For This and Succeeding Generations

The Cornelius Hedges Story

Reid L. Gardiner

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The electronic release of this book was coordinated with the sesquicentennial of the Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana.

Reid Gardiner, 2015

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EDITED FROM A MANUSCRIPT BY
Thomas Edward White: Cornelius Hedges, Uncommon Hero of the Common Life, 1966

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Transferred to digital printing 2015

ISBN: 978-1-4951-7838-2

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Preface

This is an edited version of an original manuscript "Cornelius Hedges Uncommon Hero of the Common Life" provided by Brother Thomas E. White to the Grand Lodge of Montana.

Among the primary tools used were the voluminous journals kept by Most Worshipful Brother Cornelius Hedges. The edited version includes corrections and additions to text and incorporates photos and associated graphics. The general subject is of interest to the Masons of Montana and the need to make this available is a testimony to the value of the manuscript as it was meant to be read and studied! Beyond the subject matter, this work contains a fabulous and scholarly history of Freemasonry in Montana and the development of Montana into a State; now profusely populated with illustrations.

The intent behind this project was to preserve the manuscript and intent of Thomas E. White and, provide a great Masonic history book. The book has been scanned, edited and copyrighted by the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Montana by Reid L. Gardiner, Grand Secretary, with the intent that it can be available in book form and or used for on-screen reading enjoyment. Certainly, it serves as an electronic research treasure.

The electronic release of this book was coordinated with the sesquicentennial of the Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana.

Acknowledgments

This book is a based in part upon the manuscript that Brother Thomas E. White provided to the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Montana, and is an edited version of that original manuscript. First and foremost our thanks to Mr. Thomas Edward White, who complied much of the material in 1966 under the title of Cornelius Hedges Uncommon Hero Of the Common Life. And to the journals and other writings of Cornelius Hedges were also used as well as a significant number of letters to and from Judge Hedges held by the Montana Masonic Foundation. To the Montana Historical Society; the Grand Lodge of Montana; Montana Masonic Foundation; Mrs. Paul Brazier and Sheila Lopach of Helena for their help concerning her Grandfather's Journals and private papers and artifacts. The National Park Service for preserving the nation's natural and historical heritage. The same National Park idea and philosophy which had its origins with Cornelius Hedges in 1870. The availability and use of material in the public domain and through fair use is acknowledged.

Introduction

The historian Thomas Carlyle once said in his treatise On History that "History is the essence of innumerable biographies." Montana's history can perhaps be well examined in that manner. The personalities of Nathaniel P. Langford, Wilbur F. Sanders, Conrad Kohrs, W. W. ("Brother Van") Van Orsdel, Granville Stuart, Joseph K. Toole, and Samuel T. Hauser are representative of those who contributed much to the early years of Montana's growth. The names of Conrad Kohrs, Nelson Story and Granville Stuart are prominent important figures in the cattle industry. Samuel T. Hauser and C. A. Broadwater have left their marks on our state's history because of their banking and numerous other business interests. Marcus Daly, William A. Clark, F. Augustus Heinze, and Tommy Cruse are well-known in mining developments. William Clagett, Martin McGinnis, Benjamin F. Potts, Joseph K. Toole, Wilbur F. Sanders, and Thomas J. Walsh have been rightly recognized for their contributions to Montana through the media of politics. However, there is one important phase of the development of Montana which has somewhat regrettably been neglected. That aspect is its cultural and non-material growth, with all its facets social, moral, intellectual, educational, aesthetic, and religious. One personality shines most brightly in this composite field that of Cornelius Hedges.

Among these early pioneers a significant number of them were Freemasons including: Langford, Sanders, Kohrs, Toole, Story, Hauser, Broadwater. Sanders served as Grand Master in 1868; Clark served as Grand Master in 1877. Both Sanders and Clark would go on to serve as US Senator.

Although the motivation of the magnates of cattle, banking, business, mining, and politics was largely the material gain and emolument, the motivation of Cornelius Hedges was his dedication to promote a better place to live in a not so perfect world.

Foreword

I am not what Helenans call a "local," for I didn't grow up and go to high school in Helena--and I've only been here since 1977. By osmosis, however, for over three decades I've learned a lot about Montana history: Copper Kings, Charlie Russell, The Great Blizzard, and The Montana Power Company, and such. Yet, I knew little of the ins-and-outs of local Helena history. That's all changed now, for I have been lucky enough to have read For This and Succeeding Generations: The Cornelius Hedges Story, ed. Reid L. Gardiner.

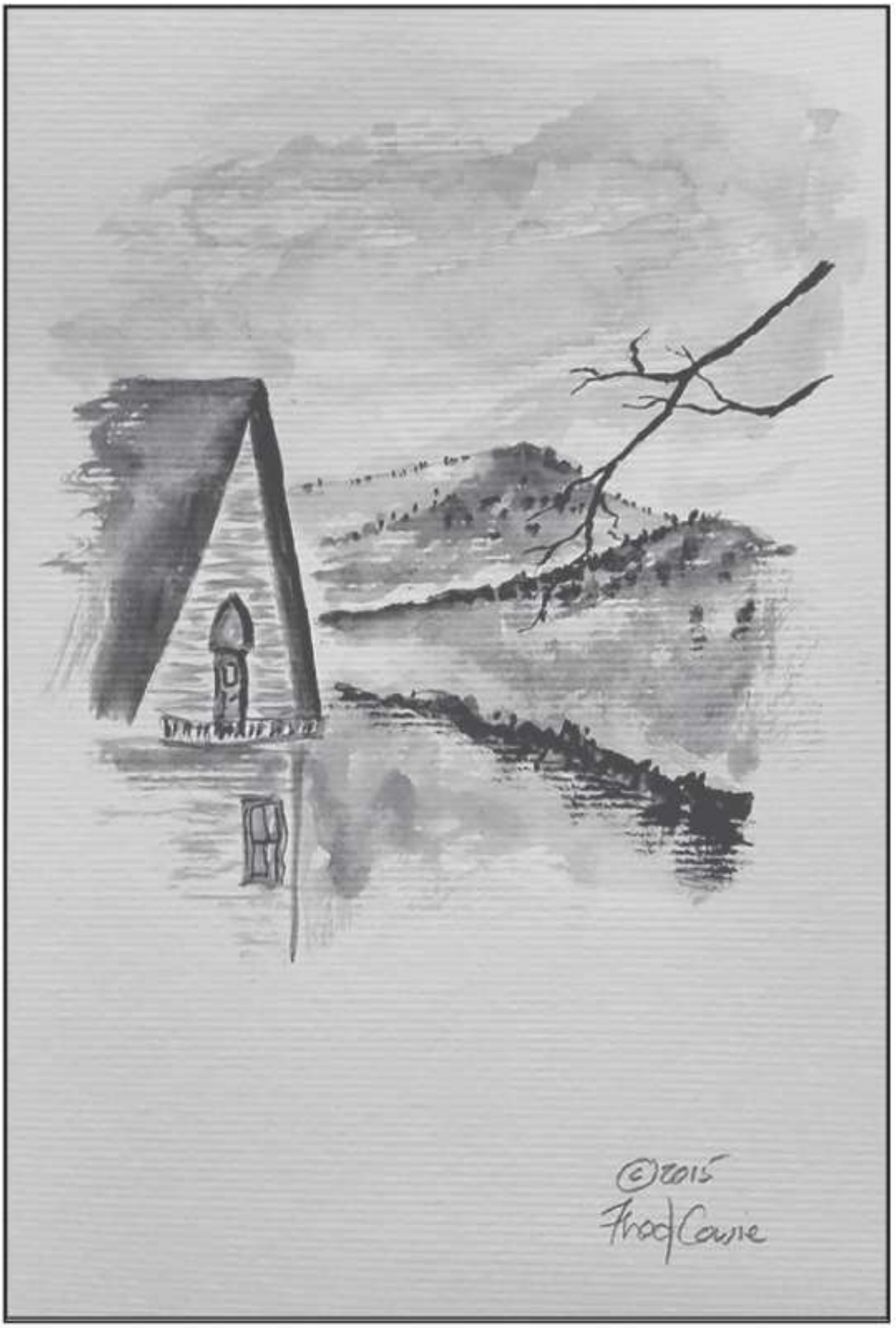
I am not a Mason myself, but I am from Missouri, I know that Harry Truman and earlier presidents were Masons, and in the "Show Me!" tradition, I did get a personal tour of the Masonic Museum at 425 N. Park, Helena, Montana and had my interest tweaked about local Masonic activities. So, when given the opportunity to read the biographical work on Judge Hedges, edited by my friend Reid Gardiner, I jumped at the chance.

Having long ago written several works on European frontier institution builders (my dissertation was on Boniface and my long-out-of-print book was called Pioneers of Catholic Europe), I was very interested in how, in the American West, one man could, through hard work and unyielding dedication, help establish both a town and a state. The answer is "in the book," as they say.

Well illustrated, the book is full of incredible vignettes about Hedges being the driving force behind such diverse activities as: building a competent education system in Montana; developing a great local public library; organizing a non-commercialized national park to protect Yellowstone; and even working hard to build the personal and work skills of a transient who ended out in his basement.

I recommend this book to anyone interested in Helena, Montana, and Masonic history. And just remember, when Hedges was doing his most important work, there were no telephones and travel was measured in miles per day, not hour.

Frederick J. Cowie, Ph.D.
Helena, MT
2015



Mount Helena from Judge Hedges' house.
Painting by Fred Cowie.

Chapter 1
A Portrait of Stewardship

Cornelius Hedges exerted a major influence on the cultural, social, moral, intellectual, aesthetic, and religious development of early Montana. The major contributions which Cornelius Hedges made to Montana and our Nation are those which have stood the tests of time and are living memorials to this early Montana pioneer. Brother Cornelius Hedges was significantly involved in the movement for a National Park system, development of an adequate system of Territorial public schools in Montana, Helena Public Library, and the development of Freemasonry as a cohesive element in Montana society.

In considering the representative and constructive men of the state of Montana the name of the Cornelius Hedges comes immediately to mind, for he impressed himself indelibly on his generation through his sturdy integrity, his manly virtue, the force of his natural powers of judgment and his unselfish labors in the cause of patriotism and progress.

While faithful to every local interest in Helena, his subsequent activities covered the state, and was prominent in the great development which followed. In the beginning he put himself on the side of those who were determined Montana should be a safe haven for all who wished to live there and from that time to the day of his death his talents and his time were always at the service of his community and his state. In those early days there were few of the pioneers who had the education of Judge Hedges. He came to this then wild country and became one with the people. Never a self-seeker, his ability was soon recognized and whenever there was need for a service which it was thought could not be so well performed by anyone else.

But Judge Hedges was not only an educated man and student; he was in every sense a pioneer. He won the confidence of the miners and of the rough element as well, and his kindly counsels often in those days prevented serious conflicts and attempts to overturn the authority of the laws made by the miners. As the territory and state grew there was a place for Judge Hedges. Whether at the head of the territorial educational system, a judge of court, the representative

of the United States government as its district attorney, or the editor of the leading daily papers of the state, Judge Hedges was a power for good, and for the development of the best in Montana.

The great work done by Cornelius Hedges for Montana will be more appreciated as the years pass. There are a few who know what a dominant personality he was in placing before the world the beauties of the Yellowstone National Park. He was a member of the expedition which visited the park and told of its attractions to the world. Always modest and keeping in the background, others have reaped much of the credit that should have gone to him in connection with the setting aside of the park as a national pleasure ground.

