

AN extraordinary affair has just occurred in Scotland. To-day (Thursday) the Grand Lodge of Scotland holds its quarterly meeting in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, to consider, among other business:—"Expulsion of Brother William Edwards, and special censure of Brother J. O. Fraser and William Robertson, office bearers of the Lodge Celtic, No. 291." It appears that the offence of the brethren named was in admitting two ladies to a lodge meeting in May last, where they saw and heard a considerable portion of the proceedings while the lodge was "tyled in the Third Degree." The precise height and depth of the "brethrens'" offence may be gathered from the minutes to be laid before the Grand Lodge on Thursday. It seems that on the occasion of the Funeral Lodge held in Freemasons' Hall by Celtic, Edinburgh, and Leith, No. 291, on May 8 last, in memory of the late Brother Alexander Hay, two females were admitted to the inner approach to the organ loft, where they saw and heard, through the partially-open glazed door, a considerable portion of the proceedings, which were being conducted while the lodge was tyled in the Third Degree. The ladies were so admitted by Brother William Edwards, Acting Past Master of the Lodge, who was called out of the hall at their request; and having previously possessed himself of the key of the door, he deliberately broke the tiling of the lodge, and placed the tyler inside along with the ladies, with instructions to attend to them. Edwards went back to the hall and remained there until the ceremony was nearly concluded, when he returned to the organ loft and had the ladies removed. The committee have recommended that Brother Edwards be expelled from the Order.

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