922	-----	
Howard Y. Pelton, Farmer, Monticello	06-23-1922	-----	
Robert Davies, Farmer, Rock Hill	06-23-1922	-----	
Fred W. Sniffin, Stand. Oil Co., So. Fallsburgh	11-24-1922	-----	
George A. Townsend, Newspaper, Monticello	04-13-1923	*	12-14-1928
George A. Orloff, Merchant, Monticello	11-24-1922	†	04-11-1932
Fritz Ringer, Barber, Monticello	11-24-1922	†	07-18-1927
Ralph E. Masten, Painter, Monticello	11-24-1922	-----	

John A. Hopkins, State Trooper, Monticello	A	12-08-1922	-----
Emiliano Gonzalez, Student, Monticello		02-09-1923	-----
Fred M. Parker, Clerk, Monticello		02-09-1923	* 12-31-1934
Arthur W. Merritt, Banker, Woodridge		02-09-1923	-----
Charles E. Carr, Mechanic, Woodridge		02-09-1923	* 12-31-1931
Ernest D. Ratcliff, Mechanic, Hurleyville		04-13-1923	* 12-31-1934
Harold I. Stetcher, Electrician, Monticello		04-13-1923	-----
Charles Unkenholz, Farmer, Monticello		04-13-1923	† 06-24-1937
Edward J. Cavender, Engineer, Kiamesha Lake		04-13-1923	* 12-31-1934
John H. Woodrow, Salesman, Bedford, Ohio		04-13-1923	-----
Emil Motl, Architect, Monticello	A	04-13-1923	-----
Thomas J. Calhoun, Monticello		11-23-1923	* 12-31-1937
Benjamin T. Clarke, Blacksmith, Woodbourne		11-23-1923	† 06-15-1936
Geo. P. Schneible, Jr., Electrician, Monticello		02-08-1924	-----
Carl F. J. Weber, Ret. Merchant, Yankee Lake		02-08-1924	-----
Harry G. Allen, Mgr. Texas Oil Co., Monticello		02-08-1924	-----
DeWitt C. Brown, Painter, Rock Hill		02-08-1924	-----
Joseph Link, Plumber, Monticello	A	02-08-1924	-----
Ralph S. Spaulding, Dentist, Monticello	A	02-22-1924	-----
Orval Babock, Mechanic, Wurtsboro		03-28-1924	* 12-31-1934
Harold R. Bolsum, Clerk, Monticello		03-28-1924	-----
Chauncey M. Rice, Farmer, Rock Hill		03-28-1924	-----
Frank H. Ross, Electrician, Monticello		03-28-1924	* 12-31-1937
Stephen W. Zeh, Lawyer, Hurleyville		03-28-1924	‡ 01-22-1926
Percy L. Bowers, Chauffeur, Glen Wild		05-23-1924	-----
Arthur T. Knapp, Stand. Oil Co., Monticello		05-23-1924	-----
Edward J. Norris, Farmer, No. White Lake		05-23-1924	-----
Chauncey Misner, Trucking, No. White Lake		05-23-1924	* 12-31-1934
Charles C. Walger, Boarding H., White Lake		05-23-1924	* 12-31-1937
Howard Denton, Chauffeur, Monticello		06-13-1924	* 12-31-1937
William Whittaker, Farmer, So. Fallsburgh		06-13-1924	† 09-12-1942
Leon P. Stratton, Farmer, Monticello		06-13-1924	-----
Ralph Stratton, Salesman, Monticello		06-13-1924	-----
Leslie E. Hicks, Lawyer, Monticello		06-13-1924	‡ 03-12-1926
William J. Elliott, Farmer, Glen Wild		11-28-1924	* 12-09-1927
Wm. D. Stackhouse, Teacher, Thompsonville		11-28-1924	-----
Blake L. Decker, Mechanic, Monticello		11-28-1924	-----
J. B. Harris, Carpenter, Harris		11-28-1924	-----
Grant A. Davison, Express Agent, Monticello		11-28-1924	-----
George Schneble, Police Officer, Monticello		04-10-1925	* 12-31-1930
Lester R. Bishop, Well Driller, Monticello		04-10-1925	-----
Robert. C. R. MacFarlane, Teacher, Monticello		04-10-1925	-----
Charles W. Horton, Printer, Monticello		04-10-1925	-----
Emory Stalker, Teacher, North White Lake		04-10-1925	-----
C.N. Overton, Newspaper Rep., Monticello	A	04-10-1925	-----