The Helena public library owes more to Judge Hedges than to any other for its present efficiency. In the late years to it he devoted much of his time, and its good work was his pride. Above and beyond all, Judge Hedges was a loyal Montanan. He went through the good times and the hard ones, and never did he lose faith in the greatness of the state and its future. As it was with the state, so with his adopted city Helena, which for so many years had been his home, was to him the one place in all the world and he was the friend of every man and woman in it.

Thoughtful, kind, charitable, ever ready to heed the call of the unfortunate, without selfishness or guile, no better man has ever lived in Montana, nor to any, is there a higher need of praise due for what he did and gave to Montana.

Because of his abiding faith in the essential goodness of his fellow men, his moral beliefs which governed his daily life, his multifarious interests and avenues of activity, and his dedication to the improvement of Montana and the world around him, Cornelius Hedges was one of the prime forces responsible for the cultural, social, moral, intellectual, aesthetic, and religious development of Montana in her formative years.

As we look back the most important aspects of Hedges' life will show his major contributions to Montana, along with the necessary material endeavors for a comfortable existence for himself and his family, and economic ventures for support of himself and his family, the National Park idea, education, the Helena Public Library, literary ability, his love of books and knowledge, Masonic activities and writings, and religion.

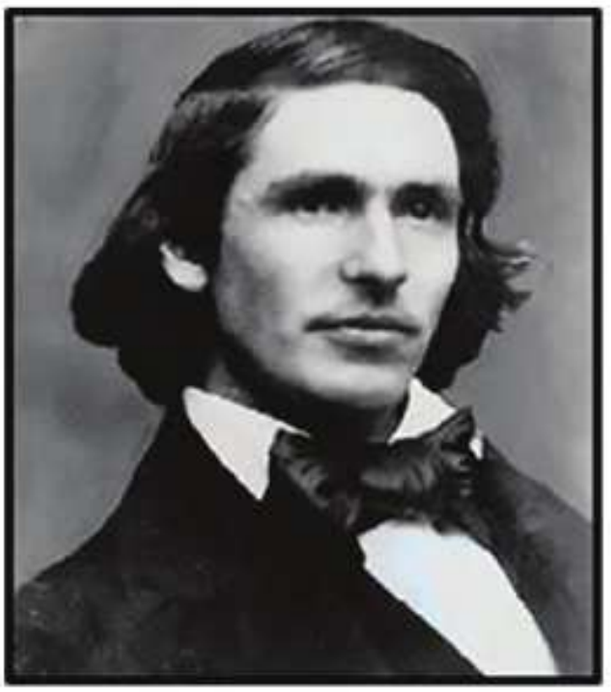


Figure 1. Cornelius Hedges, age 19, 1850.

Figure 2 The Hedges family Arms.

The family motto "Vix ea nostra voco" means "I scarcely call these thing our own" or "with difficulty do I call these things ours", it relates to the principle of stewardship and certainly is appropriate for Cornelius Hedges.

Chapter 2
The Indefatigable Cornelius Hedges

It is necessary to become familiar with the life of this outstanding Montana Pioneer. Knowledge of his life will help in appreciating his philosophy on life and place in proper context.

The book "Progressive Men of the State of Montana" sums up Cornelius Hedges best.

"Judge Cornelius Hedges - among the prominent men whose lives and characters are familiar to almost every householder in Montana, Judge Hedges stands out clear and sharp. The lives of some shine out as grand examples of prosperity and success achieved through the various channels of industry; by wonderful accomplishments in the realms of scientific research; in the forum, or through the medium of special qualities which leave an impress upon the tablets of memory that will live forever."[1]

In reviewing the life of Judge Hedges the latter thought seems particularly appropriate. He is not the man who seeks to blazon his deeds for personal gratification, or from motives of ambition to perform some act that would mark him for a time as a central figure. On the contrary, he is recognized as a splendid type of that manhood which the infinite Creator made it possible for all men to be.

To those who know him best, and for years have watched the growth and development of that inward greatness which is his and is felt when in his presence, though unseen, the beauty of his character is more thoroughly understood and the marvel is that nature seldom makes a man like him.

Cornelius Hedges was born on October 28, 1831, at Westfield, Massachusetts, in the Connecticut River valley near Springfield. His parents, Dennis and Alvena Noble Hedges, were both of sturdy Puritan stock that had originally settled the Connecticut valley in the mid-seventeenth Century. During his boyhood and adolescent years, as in later years, he was more fond of reading, studying and learning than of exerting himself on manual labor. Thus he was not inclined to learn farming and blacksmithing, the trades and occupations of his father. He was educated in the public schools and the local "academy" in his home town of Westfield. [2]

Cornelius Hedges could lay claim to a more or less illustrious ancestry, his forefathers having been among the earliest settlers on Long Island, removing from there to Connecticut and before his time to Massachusetts. His maternal grandfather, Jacob Noble, served under General Washington in the War of the Revolution, and was the progenitor of a long line of honest farming people and strong supporters of the Congregational church.

After completing work in the "academy," Cornelius journeyed down river in the Connecticut valley to enroll in Yale College at New Haven, Connecticut, in the fall of 1849.[3] His first year of college was interrupted by an acute illness caused by drinking poisoned milk. Because of this, he not only lost a semester term, but he felt some effects of this weakened condition for the next 12 to 14 years.[4]

His college days were marked by the painful processes of trial-and error. His journal shows that he was extremely sensitive to success and failure, and in the process very self-critical and demanding of himself. His thoughts and emotions are well expressed in this excerpt of his journal entry for October 31, 1851.

> "I am now in my twentieth year and my parents who have been so long looking for some display of my abilities will yet be disappointed. Would I wish to graduate as I am, would I want to go forth into life as I graduate and continue in the sane course until, No answers something from within by no means. All this results by misguided zeal. I never shall be free from failures till I adopt reason as the guide of my actions and labor with reason in view - Reason I Will try to pursue, till I find her developed into my life - As much as I can do I will aim to follow the bounds that nature has set … and when I have come to these limits I Will go beyond - But for me thinking as I do sometimes that I can do anything and know anything, it is all foolish. There is no soundness or sense in such thoughts and yet it is with such that much of my time and strength is employed."[5]

During his collegiate years, Hedges used his journals as instruments of self-evaluation[6], and his entries were much more voluminous than in later years. Along with the serious side of gaining a college education, his routine also included the lighter side of life. Hedges was a very active member of Phi Beta Kappa Delta and Kappa Epsilon fraternity at Yale.[7]

To Cornelius, like any male matriculate of the Twentieth Century, the fairer sex was a distracting attraction. On November 5, 1851, he related one such distraction:

> "I returned With Carie and Augustus' Wife to their home, there I fell in with Miss Sheldon and was prevailed upon to stay for tea in spite of prayers - Oh! Who can stand before a woman's solicitations, her words are logic of the heart and cannot be refuted - suffice it to say I fell victimized before them and remained conversing till half-past six, returned and got out my Tacitus…"[8]

He also met another young lady, a student at York Ladies' Seminary in New Haven, who was to play a much greater role in his life than the charming Miss Sheldon. The young lady was Edna Layette Smith, his future bride.[9]

As his college days neared completion, Hedges' views became more stabilized and mature. But his journal entries for the remainder of his life show decisively that he did not leave his self-criticism and impatience with himself behind when he received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale in 1853. Usually he had boundless patience while dealing with others, but he was not so lenient with himself. Cornelius Hedges was not the only member of Yale's Class of 1853 who left a distinct impression on our country, his famous classmates included Andrew D. White, Cornell's famous president, U.S. Supreme Court Justice George H. Shiras, and U.S. Attorney General Wayne MacVeagh of President Garfield's cabinet.[10]

Upon graduation from Yale, he taught in an academy at Easton, Connecticut, west of New Haven near Bridgeport. Then he returned to Westfield, where he studied law prior to entering Harvard Law School.[11] In 1855, he completed law studies at Harvard and later on was examined and admitted to the Massachusetts Bar, upon the motion of the Honorable Benjamin F. Butler.[12] Hedges interest in the fortunes of Ben Butler continued for many years; in November, 1878, he noted in his journal, "Little news from the states in the evening Butler beaten."[13] The significance of and interest in Ben Butler may be seen in the following; In 1878 Butler unsuccessfully ran for Governor of Massachusetts as an independent, and ran unsuccessfully again in 1879 as a Democrat. He finally won in 1882, serving from 1883 until 1884.

On July 17, 1856, he and Edna Layette Smith were married at Southington; Connecticut.[14] Edna's endeavors to improve the condition of society around here were certainly complementary to similar activities of her husband.

Mertie M. Brattin, in 1941, wrote this of Enda and of her life.

"Edna L. Hedges was a most remarkable woman. She was equally devoted to her family, her church, and her chapter of Eastern Star. She was dignified, yet most courteous and considerate. Her womanly virtues were early engrafted upon the Order of Eastern Star in Montana, and to that is due fact that Grand Chapter sessions have ever been remarkable for their harmony and good feeling. She was Very Worthy Grand Chaplain of General Grand Chapter at the triennial of 1892 to 1895, and Right Worthy Grand Conductress the succeeding triennial. She survived Judge Hedges five years, died in 1912, and was active in Eastern Star work to the end."[15]

To complete this biography, Mrs. Hedges was instrumental in organizing the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star for Montana in Livingston on September 25, 1890, and was elected its first Worthy Grand Matron.[16] Her reception at her home in Helena held for the ladies accompanying the members of the 35th Annual Grand Lodge of Montana Masons, on September 21, 1899, is an excellent example of her graciousness.[17]

Looking West

Immediately after their marriage, Cornelius and Edna moved from New England to Independence, Iowa. This move was undoubtedly influenced by the fact that his sister and brother-in-law, Margaret and Asa Smith, were residing in that town[18], along with Hedges own urge to find a place to provide a good home for his family in a developing area where opportunity abounded.

He set up a law practice, and shortly thereafter obtained the Independent Civilian, which he edited and published to provide & supplementary income to his lawyer's fees.[19]

Their first child, Wyllys A. Hedges, was born there on July 3, l857, and on June 3, l860, yet another child, Dennis H. Hedges, graced their happy home.

The first of his long and illustrious Masonic career started here in Independence, when he was made a Master Mason in Independence Lodge #87, on the eve of his 27th birthday, October 27, l858.[20]

Late in l860, the Hedges returned to New England, where Cornelius resumed teaching, in the Sally Lewis Academy at Berlin near Edna's home at Southington, Connecticut. Sorrow entered their home in l862 with the death of their younger son, Dennis.[21]

The entries of February, 1863, in his journal, chronicle the return of Cornelius to Iowa, where he pursued his law practice and again published the Independent Civilian, but his family was still in New England.[22] Edna and Willy arrived by train in Independence on April 3, 1863. Immediately, preparations began for the occupation of a new home on April 8. On that same day, he recorded:

"Took supper in the new home – Edna, Willy and myself - warm biscuits, custard pie, ginger cake and green tea. It was the happiest meal that I have eaten for years."[23] He was a devoted family man!

At Independence, a problem came into focus which was to plague him most of his life, "making ends meet" financially. A major cause of this was his kindly nature and benevolence. Cornelius Jr., better known among friends and family as Toby, was to say after his father's death:

Figure 3. Edna L. Hedges.

