

A Protest

FROM

Confidence Lodge, No. 52, and Mason Lodge, No. 342, A. F. and A. M.
OF MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY.

To the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of Kentucky:

WHEREAS, It has been proclaimed by the Grand Master, under instructions of the Grand Lodge, and upon vote of less than a moiety of the affiliated Free Masons of the state, that each lodge in this jurisdiction be required to pay a sum equal to one dollar for each of its actual members for the benefit of the "Widows' and Orphans' Home," at Louisville; and whereas, we deem the above-mentioned action unmasonic and not binding in conscience for the following considerations:

First—We do not recognize the right of any one Mason, or any combination of Masons, to dictate to us an act of charity.

Second—We do not recognize the right of the Grand Lodge, or any number of subordinate lodges, to dictate to us as to when, or where, or to what amount our charities shall be applied.

Third—We do not recognize the right of the Grand Lodge to tax subordinate lodges for any amount in excess of a sum sufficient for its current expenses.

Fourth—The "Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home" is in no sense lawfully connected with the Grand Lodge, nor is the Grand Lodge in any manner responsible for its success or failure.

Fifth—When the brethren who had the matter in charge, came before the Masonic bodies of Maysville, asking subscriptions to build the Home, they promised, in answer to the question distinctly stated, that "it was a private charity, and that the Grand Lodge would never be called upon to give any moneys to its support," and with this understanding and promise upon the part of the agents of the "Home" the Masonic bodies here did subscribe as liberally to said object as they could.

Sixth—There is no right in the Grand Lodge to establish or maintain any eleemosynary institution whatever. The founding or keeping up of a lunatic asylum, a deaf and dumb institution, an institution for the blind, a college, or any other institution for the benefit of Masons, their widows and orphans, would be just as much and just as little within the purview of the Grand Lodge as is the "Widows' and Orphans' Home."



Adopted by Grand Lodge, No. 52, April 2, 1877,
as witness the seal of said Lodge.



Adopted by Mason Lodge, No. 342, April 16, 1877,
as witness the seal of said Lodge.