John A. Sloat, P. O. Clerk, Monticello	05-22-1925	*	12-31-1928
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William J. Marginson, Carpenter, Mongaup Valley	05-22-1925		-----
Harold McIntyre, Mechanic, Mongaup Valley	05-22-1925	*	12-31-1934
Harold I. Lynn, School, White Lake	06-26-1925	‡	1930
Charles K. Hicks, Musician, Monticello	06-26-1925	*	12-31-1930
Wm. R. Stoddart, Dep. County Clk., Monticello	06-26-1925		12-31-1937
Charles Moore, Farmer, White Lake	06-26-1925		-----
George M. Marginson, Laborer, Mongaup Valley	06-26-1925	†	01-07-1940
Adam Deidle, Farmer, Mongaup Valley	10-09-1925		-----
Roland Coleman, Carpenter, White Lake	10-09-1925	*	12-31-1934
Philander M. Avery, Musician, Monticello	10-09-1925		-----
Howard Beecher, Garage, Monticello	11-27-1925	†	11-22-1941
Grant Lupton, Laborer, Monticello	11-27-1925	†	06-03-1938
Harry G. Weir, Clerk, Woodridge	11-27-1925		-----
Frederick W. Ehling, Farmer, Monticello	11-27-1925	*	12-31-1934
George L. Dann, Bank Clerk, Monticello	02-12-1926		-----
Walter R. Chrysler, Banker, Monticello	02-12-1926	*	12-31-1937
Wilfred A. Thunquest, Clerk, U.S.N., Monticello	02-12-1926		-----
Charles Atwell, Jr., Surveyor, Monticello	03-26-1926		-----
John P. Mold, Bookkeeper, Monticello	03-26-1926		-----
Sherwood S. Trowbridge, Merchant, Monticello	03-26-1926		-----
Herbert R. Branch, Mgr. of Garage, Monticello	03-26-1926	*	-----
Edwin W. Davis, P. O. Clerk, Hurleyville	05-14-1926		-----
Louis C. Harris, Mail Carrier, Harris	06-25-1926		-----
William A. Drennon, Carpenter, Bushville	06-25-1926	*	12-31-1941
Earl A. Stratton, Telegraph Op., So. Fallsburgh	10-08-1926		-----
Albert G. Stanton, Jr., Merchant, Monticello	10-10-1926		-----
Ira R. Smith, Electrician, Monticello	10-10-1926		-----
Herbert C. Gardner, Electrical, Monticello	10-10-1926	*	12-31-1934
Raymond Olmstead, Carpenter, Monticello	10-10-1926	*	-----
Jouis J. Behr, Farmer, White Lake	11-26-1926		-----
Stanley S. Sengstacken, Farmer, Woodridge	11-26-1926		-----
Paul Messmer, Caretaker, White Lake	11-26-1926		-----
George E. Anderson, Plumber, No. White Lake	11-26-1926		-----
Arthur B. Mapledoram, Laborer, Monticello	11-26-1926		-----
Wilmot H. Smithem, Garage, Wurtsboro	02-11-1927	*	12-12-1941
Harry A. Monroe, Mechanic, Harris	02-11-1927		-----
Ernst H. A. Kiel, Boarding House, Stevensville	04-22-1927	†	01-25-1933
Claude B. Merwin, Station Helper, Woodridge	02-11-1927		-----
Carl A. Lawson, Farmer Woodridge	02-11-1927		-----
Harold E. Norris. Clerk, No. White Lake	04-22-1927		-----
Bernard Harris, Mechanic, Harris	04-22-1927	†	02-02-1936
George W. Mitteer, Coal Dealer, Hurleyville	10-14-1927	*	12-31-1937
Henry O. Anderson, Blacksmith, No. White Lake	06-24-1927	*	12-31-1936