"He was a man of infinite tenderness and remarkable sentiment for these days. He couldn't have amassed a fortune if he had lived a thousand years ..."[24]

He much preferred his law practice to the publishing of the Independent Civilian[25], or other necessary sideline work to provide for his family."[26] His enthusiasm for the legal profession is exhibited in his journal entry:

> "Had a trial of Jacob Charouse for obtaining money under false pretenses - Great sport, two attorneys on a side got $4.00 for the aid society and 3.00 in costs."[27]

He preferred editorial writing to the details and drudgery of printing and distributing the newspaper. Thus he attempted to lease the paper to Warren and Alyson Barnhart on contract.[28] But be finally had to hire them simply as employees.[29] His reluctance and apprehension was largely due to the fact that it ran him constantly "into debt."[30] However, by summer and fall, his job printing increased sufficiently to make the operation profitable.[31]

In his true form of extreme self-criticism, in 1863 Hedges was lamenting partial failure at the time of the Tenth Reunion of his Yale class:

> "Today and tonight is our class meeting at Yale College - It has made me feel bad to think that I have not succeeded better in life, so that I could return with credit."[32]

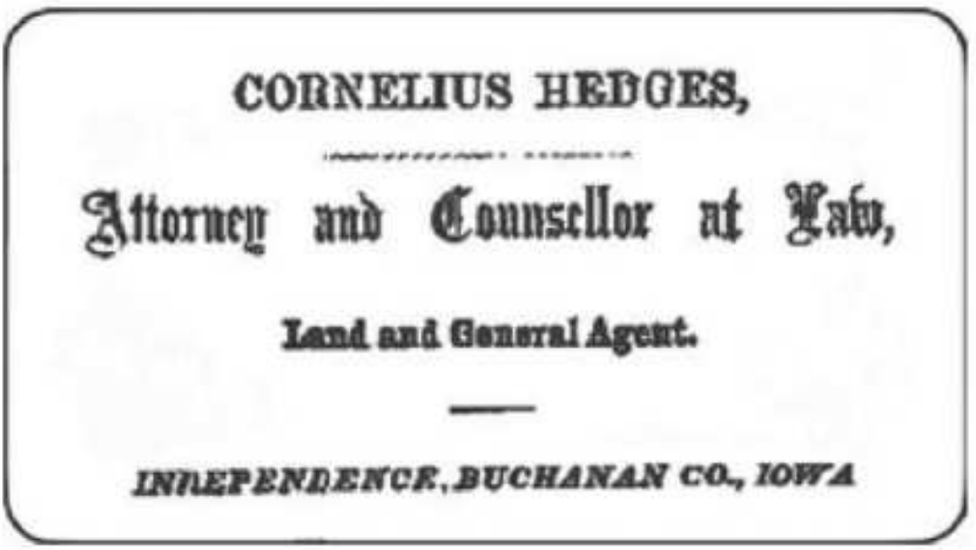


Figure 4. Business Card from 1863. This card is on long term loan to the Montana Masonic Museum from the family of Sheila Lopach of Helena.

Leaving the States

In the spring of 1864, Cornelius Hedges began making preparation to seek his fortunes in the gold mines of Idaho, and he received a pamphlet about Idaho and a map of Idaho from a friend, J. R. Devery on February 13, 1864.[33] The pamphlet was, The Northern route to Idaho, and the Pacific Ocean, by: C.A.F. Morris; Merrill, D. D., St. Paul, publisher, 1864. Also published as "Minnesota Route the Shortest and Best to the Idaho Gold Mines (Pocket Map & Guide Book, 8 pages).

Many years later, as he again remembering and writing of his life he wrote of his reasons for going west included being unsettled in business, belief that it would be years before general confidence would be resumed with the enormous national debt with its crushing weight of taxation, and also to wear away the time till the issues of war were in a way to be settled and for health. Like many other pioneers who headed west it was probably also to seek his fortune and in response to a yet newer challenge.

The day of departure was April 20, and Hedges son, Will, well-remembered that day: It was a memorable day in our memory when my father, Cornelius Hedges, started to "cross the plains" in company with Timothy Wilcox, and Henry H. Clark. Weeks had been spent in preparation and fitting up of their wagon, made by a local blacksmith and wheelwright.

Those who have known my father eminently a man of Peace can only reconcile his appearance at departure, to a changed condition of environment, long since passed away; and only existing are the pages of History, and the memory of a living few. With closely cut hair, lest in some unlucky time a "red skin" might try to remove his scalp, a "six shooter" in his belt, and a rifle on his shoulder, my recollection points him as the typical pioneer of his day, when on that early Spring morning in '64 he bade my mother and myself "goodbye" as he started for Idaho.[34]

In addition to the wagon, pistol, and rifle already mentioned in Will's reminiscence, the following supplies were taken on the trek: team of mules, harness, tent for wagon cover, 40 pounds of sugar, 40 ft. of rope, 29 pounds of ham, 6 pounds of lard, sundries, 5-gallon water cask, 10 pounds of coffee, screws and bolts, 2 papers of tacks, bake oven, hay, milk, bushel of corn, apples, peaches, and lead for

bullets, fresh pork, 3 pounds of nails, gold pan, sack of flour, 3 woolen shirts, pair of woolen blankets, pair of rubber blankets, pair of boots, shovel, 2 other rifles, one pint of Brandy, l oz. of quinine, and 4 pounds of smoking tobacco.[35]

On that day, he left Edna, with $60. They managed to travel l2 miles on bard roads that day before night fall.[36] His destination was originally the mines of Idaho; however, the portion he finally reached was included in the new Montana Territory. While Hedges was in route, Montana was created by Congress on May 26, l864.[37]

Hedges traveled with his partners southwesterly across Iowa, passing through Vinton, Le Grand, Newton, and they reached Des Moines on the 25th of April. Continuing, they passed through Adel and Lewis, crossed both forks of the Nishnabotna River and reached Council Bluffs on April 30.[38]

On May 2, they crossed the Missouri River by ferry and camped just west of Omaha. Traveling along the north bank of the Platte, they reached Columbus, then the outpost of settlement on May 6 and Hedges utilized his last opportunity to stay in a hotel before crossing the plains. By May 11, they reached the struggling frontier settlement of Kearney, and it was that day he recorded first eating buffalo meat.

Travel on May 15 and 16, put them into the sand hills region with tougher traveling; so on the 17th, they lightened their load by 328 pounds and pocketed $19.68 from the sale.

On the afternoon of May 20, they "passed Ash Hollow, saw teams coming on opposite side of Platte." They were in sight of the landmarks of Chimney Rock and Court House Rock during the days of the 21st and 22nd, passed Scotts Bluff on the 23rd, and camped on the north side of the North Platte River opposite Fort Laramie on May 25. Hedges walked six miles each way to visit the Fort just to receive the dejecting news that there was no letter waiting from Edna. However, he did learn that the Major commanding the post was a Royal Arch Mason.

From Fort Laramie they continued traveling west on the north side of the North Platte, but they were detained four hours on the 26th by a false accusation and arrest for taking stray cattle. They reached Platte Bridge Station (the site of present Casper, Wyoming) on June 2, and Hedges crossed the Platte by bridge to deposit

letters for Iowa. As they crossed the Wyoming plains, more and more small trains banded together for added protection and by June 5, he noted: "more teams came in today; our train is over 100 wagons now."

Notwithstanding their drunken guide, a Frenchman named Rouleau; they averaged 20 to 25 miles on most days. They reached the Wind River, known as the Big Horn River north of the Wind River canyon, on June 11 and crossed it on Sunday, June 12. The wagons were ferried, but they "swam" the horses and mules.

That evening on the other side, Hedges for the first time since leaving Council Bluffs noted:

"Preaching in the evening" and he added "good sermon."

Moving northward into the Big Horn Basin, they camped on the "Greybull" River on June 15. The route they were following was a new cut-off which Jim Bridger was in the process of blazing. And on the 17th, their train learned from two of Bridger's men that the Bridger train was but 12 miles ahead. A portion of his journal entry for June 23, read:

> "Went up mountain and saw Yellowstone and junction of Clarkes fork with it water cool and good, good grass."

On the 25th, the Journal contains two points of special interest; first, they overtook Jacob's train, and second, his true love for books and knowledge was shown by the fact that he was reading "Richardson's Monitor of Freemasonry" out there on the trail.

Near the end of the trip, their wagon broke down. They reached the Yellowstone River on July 2, and on July 3, he sadly recorded:

> "Up before 3 and began the melancholy work of cleaning our wagon preparatory to leaving it. I repacked everything to suit a man who was willing to carry our things and double team. Old wagon soon disappeared - It almost brought tears and made one feel more like being homesick than anything else. Nothing can be got without much trouble."

The next day, Independence Day, they overtook Jim Bridger and his train and traveled with them the remaining distance to Virginia City. They also crossed the Yellowstone that day by ferry, with the ferry charge of $2.50. Hedges entered the following into his journal.

> "We spent July 4th on the river at the crossing and that morning the mountains and foot-hills all around us were white with fresh-fallen snow. I spend most of the day fishing and caught several handsome strings of trout, enough to last use two or three days on our further journey. Some left the train here and started for Virginia City on horse-back, which was told them could be made in four days. Jacobs persuaded many that he knew a better route to the Gallatin than Bridger proposed to take, but our team stayed with Bridger. When we came out near where Bozeman now is, we, who were in advance, saw who followed Jacobs in the valley below."

> "In the Yellowstone Mountains bear were so numerous that we counted no less than seven at one time. Here it was that my reputation as a hunter came near costing my life. Several who had tasted the antelope I had accidentally and providentially shot, insisted that I should head a party to hunt bear. I could not well go back on my reputation and started with a half-dozen men who agreed to stay with me to the end. We had not far to go or long to wait till us a large bear apparently hunting for us and coming through an opening at a pace that was rapidly covering the interval. I had barely time to get a position by a large boulder when the bear was within shooting distance. The situation was becoming intensely interesting but I reserved my fire until I could be sure of hitting the bear. The ball evidently hit the best, for he staggered some and changed his course to my great relief. On looking around for my associates there was but one in sight and he was up a tree. Reflecting upon my narrow escape and the character of my support, I resolutely decline to serve on the inquest of that bear and have charitably hoped the wound was not fatal."

On July 7, he recorded "passed the headwaters of Yellowstone undoubtedly the confluence of the Shields River with the Yellowstone and struck those of the Gallatin."

By the 9th the Madison River was reached and on July 10, he finally recorded:

> "Started out at 6:30 to go up to Virginia City estimated 15 miles, found it 40 and much uphill at that got very tired before I got through - reached the city about 2:30, got some lunch. Everything going on auctions, goods selling cheaper than in the states found it much different than what I expected no letter walked back 6 miles to wagons - pretty tired."

