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BYE-LAWS  
OF THE  
EMULATION LODGE  
OF  
IMPROVEMENT.

No. 256,

HELD AT FREEMASONS' HALL.

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LONDON :  
1871.

CHAS. A. MURTON, *Secretary.*

JOHN HENREY, *Treasurer.*

12th MAY, 1871.

*Were Agreed to,*

THE FOLLOWING B.F.L.A.M.S

BYE-LAWS  
OF THE  
EMULATION LODGE  
OF  
IMPROVEMENT.

No. 256.

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I.  
That this Lodge be called the  
EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVE-  
MENT, sanctioned by the Lodge of  
Unions, No. 256.

II.

That the meeting of the Lodge  
shall be held at FREEMASONS' HALL  
on every Friday evening throughout  
the year, Good Friday and Christ-  
mas Day excepted, that the Lodge

shall be opened at seven o'clock and closed at half-past nine. The Lodge shall be called off once during the evening immediately after the Ceremony has been gone through; and every meeting shall be opened and closed in the three Degrees.

### III.

That the Officers of the Lodge shall consist of a Master, Past Master, two Wardens, two Deacons, Treasurer, Secretary, Inner Guard, and Tyler. The Master shall be elected nightly when he shall appoint his Officers, and name the business to be transacted at the ensuing meeting.

### IV.

That no Brother shall be eligible to be elected to the Office of Master

unless he is fully acquainted with the method of opening and closing the Lodge in the three Degrees and of working the Ceremony intended for the occasion on which he is to preside; agreeably to the recognised system of this Lodge.

That this Bye-law be read by the Secretary at each meeting immediately before the election of Master.

That if any Brother appointed to an office by the Master elect, shall not attend the Lodge to enter on his duties previously to the commencement of the Ceremony he shall forfeit the appointment, and another be appointed by the Master in his stead.

## VI.

That no Brother shall be admitted a member or visitor under the Degree of a Master Mason, nor unless he be a subscribing member to a regular Lodge.

## VII.

That the nightly contribution of each member shall be one Shilling (except the Secretary, who shall be exempt from all contributions), and of each visitor one Shilling and Sixpence. That each member who thinks fit, shall be at liberty to subscribe five Shillings annually, in consideration of which he shall only pay Sixpence on each night of his attendance.

## VIII.

That no Brother shall be pro-



posed to become a member unless he be present at the time he is proposed (or shall have previously visited the Lodge), and that every Brother on being proposed to become a member shall pay the visiting fee of one Shilling and Sixpence, and a joining fee of two Shillings and Sixpence, such proposition to be regularly seconded, and subject to a ballot on the succeeding Lodge night, when, should there appear three black balls, the proposition shall be rejected, and the joining fee of two Shillings and Sixpence shall be returned to him ; but when a Foreign Brother, who is a non-resident in this Country, shall visit the Lodge, he shall be exempt

from all fees, and if he be desirous he shall nevertheless be eligible to become a joining member, in which case he must be regularly proposed, seconded, and balloted for as above; if upon the ballot three negatives do not appear, he shall be received as a member on payment of the joining fee of two Shillings and Six-pence only, but if his stay in this Country, shall at any time exceed a period of three months, he will then be considered a resident, and subject to the usual fees.

#### IX.

That the joining fees, visiting fees, nightly contributions, and annual subscriptions of the members, shall be paid to the General Fund, and applied, in the first

instance, in defraying the expenses of the rooms, and the necessary paraphernalia of the Lodge, and the remainder in such manner as the majority of the members, at any of their meetings upon confirmation shall determine.

## X.

That no Brother shall be relieved from the funds of the Lodge unless he be a member.

## XI.

That no motion for the disposal of the funds otherwise than the payment of incidental expenses, or for the purposes of Charity, shall be allowed to be brought forward, unless notice of the same shall have been given at the previous meeting.

## XII.

That no Brother shall be admitted into the Lodge unless he be properly clothed as a Master Mason.

## XIII.

That the business of each meeting shall consist of one of the Ceremonies, and so much of the Lectures as time will permit. The Lectures to be worked in sections by the Officers of the Lodge in succession, commencing with the Senior Warden, (see Bye-law III) or, on their declining, by such of the members as the Master may think proper to call upon.

## XIV.

That the Charge after the Initiation shall be given every second time that Ceremony is worked,

## XV.

That the Ceremony of Installation shall be worked, in lieu of Lecture, on the first Friday in the months of October, November, December, January, February and March.

## XVI.

That the Treasurer, Secretary, and Tyler, shall be elected annually, on the first Friday in October.

## XVII.

That the Secretary shall keep regular minutes of the proceedings of the Lodge, an account of all monies received and disbursed, and an alphabetical list of the members with the name and number of their respective Lodges.

## XVIII.

That the Tyler shall attend all the meetings of the Lodge, and devote himself exclusively to it and its members during their meeting, and that he shall be paid three Shillings out of the fund of the Lodge, for every night of his attendance.

## XIX.

That a Committee, consisting of the Treasurer and Secretary for the time being and three other members, shall be annually appointed on the Friday previous to the election of the permanent officers of the Lodge for general purposes, and to audit the Treasurer's accounts, (three to form a quorum) and they shall, previously to the election of

Treasurer, report to the Lodge as to the state of the funds; should the Treasurer unavoidably be prevented from attending the Committee, he shall depute some Brother to attend in his stead, and shall supply him with all the requisite documents to enable the Committee to make their report.

## XX.

That at each meeting the Committee shall select one of their number to occupy the Past Master's chair and to act as preceptor for the evening.

## XXI.

That no motion for the alteration of the Bye-laws shall be brought before the Lodge, unless notice of the same shall have been

given three weeks previously : such motion shall then be referred to the Committee for general purposes who shall report thereon at the following meeting of the Lodge, and if recommended by them, shall be adopted ; but no alteration whatever shall take place unless recommended by the Committee.

## XXII.

That these Bye-laws shall be read twice in every year, viz., on the first Friday in April, and on the first Friday in October.

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