Fred H. Durland, P. O. Clerk, Hurleyville	06-24-1927	-----
John W. Kiersted, Merchant, Mongaup Valley	06-24-1927	-----
Charles L. Pelton, Accountant, W. Fort Lee, N.J.	06-24-1927	-----
Melvin B. Stephenson, Farmer, Stevensville	10-14-1927	-----
George B. Stephenson, Farmer, White Lake	10-14-1927	-----
Clifford Van Wert, Storekeeper, Bethel	10-14-1927	* 12-31-1934
McKee DuBois, Garage, White Lake	10-14-1927	† 03-25-1936
Nathan B. Brown, Farmer, Bethel	03-23-1928	-----
Harry D. Stalker, Farmer, Swan Lake	11-25-1927	-----
Arthur B. Clarke, Farmer, Hurd	11-25-1927	-----
Alois Von Isakovics, Chem. Lab., Monticello	03-23-1928	-----

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Arba Phillips, Farmer, Forestine	03-23-1928	-----
Reuben F. Stewart, Carpenter, No. White Lake	03-23-1928	-----
Carl P. Geig, Traffic Dept., Monticello	03-23-1928	* 12-31-1937
Arthur T. Hutton, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	05-11-1928	-----
Charles K. DuBois, Teacher, Bethel	09-14-1928	* 12-31-1937
Arthur E. DuBois, Teacher, Bethel	09-14-1928	-----
Charles J. Heath, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	05-11-1928	-----
Clyde Hutton, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	05-11-1928	-----
Lester G. Peck, Teacher, Mongaup Valley	05-11-1928	-----
Jacob H. Worth, Real Estate, Monticello	A 06-22-1928	* 12-31-1934
Sydney D. Delaney, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	06-22-1928	‡ -----
Harold C. Webb, Keeper, Thompsonville	06-22-1928	† 11-05-1938
Louis R. Campbell, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	10-26-1928	‡ -----
William H. Olcott, Clerk, Wurtsboro	12-14-1928	-----
Abel Briefner, Retired No., White Lake	02-22-1929	-----
H. A. Diuguid, Automobile, White Lake	02-22-1929	-----
Albert H. Phillips, Builder, No. White Lake	02-22-1929	-----
Stanley E. Hankenson, N.Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	04-12-1929	-----
Harold Leroy Ray, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	04-12-1929	-----
Benson W. VanInwegen, Undertaker, Monticello	A 03-29-1929	-----
Arthur E DeWitt, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	05-24-1929	-----
Jesse P. Pyle, Railroad, Monticello	05-24-1929	-----
John O. Scriber, Printing, Monticello	05-24-1929	-----
Emil Hindemith, Mechanic, Rio	11-22-1929	-----
Raymond G. Lewis, Engineer, Monticello	11-22-1929	-----
Chas. H. Campbell, Auto Mechanic, Monticello	11-22-1929	-----
Robert F. Erni, Builder & Jobber, Yankee Lake	11-22-1929	-----
Harry D. Gardner, Tel. Lineman, Monticello	03-14-1930	-----
George Pick, Hotel, Monticello	06-13-1930	† 06-05-1941
Howard G. Race, Clerk, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	03-14-1930	-----
Clyde F. Stratton, Lawyer, Monticello	06-13-1930	-----
Howard G. Clements, Mechanic, Monticello	06-13-1930	-----
Harry A. Bradley, Druggist, Monticello	A 04-25-1930	-----

Frank J. Dreschnack, West. Elec., Monticello	11-28-1930	-----
Alfred Wells, Road Worker, Sackett Lake	11-28-1930	† 11-27-1936
Kenneth H. Stalker, Salesman, Swan Lake	11-28-1930	-----
Andrew Engel, Letter Carrier, Monticello	03-27-1931	-----
Leslie T. Devine, Mechanic, Monticello	03-27-1931	-----
J. Mervin Doremus, Electrician, Monticello	06-26-1931	-----
Kenneth L. Weintz, Butcher, Monticello	06-26-1931	* -----
William Gregory, Carpenter, Sackett Lake	A 06-12-1931	-----
Samuel Gregory, Plumber, Sackett Lake	A 06-12-1931	-----
Thomas A. Cooney, Garage, Rock Hill	A 12-26-1931	* 12-31-1935
John Boyd, Merchant, Monticello	A 02-26-1932	-----
Milton H. Armstrong, N. Y. Tel. Co., Monticello	05-13-1932	-----
Carl L. Salomon, Restaurant, Monticello	05-13-1932	-----
Edward Herman, Clerk, Middletown	10-14-1932	-----
William A. Crawford, Minister, Monticello	A 09-08-1933	* 12-31-1938
Donald T. Keil, Minister, Kauneonga Lake	12-08-1933	* 12-31-1940
Walter G. Prince, Jr., Farmer, Swan Lake	12-08-1933	-----
Andrew McCullough, Jr., Undertaker, Monticello	03-23-1934	-----
John H. Dolan, Western Union, Smallwood	03-08-1935	-----
Earl R. Keesler, Teacher, Monticello	06-28-1935	-----
Richard K. LaTourrette, Lawyer, Monticello	06-28-1935	-----