The next day their train rumbled into Virginia City and finally on the 13th of July, a letter reached Cornelius from his wife. On his third day after arrival at Virginia City, Hedges attended Masonic Lodge.[39]

He was later to write and describe situation which he found in Montana Territory and at Virginia City upon his arrival:

> "In the early organizing history of no single state in the Union, were there such rough, discordant elements brought together as in the case of Montana, and to render the situation still worse almost the entire population was gathered in a few camps where the sentiment of the majority represented the whole. There was no recognized circulating medium but gold dust. Greenbacks were at a discount, when received at all their only use was for the merchants to send east to purchase goods. There was no Sunday as distinguished from the other days except by increased gambling and dissipation. The very ease with which fortunes were made in the mines encouraged recklessness in squandering them and every sort of dissipation and crime. In such a devil's hot-bed were scattered a few seeds of Masonry. Greenbacks were then worth only 40 cents on the dollar, when negotiable at all."[40]

About the same time Cornelius was arriving in Virginia City, Edna and Willie left Independence to return to Mrs. Hedges' girlhood home at Southington, Connecticut. There they remained until the spring of 1867, with Cornelius joining them in the late fall of 1866.[41]

Meanwhile, Hedges was going through the agonizing, often heartbreaking, process of putting himself on a solid financial footing. For the first month and one-half, he and Henry Clark worked for wages shoveling tailings and providing the "elbow grease" for some of the windlasses in Highland Gulch near Summit City, just above Virginia City. Their initial wages were $5.00 per day. [42]

On July 20, he commented "the sweat rolled off, my hands soon blistered - It seemed as though I could not long holdout - somehow survived. Hardest day's work I ever did." By the 22nd, he confided "learned to slight my work some, find that no one else will do the work at the wages…wrists lame and swollen."[43]

On July 28, their sugar gave out and they went without, thus by August 2, they were living on beef steak, bread, and butter.[44] In the ensuing time; Tim Wilcox wanted to trade their team for a ranch and had found a chance for such a trade. Henry and Cornelius were at first opposed, but they finally allowed him to sell the mules and harness for not less than $275 and then divide the money. Tim succeeded in selling them for $300, and on August 10 and 11; they divided communal property and paid joint bills:

> "So, we separated amicably," wrote Hedges on the 11th, "at Tim's sole request -Hope he will do well."[45]

The separation was of business interests only, for Tim, too, moved near Helena in 1865, and the friendship of the Wilcox's and Hedges' continued for years. Both his luck and mood ran in streaks. On August 20, he wrote "Saw many of our fellow travelers very few have acted wisely or have done as well as we have." But by the 24th, with a prospect of a reduction in wages, he was contemplating returning home. He reasoned "It looks more and more discouraging claims working out, hands discharged, pilgrims coming, prices going up & wages coming down, we'll see."[46] For the sake of the future of Montana, it's extremely fortunate that his luck took an upturn.

On September 1, they finally were able to buy a claim. They (He, Henry, and two fellows by the name of John and Whit) bought into Claim #66 in Highland Gulch, complete with cabin, tools, boxes, and a set of gold scales. The 2nd was spent moving their effects from their tent to the cabin; and on Sept. 3, he wrote "we all went to work on our claim stripping for a pit -took turns with wheelbarrow -Did a hard day's work, but enjoyed being my own master." On the cultural Side, he noted that day that he had read The Montana Post for the first time.[47]

The acquisition, however, of a claim was not the magic answer to success; the total run from their pit was only $60.60, and of that, $33.85 came out of one day's run. Thus by September 14, they were back to working for wages.[48]

On the 17th, they took up a new claim, and with renewed hope sent one of their number, Dave, to join in on the Yellowstone gold rush.

By October 1, he was back with the discouraging news of a false alarm. And the next day, Hedges related "traded my pistol to Dave for his share of the pony... traded one rubber blanket for his bake oven -Dave is going home."[49]

His luck continued to run in streaks, on October 19, he traded his gold watch for a $27 lumber bill, but the very next day they had their best run yet, cleaning up $51.30. And by November 9, they had contracted for yet another claim at $750, payable in monthly installments as it came out of the ground.[50]

In spite of the long, hard days of toil, there was diversion, and occasionally a few bright spots. On October 22, because the ditch broke and he could not work, Hedges went to town to hear Samuel McLean and Wilbur F. Sanders debate. Even though still a Democrat, Hedges confided "Liked Sanders best, almost persuaded to vote for him."[51] As it turned out, he did not the first time,[52] but that day did begin a life-long friendship which ended only with Sanders death in July, 1905. The election returns resulted in only a one-seat majority for the Republicans in the territorial Council (Senate), a one-seat majority for the Democrats in the House, and the election of Democrat Samuel McLean as Territorial Delegate.

One of the happiest days of the year for Cornelius was November 22, when he received news of the birth of another son on October 28, at Southington, Conn, and his response was:

> "How thankful for such good news." The new-born was named Henry Highland, because Hedges was then working in Highland Gulch.[53]

Problems continued, in mid-December, due to disputes over water rights and side ditches, could not get the necessary water to work their claim.[54] But to off-set that, "lady luck" smiled in time to give them an early Christmas present - three days of good run. On the 22nd, they took out $98, with one nugget worth $11.10, they cleaned up $30.85 on the 23rd, and just $22.50 on the 24th. His first Christmas day in Montana was marked by a visit from Tim Wilcox.[55]

In January, 1865, Cornelius Hedges moved on over to Last Chance Gulch and the infant settlement called Helena City, arriving in town on January 16.[56] Thus he took up residency in a town he was to call home for more than 42 years. The town grew to be the capital city and it also grew to appreciate Cornelius Hedges and his unselfish contributions to its development. Soon after arrival, he "stuck out his shingle," and opened a law practice with a library containing only one book, Everybody's Lawyer, so he was to later tell his former townsmen at Independence, Iowa.[57]

He was admitted to the Montana Bar by the Montana Territorial Supreme Court in 1865,[58] and in the same year began serving his first term as U.S. Attorney.[59]

In 1875, Cornelius commented on an account of his first case in Helena:

> "The first law suit in Helena, before Squire Miles was an action of forcible entry and detainer over a jumped town lot, in which' Cornelius Hedges as a regular editorial writer on July 4, 1872, and as the Justice reserved his decision, not being very clear either as to the law or the facts, the lot in the meantime, by a sort of a compromise, was sold for the benefit of the attorneys."[60]

Hedges also worked a mining claim in the summer of l865 to supplement his law income. It was located in the Mount Hope Lode on the east side of Grizzly Gulch.[61]

During l865, Hedges also became chiefly responsible for organizing a Masonic Lodge under dispensation, with the able assistance of Mark A. Moore. It was only the third Masonic Lodge organized in Montana, and it was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colorado as Helena City Lodge No. 10 in the same year.

"The inestimable Cornelius Hedges," as William C. Campbell referred to him, was chosen Worshipful Master upon organization and again at the election in December, l865, he was elected to serve another year as Master of his Lodge.[62]

During April of 1865, near its close, news was received in town of Lee's Surrender, and the Union folks, then in a minority, determined to celebrate the event, but not flag was to be found in the country. There was no little trouble in finding enough Union

women to make a flag, but it was finally accomplished and the flag run up on a tall pole in from of Perkins and Hughes auction store, just above where the Cosmopolitan Hotel now stands. I was living nearly opposite and there were a dozen resolute men there watching that flag-pole, for many extreme southern sympathizers of which the country was full at the time, had sworn sulphurous oaths that the flag would not remain there till morning. Perhaps the sight of some gun-muzzles protruding from the windows opposite moved a reconsideration of that resolution. At any rate his first flag of our country that ever floated to the breeze in Helena was "still there" to greet the rising sun and cheer the hearts and eyes of loyal men. The Union men, although greatly outnumbered were resolute and respected, and let it be said to their credit there were southern men like Edwin Warren Toole and others, who used all their influence to restrain the more reckless and rampant from note of violence.

They confessed that the war ended with Lee's surrender and that it was worse than useless to keep alive the bitter feelings that the war engendered."[63]

MONTANA

Montana territory coat of arms (illustrated, 1876) by Henry Mitchell Restoration by Godot13 - The State Arms of the Union, Boston: L. Prang & Co.. Licensed under Public Domain.

In a letter to his Parents, Cornelius wrote about life in early Helena:

Dear Parents

I presume you have not forgotten your boy in the Rocky Mountains & would like to hear from him & know of his welfare. I am comfortably situated in this city where I have been since last winter. I am still practicing law though business has been rather dull of late - I have held my own & been steadily advancing since I have been here. I have a third interest in three lots on Main St. On two of which we have houses. One we rent for $30 a month & we rent part of our office where we are to the county for $75.00 a month. We rent the other lot without improvements for $30.00 a month - I have two cabins of my own besides that rent for $10.00, a month, one - the other is not finished.

I have 300 feet of gulch claims to which we have been running a Drain that has cost me already $400. In gold & it is not finished yet. I don't know as the claims will be worth anything but hope & think so - I have about 10,000 feet of Lode claims that may prove rich but nothing is known yet - In fact nothing is sure here but what one has in his hands. Perhaps I couldn't sell all I have here for $1,000 but I know I wouldn't take $5,000 for it.

I am going to stay here one year more & see what I can do in that time. If I can't make any-thing in that time I shall come home anyway - I have seen about as much of the mountains as I desire without I get some good pay for it. It is a hard life at best, full of self-denial & hardship. Living is very high without any luxuries - We hardly ever see any fruit - vegetables are scarce - potatoes are pretty cheap now, only 10 cts a pound, milk is 25 cts a quart & butter $1.75 a pound - Flour is $24.00 a hundred - So we live -Yet there is some constant excitement. Everyone expects to make a fortune any minute. . . .

It is a pretty hard country to get a start in, but after being once started it is pretty easy to make headway, if one is careful - I am satisfied with what I have done since I came up here - I lost all I made last season entire - But I learned by it & will try to keep clean in the future.

Life is full of danger here - We have lots of men who are ready to murder for a few dollars. Only yesterday a man was shot not half a mile from a town in open day & robbed of all his money - He started on foot a few minutes ahead of the stage & was to get aboard when it overtook him - They found him lying in the road Twenty men were out hunting the murderer yesterday but have not found him yet if found he won't see sunrise again - Civil law is but little guarded - Men protect themselves & hanging or shooting is the general remedy. . . .

I wish I could have some apples & cider once in a while - I dreamed the other night of eating apples. It is the nearest I have come to having any for a long time - This is the season of the year that I always loved at home, I would like to help father through his fall work, gathering corn & potatoes & apples - How strange it all seems I never see a fruit tree of any kind - There is nothing but pine here - I am one of the county commissioners here now - I was candidate for District Attorney on the Union ticket - I expect I am defeated as the south are much the strongest in this section- I would like to hear from you very much & all the neighbors & relatives. . . .

With Much Love Yours Truly Cornelius Hedges [64]

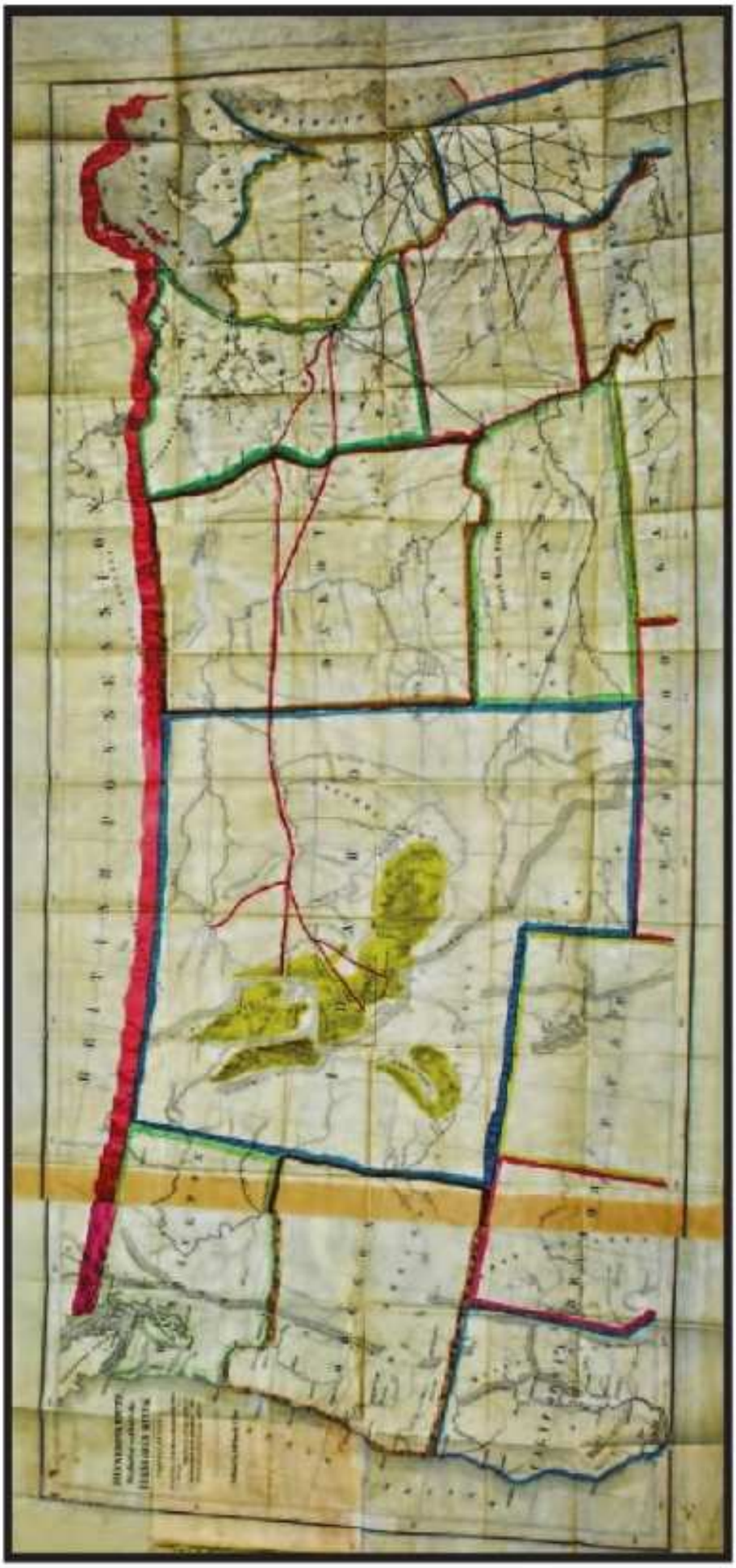


Figure 5. A Map of Idaho similar to this was used by Hedges in 1864.

This Distant Territory~Montana

In January of 1866, speaking before the Travellers' Club in New York City, Chief Justice of the Montana Territory, Hezekiah L. Hosmer. Hosmer served as Grand Secretary in 1870, while Cornelius Hedges served as Grand Master. Justice Hosmer made the following statement which captures the nature of the territory at that time:

"What will be the future of Montana? We see her now in her infancy, fresh, vigorous, struggling with countless difficulties for existence. What she will be when that triumph is achieved, and, strengthened by the conflict, she begins to unfold her riches of her mountains and valleys, who can tell? That time is near at hand. Until it comes, let me bespeak for her your charitable consideration of all that you may find in her condition and resources which promises to advance the interests and promote the glory of our common country."[65]

On January 24, 1866, Cornelius Hedges was among 19 Master Masons representing their Lodges: Virginia City Lodge #43, Montana Lodge #9, and Helena City Lodge #10, who met in Virginia City to form the Grand Lodge of Montana, A. F. & A. M. After two days of writing the By-Laws, Rules of Order, and Standing Resolutions, officers of the new Grand Lodge were elected and Hedges was elected to the position of R.W. Senior Grand Warden.[66]

It was of this organization that Robert Morris, poet laureate of Masonry and founder of the Order of Eastern Star, was to comment in Helena in 1887. That he remembered very distinctly the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Montana in 1866.

"It excited at the time much interest among the fraternity in the States. So little is known of this distant Territory, only reached by long and painful pilgrimages by wagon or stagecoach that we should not have been much more surprised to hear of the Organization of a Grand Lodge at the North Pole than here."[67]

In June, 1866, Cornelius Hedges was among the members of the Helena Bar signing a request for permission from Territorial Supreme Court Justice L. E. Munson to publish the June 4 decision upholding a motion to dissolve the most recent legislative session and declare their legislation null and void.

The permission for publication was addressed to W. Chumasero, C. Hedges and other members of the Helena Bar,[68] indicating that Hedges was quite instrumental in making the request and certainly that Hedges was opposed to that 1866 session of the so-called Legislature.

In the fall of 1866, Hedges made his first trip home from Montana. This was not the return of the vanquished but rather a trip to escort his family back to his adopted home in Montana. By early November, he reached his old home town of Independence, Iowa. The Independence Conservative remarked: "Mr. Hedges looks very rugged, and we are impressed with the idea that he has succeeded in accumulating a good amount of 'this world's."[69]

By mid-month he had left Independence for the east and soon was reunited with his family, Edna, Willie, and Henry, in Southington, Connecticut. The winter was spent visiting relatives and friends both at Southington and at Westfield, Massachusetts.[70] Again Will's boyhood recollections of his father's return were quite vivid:

"It is needless to say that Ulysses returning from his wanderings was no more a hero, than was father to my young imagination. The gold nuggets be actually produced from a buckskin bag, assured me that he in very truth had found and "cached" the "golden fleece" somewhere among these mountains. The genuine Indian bow & arrows, the former covered with the skin of a bad rattlesnake, and the latter from a full buffalo skin "quiver and which I had shown to every boy in town before noon of the next day after receipt, convinced me of his physical prowess and I felt sure that it could be no uncommon thing for such an adventurous one to kill a few bear and buffalo for breakfast most any day; and that without doubt a few Indian scalps were laid away in the bottom of his "grip" to be exhibited to the "natives" a little later on."[71]

In March, 1867, the Hedges family moved west accompanied by Mrs. Timothy Wilcox and her daughter Clara, and by April 4, they were in Independence, Iowa. On April 6, they learned the river was open and relatively free of ice. Thus the Hedges, the Wilcox's, and now Mrs. Henry H. Clark and her two children, James and Jenny, left Independence by train for Council Bluffs on April 8. They arrived in Council Bluffs on the following day, traveling via Cedar Rapids, Boone, and Woodbine.[72]

Their river-steamer, the "Waverly", arrived on April 10, and they boarded even though all their baggage had not arrived on the loading dock. The steamer finally got under way late on the 11th and traveled 7 miles that first day. After being held up by ice jams in the Missouri on April 12 and 13, they reached Fort Randall, Dakota Territory, on the 22nd and Fort Sully on the 24th. On May 9, they docked at Fort Berthold and they reached the mouth of the Yellowstone and Fort Union by the 14th. Hedges noted in his journal that large herds of bison, numbering into the thousands, were in sight on the 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th of May, and that on the 18th, they ran over 5 bison, but they all survived. The mouth of the "Musselshell" River was passed by the "Waverly" on May 21, and they finally docked on the levee at Fort Benton on May 25.[73]

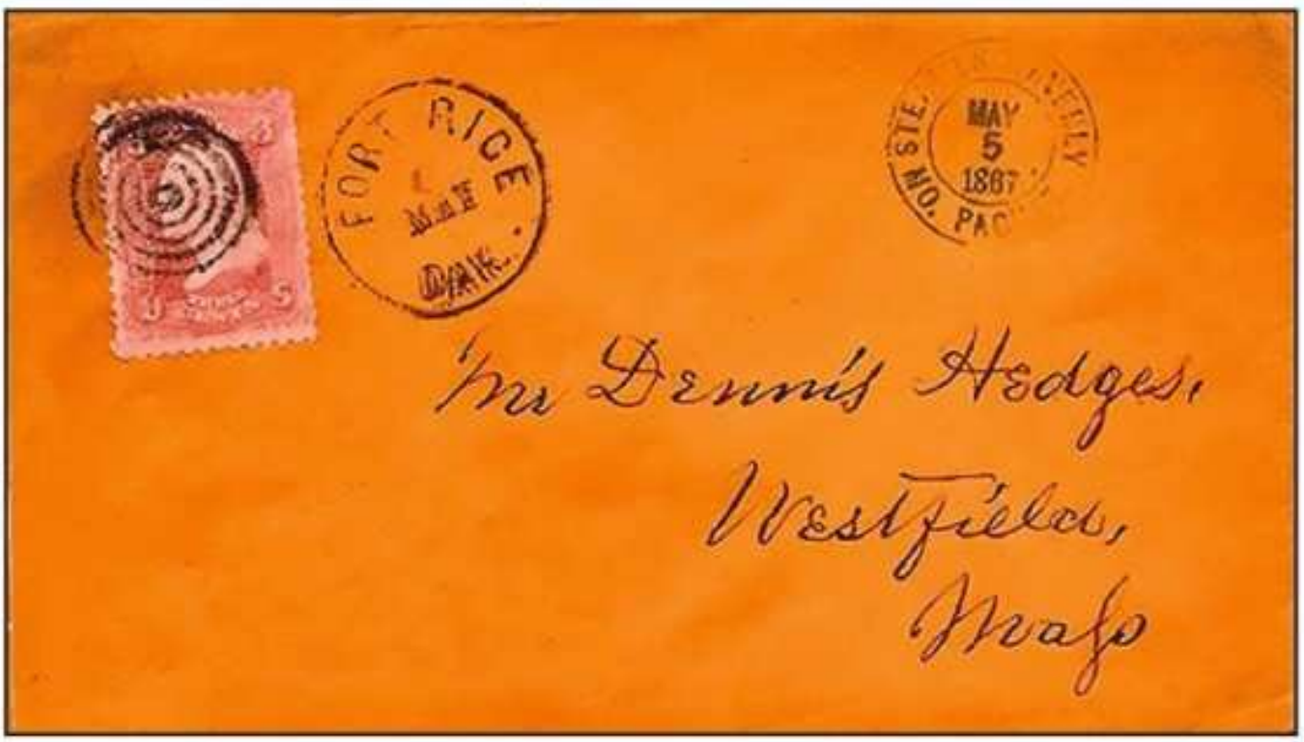


Figure 6. Cornelius Hedges sent this letter to his father in Westfield, MA. It was carried by the Steamer Waverly Mo. Packet. Note the Waverly hand stamp on the upper right dated May 5, 1867. A "packet ship" was originally a vessel employed to carry post office mail packets , Packet trade generally refers to any regularly scheduled cargo, passenger and mail. Ref: The Steamboat Postal History of Dakota Territory, by Ken Stach, and Mike Ellingson.

The steamer Waverly had a short history; it was a wooden hulled, stern-wheeled, packet measuring 200 feet long, by 34 feet wide, by 5 feet 5 inches deep and weighed 324 tons, powered by two boilers. The vessel was launched in 1866 in Metropolis, Illinois. She was owned by John P. Kiser, Thomas Raigin, and Capt. Thomas W. Rhea. The Waverly was destroyed on Nov. 24, 1867 on the down river run from Omaha to St. Louis when it became snagged near Bowling Green Bend, Glasgow, Mo. The boat cost $50,000 when built and is said to have paid for herself on the first round trip to Fort Benton.

On the third day out, April 14, Henry was playing and broke his leg. By overtaking the "Walter B. Dance" just ahead of them, they obtained the surgical services of James Stuart to set the leg. Thus Henry's broken leg became the point of major concern for Cornelius for the entire trip. Will remembers that "At all Posts where there was a surgeon, his services were called on to dress Henry's broken limb, which mended rapidly, and ultimately became quite well."[74]

A Steamer similar to the Waverly.