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Robert F. Baker, Teacher, Monticello	06-28-1935	-----
H. Garton Lewis, Teacher, Monticello	04-24-1936	-----
Frederick G. Bulken, Dentist, Monticello	05-14-1937	-----
Thos. F. Albonesi, Crowley Milk Co., Monticello	05-14-1937	-----
E. Edward DeCamp, Postmaster, Smallwood	06-25-1937	-----
Floyd L. Elmore, Cattle Tester, So. Fallsburgh	06-25-1937	-----
Alvin O. Benton, Newspaper, Monticello	06-25-1937	-----
Hobert R. Bates, Musician, Monticello	06-25-1937	-----
James G. Van Vactor, Farmer, Ferndale	12-03-1937	† 05-13-1939
Clinton Stalker, Printer, Long Island	12-03-1937	-----
Joseph C. Jeszeck, Milkman, White Lake	05-13-1938	-----
William H. Yates, Teacher, Monticello	05-13-1938	-----
Harry M. Benedict, Ret. Let. Car., Smallwood	A 05-13-1938	† 04-14-1939
Chauncey F. Benton, Teacher, Woodbourne	06-09-1939	-----
Charles Solms, Physician, Monticello	06-14-1940	-----
Stephen Contos, Wholesale Produce, Monticello	05-23-1941	-----
Joseph J. Link, Heating & Plumb., Monticello	05-23-1941	-----
Hugh R. Richman, Retired, Smallwood	A 05-23-1941	-----
Melvin R. Bergstrom, Mgr. U.S.E.S., Monticello	11-28-1941	-----
Foster H. Little, Barber, Monticello	11-28-1941	-----
George N. Hembdt, Jr., Clerk, Monticello	11-28-1941	-----
David Ross, Retired, Smallwood	A 11-28-1941	-----
Alfred S. Rheinshagen, Farmer, Bethel	03-13-1942	-----

Herman Rheinshagen, Farmer, Bethel	03-13-1942	-----
George S. Gregory, Aviation Sackett, Lake	03-06-1942	-----
Gustav A. Wiechman, Retired Smallwood	06-26-1942	-----
Harold E. LeRoy, Salesman Des Moines, Iowa	01-23-1942	(Restored)
Alfred L. Gieler, Real Estate, Mongaup Valley	01-23-1942	-----
Allen D. Seaman, Salesman, Smallwood	09-30-1942	-----
Stephen Cross, Salesman, Monticello	11-07-1942	-----

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Corrections

Since this history was printed the following facts have come to our attention: [NOTE: page numbers refer to the 1942 edition] --

In our history of Livingston Manor Lodge, on page 54, we gave the title of C.H. Reynolds as "Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York near the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia." Actually his title is "Representative of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia near the Grand Lodge of the State of New York."

On page 68 Henry E. Miller is listed as a Major. He is now a Lt. Colonel.

On page 67 the date of George Palmer's death is listed as unknown. A lodge summons dated December 8, 1941 and returned shortly thereafter points out that his death occurred on July 14, 1941.

The desire of the brethren to have this history completed before our anniversary made it necessary to rush to a conclusion a work which ordinarily would have required an additional year's time. Originally plans were made for publishing the history in the Gavel, using the standing type of our book. Other lodge news, however, was considered of greater importance and the space for history diminished to an extent that only about a fifth of our history actually appeared In the Gavel.

As the date for our anniversary celebration drew near it appeared that our original printer would not be able to finish his press work on schedule. A shortage of help made it necessary for him to ask that it be done elsewhere.

We were then faced not only with the problem of getting a new printer but also found it necessary to re-edit and reorganize. This was accomplished only through the splendid cooperation of the brethren.

On page 122, Hugh R. Richman is claimed to be the only member holding a dual membership. Gustav Weichman should share this honor, as he is also a member of another lodge.