At Benton, Mrs. Wilcox and Clara left immediately by stage for Helena. However, because Mrs. Clark was badly affected with rheumatism, Hedges hired Johnnie Leach and his two wagons to convey the party with their baggage to Helena for $70. They departed on May 26.[75] they "encountered the 'usual rainy' season which was such a terror in those early days. The Dearborn was very high; and wagon boxes had to be raised up in order that the sick and our goods might not get wet,"[76] according to Will. Their route carried them through Wolf Creek Canyon on King and Gillette's Road, and past Malcolm Clarke's ranch in the Prickly Pear Valley, reaching Helena on June 1.[77]

It was then time again to get settled. On June 10, Hedges leased his old law office for a period ending January 1, 1868, for $125 in bankable gold dust. And on the 11th, he moved his family into a small house on Joliet Street, from Ten Mile where they had been staying with Widow Durgus until the tenant vacated the house.[78] The family moved again when Cornelius purchased the house, furniture and books of J. E. Vinton, a local Attorney on July 22, 1867.[79]

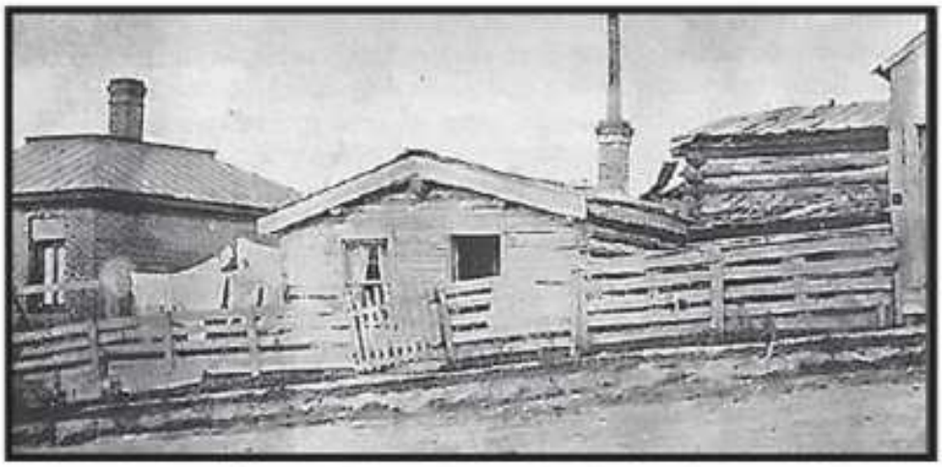


Figure 7. First home of Cornelius and Edna Hedges, on Joliet Street, Helena, Montana Territory.

In 1867, Hedges joined in a law partnership with Robert Lawrence and L. M. Burson; their offices were on Broad Street, near the Post Office, and their professional advertisement boasted "Will practice in all the Courts of the Territory."[80]

From the tone of his journal entries, all of his time after returning west in June, 1867, was spent for the next year in legal practice. He was still U.S. Attorney, on October 1, 1867, when he sent a bill of $175 to the Secretary of Interior for services rendered as U.S. Attorney-as well as paying $25 to renew his "Law License."[81]

The birth of Emma Marion was recorded on September 19, and as always, it served as a source of pride and happiness to the entire family.[82]

Another office of public trust was accorded Hedges on February 7, 1868, when he was appointed U.S. Commissioner. On the 10th, he took the oath of office and filed his commission with the Clerk of the District Court. However, his first action as U.S. Commissioner was not performed until March 31, when he issued a warrant against W. H. Gernhart for selling liquor to the Indians on the little Blackfoot.[83]

The item of a home again became important to the Hedges family, when Cornelius spent most of June 10 making preparations to build, which included drawing plans and making estimates. That evening he noted: "materials cheaper than I expected all but lumber." The building progressed through summer into early fall, then on November 4, the growing Hedges family moved into the new home on Broad Street, or Broadway. "Most tried to death," recorded Hedges, "got the beds up and nothing else -paint not done nor dry."[84]

To add to Hedges very crowded schedule, on July 10, he was prevailed upon by Rev. A.M. Hough to become a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church.[85]

One cannot fully-appreciate the activity and influence of Cornelius Hedges in Helena until he realizes the schedule that Hedges maintained. I have chosen the week of July 13 to 19, 1868 as a fairly typical week in his life. Through the years, the specific activities might change but rarely the frequency of occurrence. On Monday night, he attended Council meeting of York Rite Masonry, and on Tuesday, he tried to attend a meeting of the New England Society, but the Judge had preempted the court house for the evening.

He and Edna attended Good Templars on Wednesday. Thursday, he attended both his Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and a Republican caucus, but in doing so missed a meeting of the New England Society. The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Church occupied his time on Friday evening. Saturday evening be again did double duty by attending both Helena Masonic Lodge #3 and the Republican County Convention, where he was nominated for the legislature. Sunday, as was his custom, he attended two services, morning and evening, with the family and spent the remainder of the day reading. Finally on July 30, this terse entry appears in his journal, "Spent the evening at home - my wife thinks it a rare thing."[86]

In August, Hedges was elected the Chief of the Good Templars, a temperance movement, and held the office until January 20, 1869, When due to some sort of a conflict, he "with several others withdrew from the Good Templars." He, of course, resigned as Chief and recorded in his journal "there was considerable feeling and some improper language, but I am not sorry for what I did and said." There is no indication of the exact nature of the dispute. Although Will later joined, Cornelius never returned to a Good Templars meeting. On January 23, Hedges received a gold chain and seal in appreciation from the seceding Good Templars.[87]

Figure 8. Cornelius Hedges.

Accomplishment and Contribution

On November 20, 1868, Cornelius Hedges began a labor of love that was to last the remainder of his life. On that evening, he was chosen Chairman of a committee to solicit subscriptions and also draft a constitution for the Helena Library Association.

At its organizational meeting, December 5, he was chosen Vice-president and about one year later he was elected President.[88] Speaking of his father's life-long interest in the Library, Will referred to the Helena Public Library as a:

"Monument to Judge Hedges interest in the educational and substantial matters concerning Helena, which he wanted to become a city of homes, with citizens of the most desirable and substantial character."[89]

The greatest tribute paid Hedges with respect to the Library, in my estimation, was a silent tribute. On the day of his funeral, out of respect to its founder, the entire Helena Public Library was closed from noon to 6 p.m.[90]

For some reason, unexplained in his journal, Hedges declined the nomination as Probate Judge at the Republican County Convention on June 19, 1869.[91]

The summer of 1869 brought unexpected pleasure into Cornelius life in the form of a surprise visit from his dad, Dennis Hedges. The elder Hedges arrived in Helena on July 24, and when he left to start home on August 11, Cornelius, seemingly gratefully and admiringly, entered in his journal "It seemed like a dream." [92]

One of the first entries Hedges made in journal for 1870 was:
"I am going to try to do more thinking this year."[93]

In light of the influential suggestion which he made later on in the year - the National Park idea -one could easily assume he fulfilled his goal.

The extent of Hedges civic contributions were again demonstrated in March, 1870. On the 12th of that month, the citizens of Helena held a protest meeting against Indian depredations.

Wilbur F. Sanders chaired the meeting, and Cornelius Hedges drafted the resolutions, which included a statement pointing out that 200 white men had been killed and 2000 horses had been stolen since 1865, and a statement "criticizing the government for reprimanding the Army for quelling the redskins."[94]

Horse racing was a popular sport among the miners, and races in the streets of the camps were common pastimes. By the 1860's Horse racing in the Montana Territory had become big business, the roots of horse racing were in Virginia City, Deer Lodge and Helena. The Territorial Fairs in Helena helped develop Montana's racing history. Helena's fair association reorganized in August of 1870, purchasing property north of Helena. Association trustees included Cornelius Hedges, C. W. Mather, John Kinna, Hugh Kirkendall, A. M. Holter, D. C. Corbin, D. A. G. Flowerree, Conrad Kohrs and J. F. Forbis. By 1884, Helena had become a main part of the Montana race horse circuit that included Butte and Bozeman. After statehood in 1889, it became the State Fair. In 1890, the State Fair attracted horses from as far away as Spokane and Denver. "Helena," said the Independent, "has the only regulation racecourse in the state; it is as smooth as a billiard table ..." The state began to subsidize the fair in 1903. By 1914 the Montana Legislature passed a statute that prohibited betting on horse races and brought an end to horse racing.

In August, 1870, Hedges began a trip that became important beyond all expectations. The excursion he took was the famous Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition into the Yellowstone region. The party was to leave the Yellowstone region the next day, and that night they sat around the campfire discussing the wonders of nature they had seen and the possibilities of its development as a resort area for pecuniary gain. Hedges listened awhile and then spoke. What he said was completely in harmony with his total nature marked by unselfishness. N. P. Langford's Diary states it well:

"Mr. Hedges then said that he did not approve of any of these plans – that there ought to be no private ownership of any portion of that region, but that the whole of it ought to be set apart as a great National Park, and that each one of us ought to make an effort to have this accomplished."[95]

Thus the "National Park idea" was born. To complete the story of the journey, they reached Virginia City on September 23, and Hedges returned to Helena on September 27.[96]

About a month later another very important event of his life occurred. On November 2, at the 6th Annual Communication of Montana Grand Lodge, he was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Montana, and the next day he was installed and received the gavel from N. P. Langford, retiring Grand Master.[97] and a year later, after serving a very admirable term as Grand Master, near the end of his Grand Master's Address, he said the following, again completely in harmony with his benevolent nature:

> "The hour has arrived when I may devolve upon you the heavy responsibilities that you entrusted to my keeping one year ago. They have been in my hands a sacred trust, which I believe I can restore to you unimpaired. The honor of the high position to which your unsought suffrages exalted me, in my estimation results only from the credit and success attending the discharge of its duties and trusts. I have sought with single purpose to serve Masonry and you, and thus to deserve your approbation and the resulting honor. With this end attained my highest ambition is satisfied, and I lay aside the emblems of power with more pleasure than I assumed them."[98]

In yielding the gavel of authority to James R. Weston on October 5, 1871, Cornelius Hedges retired to the ranks of the Past Grand Masters,[99] not yet having reached his 40th birthday. Upon reaching his 40th birthday on October 28, 1871, the self-critical Hedges commented:

> "My 40th birthday -Truly I have become a man if ever I am going to be - Have felt very irritable & cross, unworthy of my character --Must I always be so weak in this respect.[100]

In 1871, while he was serving as Grand Master, he was reappointed U. S. District Attorney by President Grant."[101]

While attending a session of the Supreme Court at Virginia City in the capacity of U. S. Attorney, Cornelius noted "Governor tendered me the appointment of Superintendent of Public Schools."[102] Governor Benjamin F. Potts gave him the commission as Superintendent of Public Instruction on January 17, 1872.[103]

In the ensuing six years, until he was replaced by Clark Wright on January 14, 1878, and the two years he served from February 22, 1883, to March 18, 1885,[104] he did much to improve promote and strengthen Montana's public schools.

Undoubted, his greatest contribution to Montana education was the promotion of compulsory annual Teachers Institutes in every Montana county.[105] Dean James M. Hamilton, another prominent early Montana educator, says "Hedges more than any other person deserves the title of founder of the Montana territorial public school system."[106]

The promotion of Montana as a place for settlement of families was an ideal to which Hedges subscribed. Many of his journal entries show that he was active in such endeavors during the 1870's and early 1880's. On April 1, 1872, he noted he had attended an emigration promotional meeting in the afternoon, and in the evening, he attended a Railroad meeting. On April 3, he recorded in his journal that he had telegraphed Delegate Clagett for a Railroad charter. It was quite likely the later action was done in the capacity as a secretary of a Railroad promotional group. Again on November 5, 1872, he wrote a Railroad petition to send to Governor Benjamin F. Potts.[107]

Cornerstone laying ceremonies for a new Masonic Temple in Helena at the corner of Edwards and Main, on June 24, 1872, by the Grand Lodge of Montana Masons.[108] During that day, Hedges received an interim appointment as Acting Grand Secretary from Grand Master J. R. Weston.[109] Such a move was necessitated by the removal of Grand Secretary Hezekiah L. Hosmer. Judge Hosmer had been Chief Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court, as Brother Hosmer had relocated to California. [110]

On October 8, 1872, during the 8th Annual Grand Lodge Communication, he was duly elected R. W. Grand Secretary.[111] He held the position until his death on April 29, 1907.

Twenty-five years later in 1897, on the occasion of his Silver Anniversary as Grand Secretary, he was presented a cut-glass inkstand on a suitably inscribed silver tray by Grand Master Edward C. Day on behalf of the Grand Lodge. In reporting such action as part of his Grand Master's Address, he added:

"His modest nature did not permit him to do more than formally acknowledge the gift, but the following day I received from him a letter so characteristic of him, that I read it to you for the reason that in no other manner can I convey to you his expressions of thankfulness for your kind remembrance."[112]

In part of that letter Judge Hedges, had the following to say about his work as Grand Secretary and his Masonic philosophy:

> "Little did I think when I took the office of Grand Secretary on the departure of Brother Hosmer, that it would occupy so much of my time and service through the best years of my life? Surely it was not for the higher honors, and still less for the slender emoluments of the position, but altogether from the encouragement and approbation of my brethren and the growing conviction that I might accomplish as good a life work here as anywhere else in aiding to build up an institution whose influence on the individual is at the same time in sparing and restraining, while upon sanctity it is harmonizing, elevating and liberalizing."[113]

Hedges resumed his affiliation with a newspaper, when on July 4, 1872, he accepted a retainer of $30 per week to write one editorial per day for the Helena Herald. He continued this editorial writing, with some periods of irregularity, until March 16, 1891.[114]

The memorial written on Hedges for the Grand Lodge Proceedings at the time of his death summed up his contribution to Montana in this field, "thus he contributed his part toward the formation of a sound and healthy public opinion."[115]

The year 1872 also brought a change in his law partnership. On October 11, 1872, he dissolved his partnership with Robert Lawrence and "sold him books and accounts for $500," and L. M. Burson had earlier left the Territory. On the 11th, he expressed his sentiments:

> "Rather tired, but it seems good to be alone...It pays to be alone in business. Nearly everybody congratulates me on being by myself."

The next day his worth as an extremely capable attorney was shown well; he noted "Lawrence beggar asked to come in with me, Wheeler also proposes to come in."[116]

Yet another event of 1872 continued to make that year important in his life. It was that year he switched denominations from the Methodist Church to the Presbyterian Church and noted on August 15, a meeting of the fledgling Helena Presbyterian Church in his office.

Four years later, almost to the day, he wrote "Communion at our church - I was ordained elder, with some hesitation and misgiving - I hardly know what my duty was."[117]

There were also times in Montana, that the lack of reliable communication was very disturbing to Hedges with his inquiring mind. The following comment expresses the point well Presidential election in the states - "We got very little news - in the evening just as we expected to hear the results, the wires gave out most provokingly."[118]

Grief struck the Hedges family again at the opening of 1873. Edna and the children were visiting in New England and had been for most of the year 1872. On the evening of New Year's Day, 1873 he received news of Langford's death his youngest son, named after N. P. Langford.

> Hedges wrote "Overwhelmed by it Sat up all night alone in my office - It seems too bad to believe possible - Tried to write a comforting letter to Edna - Thus ends my Happy New Year - even at its beginning - Our loss is the Childs gain - Gods Will be done."[119]

The year 1873 did bring some joy nevertheless. On October 23, along with several others, he was elected to membership in the Historical Society of Montana. Here also his talents were recognized and utilized by his being immediately elected Recording Secretary.[120]

He prepared much material for the Montana Historical Society and was its recording secretary until 1885 and its president in 1905. If the year 1873 opened with grief, it could at least be said that the year 1874 opened in discouragement for Hedges and most of the other residents of Helena. Helena's most destructive fire occurred on January 9. Cornelius version of the holocaust was written in his journal:

> "The Greatest Fire for Helena - The alarm first about 7 in morning as I was getting up - I went at once - Wind was blowing a hurricane …tried to save some things from my office but lost all - Feared for dwelling house till 2 p.m. when we started a cooking-fire and took first meal - Lost much but saved more - The miracle is that anything is left - Both banks destroyed - Had only 75 cents in pockets -Thank God -Take Courage."[121]

It was a bitter cold morning on January 9, that Helena suffered the worst of her great fires. It was the last of nine destructive blazes in a five-year span. The fire began in the Chinese section of town when a cook reportedly mistook a bucket of oil for water while trying to extinguish a stovepipe fire. Strong winds fanned the resulting flames through a large part of the town, destroying many businesses, 150 homes and all the records of the Montana Historical Society, and much of the records of the Grand Lodge of Montana. One man died when he couldn't escape from the second floor of the International Hotel, which burned to the ground for the second time. Helena's fires were abetted by the many fragile wooden buildings crowded close together, as well as the narrow main street through town. In 1886, a fire watch tower called the "Guardian of the Gulch" was built on Tower Hill overlooking downtown Helena and remains there today.

Again the sweet came with the bitter, another son was born to Edna and Cornelius on March 14, 1874. He was named Cornelius, Jr., nicknamed "Toby", and succeeded his father as Grand Secretary of the Montana Grand Lodge in 1907 after serving several years as Assistant Grand Secretary.[122] And in late spring and early summer he returned east for a family reunion on the occasion of his parent's, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hedges, Golden Wedding Anniversary on May 13, 1874.[123]

He left Helena for the east on April 15, and arrived in Corinne, Utah Territory, on the 21st and traveled by rail to Massachusetts, visiting for about a week in late April in Independence, Iowa. He returned to Helena in early July to learn he had been nominated on the Republican ticket for Territorial Delegate. For the remaining twenty days prior to Election Day, he campaigned vigorously.[124]

However, he was a Republican in a predominantly Democratic Territory, and that off-set even his highly respected character and acknowledged ability. Hedges himself, the day after the Election Day, acknowledged the final verdict, "news comes in discouraging - Trying to reconcile myself to disaster."[125] A brief account Hedges' political sentiments and affiliations is helpful since it has bearing with the preceding account of his defeat for the office of Territorial Delegate. From early manhood until about 1867, he was a Democrat.[126] Progressive Men of the State of Montana, of which Cornelius Hedges was a compiler, and Will Hedges in an article on his father ascribe the point of change as the Civil War and Lincoln's election.[127]

But Cornelius Hedges daily journal entries contradict this contention. While in Independence, Iowa, he helped organize a Democratic Club.[128] During the Civil War, he took the position that both sides were responsible for the war, and personally, he favored any action that would bring about an honorable peace.[129]

Upon Lincoln's re-election in 1864, he wrote "saw newspaper account of Lincoln's election - more war, debt and disaster."[130]

At the first election after his arrival in Montana, October 24, 1864, Hedges recorded "we all went down and voted - I voted the Democratic ticket, but didn't like it, neither the men nor their principles."[131] The switch to the Republican party occurred sometime between then and mid-summer of 1867.

By July, 1868, he was definitely a dedicated Republican.[132] Thus it appears that his movement to Montana and the conditions he found here, and not the Civil War and Lincoln's election, was the stimulus to switch from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party. In 1874, Judge Hedges was chosen by the Republican party as a delegate to Congress, but in those days of Democratic supremacy he failed of election, although his personal following was remarkable.

As to his effectiveness as a political orator, the Virginia City Madisonian offered one opinion:

"Hon. Cornelius Hedges, of Helena, arrived in the city the first of the week. Mr. Hedges talks better on educational topics than he did on politics when he stood for Congress on the Republican side last August."[133]

Cornelius Hedges office was the scene of a variety of meetings. It was ever at the disposal of those interests which would benefit the entire community and territory. For three days in 1875, April 21, 22 and 23, he was very much involved with a railroad convention and his office served as the meeting chambers of the executive committee.[134] On the evening of May 7, 1875, his office was occupied first by a School Board session and then by a meeting of the Presbyterian Church Trustees.[135] The Helena Board of Trade, forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce, met in Judge Hedges' office on December 2, 1878, and his office was again the scene of another meeting December 4, 1878, this time of the Agricultural Society.[136] Through much of Hedges lifetime, several meetings of this type were held in his offices each month.

Because of his "acknowledged professional ability,"[137] Hedges was appointed reporter for the Territorial Supreme Court on August 9, 1875. On May 25, 1876,[138] he wrote his first abstract of a Supreme Court decision.[139] This position carried the right to abstract the Supreme Court Cases, publish them, and hold the copyright on all the volumes of abstracts written. He held the position until January 28, 1888, when he was asked to relinquish the position, and in the intervening 12 years he published several volumes for which his manuscripts were "always a model for the printer to set up."[140]

During the later years of his life, Cornelius Hedges was admiringly and affectionately known as "Judge Hedges." The right to this title was his public service as Probate Judge for Lewis and Clark County from December 1, 1875, to December 18, 1880.[141]

He first became the Republican nominee for the office on July 3, 1875. On August 2, Election Day, he noted that there were even "several Republicans working against me." The efforts of these party renegades were unsuccessful however. His journal entries for August 3 and 4 contain the story. On August 3, he wrote the following:

> "Independent, the Democratic newspaper of Helena, announced my defeat this morning, but the figures indicate a different result -Heard from all but Sun River during the day and I am about 100 ahead - Democrats concede my election." And the next day he added: "Heard from Sun River about noon -my election assured."[142]

His duties as Probate Judge included performing civil marriages, registrar of town lots, and the hearing of civil and criminal misdemeanors and minor felonies.[143] An example of a case he handled was the criminal case against Tom Travis, a Helena youth, charged with hitting a Chinese laundryman with a stone. He was found guilty, and fined $10 plus costs, which totaled $60.[144]

On November 5, 1878, he was reelected Probate Judge with a majority in excess of 300 votes.[145] His comments concerning the election are rather interesting. On November 2, he wrote: "The confounded election is a continual bother," and on the 3rd, he added "Election matters break up business … Running around to accommodate people all day."[146]

When he ran for reelection in 1880, however, he was concerned with more important matters. In October, l880, three of his children caught diphtheria, and during the election Hedges was much more concerned with their serious conditions than campaigning.

Less than a week after his defeat, Ellen Caroline Noble Hedges, his youngest child, on November 8 died at the age of 2 1/2 years. Judge Hedges last day in office was December 18, l880.[147]

His Journals, June 6, 1887. The final pages of his l876 journal contain a record of the marriages he performed as Probate Judge, with the names of the witnesses, for l876 and 1877. The final pages of his l878 journal contain a similar record for 1878, and the final pages of the 1879 and l880 journals contain similar records for l879 and 1880 respectively, plus a record of fines charged in his court, listed by date, name, charge, and amount of fine for each of the two years, 1879 and 1880.

Hedges often attended the sessions of the Territorial Legislature during his tenure in office as Superintendent of Public Instruction to lobby for better school laws. He attended the 1876 legislative session in such a capacity, and his comment on February 11, indicates he was not too impressed with its accomplishments. He wrote:

> "Legislature closed today, was up till 12 to see it out. Calamities like all else have an end. No school laws changed. Railroad bills all Signed. No Insane bill passed. Helped Governor in looking over some bills."[148]

In acknowledgment of his oratorical ability, Judge Hedges was selected to make the Fourth of July Address for Lewis and Clark County in 1876, in conjunction with the National Centennial celebration of that year.[149] Whenever he made a major speech, he always spent much time in preparation, and this was no exception. He began historical research for the address on the afternoon of June 14, 1876.[150]

On February 20, 1878:"Witnessed the operation of the Telephone in the evening." At that time the telephone was one of the newest marvels of the invention age.[151] The telephone was developed by Bell between 1873 and 1876, and patented in 1876 and 1877.

Those who knew and respected Judge Hedges as a trusted friend were legion, and ranged from the Chinese of the upper Gulch district of Helena to the highest territorial officials. As an example, the friendship between Territorial Chief Justice Decius Wade and Hedges was very close. Many an afternoon, the residents of Helena would see Judge Wade and Judge Hedges out for a vigorous walk of usually a considerable distance.[152] Neither was it uncommon for these two, with several others, to meet for an evening game of whist.[153]

Decius Spear Wade was an attorney, judge, writer, and politician often called the "Father of Montana Jurisprudence" for his role in establishing the common law and statutory law of Montana. He was a judge and state senator in Ohio before serving sixteen years as Chief Justice of the Montana Territorial Supreme Court. Wade was appointed the third Chief Justice of the Montana Territorial Supreme Court by President Ulysses S. Grant on March 14, 1871. His sixteen year tenure on that court was the longest served by any member. He was appointed to three more terms, serving on the court until 1887.

As the Hedges family grew and as their resources increased, there was a need for a newer, more commodious residence. On March 2, 1878, the Judge signed a contract to have built a new, brick-veneer home at the corner of Broadway and Rodney Streets. The cost was $4550, (to be paid in five installments as follows: $1500 on June I, $1000 on July 1, $1000 on August I, $300 on August 15, and the final payment of $750 on September 1.[154] On March 14, he let an additional $310 contract for excavation and laying the foundation, and excavation began on the 18th for the two-story, fourteen-room residence with a cupola. On April 24, they ordered new furniture and carpeting. The brickwork was complete by late July, and the interior finishing began in early August. General painting began on September 18, and the carpeting was laid and furniture was moved to the new house in early October. Finally, on October 22, the entire family slept in the new home that night.[155]

Perhaps the greatest source of pleasure of the new home for Judge Hedges was the library.[156] In later years, Toby wrote to one of his father's friends concerning Judge Hedges and his library, "in Helena with a vast amount of wealth and a good deal of culture, his was undoubtedly the largest and most expensive private Library."[157]

Later, the Hedges added significant improvements for further comfort and appearance. In July, 1886, the boiler and complete apparatus for steam heat was installed.[158] Between September 19 and 23, 1889, an eight-foot concrete sidewalk on the Hedges property was laid bordering Broadway and Rodney Streets.[159] This remained the family home until after Cornelius's death on April 29, 1907, and it is still standing on the northwest corner of the intersection of Broadway and Rodney Streets (320 Rodney Street).[160]

This home remained in Toby's possession for several years after his mother's death in 1912, although Toby never married. Sometime in the 1920's, it was sold to a family who abused it quite badly. In the early 1930's it was purchased by the Crumm family, and the interior and the Broadway Street entrance was radically remodeled for use as a funeral home. During the severe Helena earthquake of 1935, the brick veneer was so seriously damaged that it had to be removed for safety. Due to lack of funds the owners then covered the exterior with Ruberoid shingles instead of brick. Only a small portion of the 1878 brick veneer remains, and that on the small buggy house adjacent to the residence. The building was later used as an apartment house managed by Mrs. Harold L. Benson, sister of the owner. The foregoing material was obtained in an informal interview with the then owner, Mrs. Crumm of Laurel, Montana. The interview was held at Helena on July 16, 1963. Today, it is once again a private residence.

Judge Hedges not only moved into a new home in the fall of 1878, but also new offices. Henry Parchen, a prominent early Helena Druggist and Grand Treasurer of the Montana Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., built a new building that fall. When it was completed in mid-November, Judge Hedges rented the second floor for his courtroom and law offices.[161] His offices remained there until early December of 1885, when he moved into offices in the newly completed Masonic Temple at the corner of Broadway and Jackson. While Hedges had his offices in other buildings, a portion of the rent was borne by the Grand Lodge because he, as Grand Secretary, conducted the business of the Grand Lodge from his law offices. However, the new office with an adjoining room for use as the Grand Lodge Library was provided rent free by the Trustees of the Masonic Temple.

Judge Hedges elaborated further on the situation in his "Grand Secretary's General Report" for that year:

> "In the matter of filling up and furnishing, some expense will be involved, which for the coming year, may be covered, perhaps, by the ordinary appropriation for rent." Hedges suggestion was followed.[162]

On April 27, 1878, the Hedges' last child was born; she died of diphtheria in 1880, shortly after her father's defeat for reelection as Probate Judge. And on September 17, 1878, Will, their oldest son, left home for his own ranch on the Sun River.[163] This was the beginning of the natural dispersion of a large, very close family. Hedges were not immune to sorrows, but his Christian faith never let a sorrow or even a series of sorrows drive him to despair. Shortly after he had seen his youngest, Ellen, die of diphtheria in her mother's arms and had been defeated for reelection as Probate Judge, he wrote this somber, but expectant, farewell to 1880: "So another sad year has gone may its experiences be blurred to me and may all my future life show that I have not suffered in vain."[164]

The citizens of Helena waited nearly 17 years after the first discovery of gold in Last Chance Gulch to incorporate, and when they finally voted to accept a charter, Judge Hedges played an integral part. He was an important member of the committee which drafted the charter submitted to the citizens of Helena, and he drew up the poll books.

On Election Day, March 7, 1881, he served as an election judge. When the votes were counted and the charter had been accepted by a vote of 620 to 56, Hedges simply commented that he was "well pleased with the result."[165]

In order to organize a city convention to nominate candidates for the first mayor, city treasurer, and police magistrate. President Paynter of the Board of Trade appointed initially two persons from each ward. Those persons in turn chose 18 others from their own ward, and the entire 100 persons, twenty from each of the five wards, met as the city convention. Cornelius Hedges, along with S.C. Ashby, was selected from the 2nd ward.[166] On April 14, the organizational City Council meeting was held in rented rooms on the third floor of John H. Ming's Opera House, and Cornelius Hedges was appointed Helena's first City Clerk and City Attorney.[167]

On the 18th, Hedges spent most of the day drawing up the first set of City Ordinances for Helena, and the following evening the City Council adopted them. He was also sworn in as City Clerk and City Attorney on that evening.[168]

It was not until November 10, 1881, however, that the Council fixed the amount of his salary. It was set at $50 per month; he had expected $75.[169] He held the position as City Clerk and City Attorney until June 1, 1882, when he resigned.[170] As a useful instrument in his law practice, Hedges maintained, almost perpetually, a commission as a Notary Public. He held one in Iowa,[171] as well as in Montana Territory. An example of this would be the Notarial Commission he received from Gov. B. F. Potts on May 31, 1881, which was to be valid for three years.[172]

In the late summer and early fall of 1881, Cornelius, his wife Edna, and his son Toby visited in New England and New York.[173] They left Helena on July 7 for Fort Benton and upon reaching Fort Benton; they took passage on a river steamer and arrived in Bismarck, Dakota Territory, on July 19.

They traveled on the Northern Pacific Railroad from Bismarck to Duluth, arriving there at noon on the 21st. The Hedges then journeyed by boat across the Great Lakes via the straits of Sault Ste. Marie, Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair, and into Lake Erie, reaching Cleveland on July 26 and arriving in Buffalo on the 27th. From Buffalo they traveled on the New York Central R. R, to Albany and then to Westfield, Massachusetts, Cornelius' boyhood home, reaching that destination at 6 a.m. on July 28.

During their stay in the east they visited Cornelius' family and friends in and around Westfield, Massachusetts, including a visit with Spooner who was an old Yale classmate, and also with Edna's family and friends in and around Southington, Connecticut. They also visited Boston, August 12 to 15, where they visited the Commons Art Museum and Judge Hedges bought more books. From August 22 to 24, they visited New York City and saw Coney Island on the 23rd. Among Cornelius' other activities while visiting in New England were: hunting family records in both Westfield and Southington; visiting at Berlin, Connecticut, ,there he formerly taught in the academy; sailing on the Connecticut River; and visiting with Grand Secretary J. R. Wheeler of Connecticut's Grand Lodge of Masons at Hartford.

On September 8, they began their return trip by rail to Chicago, and then to Independence, Iowa, for a brief visit. They left Independence on September 17, and reached Omaha the next day. There they boarded the Union Pacific R. R, for Ogden, Utah Territory, and at Cheyenne, they received the expected but sad news of President James A. Garfield's death. From Ogden they rode a narrow-gauge railway to Dillon, and finally returned to Helena in the evening of September 22.

In November, 1881, after 50 years of extensive reading and writing as a lawyer, judge, newspaperman, and lover of books and knowledge, his vision was weakening and he remarked in his journal: "My eyesight is failing perceptibly, I can hardly read or write… now without glasses." [174]

The year 1882 was the low point of morale in the remarkable career of Judge Hedges. The cause of it was chiefly financial difficulties, which were not infrequent during that year. His journal entries for June 26 through July 5, tell of some of his financial problems, but also of some relief brought about by an increase in business and consequently a boost in morale. He closed his journal for that year with "Good Bye to 1882. It has been the most miserable year of my life. May God grant that I never see another like this."[175]

The big excitement for Montana Territory in the summer of 1883 was the completion of the Northern Pacific as a transcontinental railroad, and Hedges again was integrally involved. He was a member of the committee which arranged the welcoming celebration on July 4 for the first railroad train to arrive in Helena.[176] And on August 22, he was one of the few of the privileged local citizens who were extended an invitation to attend the "Golden Spike" ceremony at Gold Creek. Among the other Montana celebrities who journeyed to Gold Creek on the special train consisting of the "St. Paul", Chief Engineer Anderson's private car, and two cabooses were Acting Governor and Territorial Secretary Isaac McCutcheon, Chief Justice Decius Wade, Helena's Mayor T. H. Kleinschmidt, Colonel and Mrs. Wilbur F. Sanders, Samuel T. Hauser, Russell B. Harrison, Nick Kessler , R. E. Fisk, and Samuel Langhorne of Bozeman.[177] McCutcheon, Kleinschmidt, Sanders, Hauser, Kessler and Langhoren were Masons.

An election was held on November 6, 1883, to choose delegates for the 1884 Constitution Convention, and Hedges was a candidate However, it was not until November 21, after an official canvas and a vote recount that Hedges learned that he had been elected over J. R. Weston to a seat in the Convention.[178] Weston served as Deputy Grand Master to Hedges and followed him as Grand Master in 1871.

The Constitutional Convention of 1884 opened at noon on January 14. On the 17th, he was appointed chairman of the Education Committee; that at the same time Hedges was Territorial Superintendent of Public Instruction. He was recognized as a man of great legal ability, while his knowledge on almost every other branch of learning was thorough. Hedges were one of the signers of the 1884 Montana State Constitution.

On January 26, the report of the Education Committee was submitted, debated, and voted upon. At the end of the day, Hedges disappointedly entered in his journal "The Educational Article went thru with little improvement and more mutilation." Judge Hedges chaired the convention session on the 28th. Finally, he was a member of the revision committee to draft the final form of the document, and he contributed greatly in that capacity. On February 9, he noted in his journal the formal signing of the Constitution, and the "Convention closed in the eve with little ceremony singing the Star Spangled Banner song."[179]

Judge Hedges, along with about 250 other men and women who entered Montana and established homes on or before December 31, 1864, signed the constitution of the Society of Montana pioneers on September 10, 1884, and became a charter member of the Society.[180]

Hedges was always looking toward the good of the community, in July of 1884 he helped establish the Mount Hope Cemetery Association. The association purchased forty acres of ground about one mile east of Dry Gulch. The Board of Directors: G. C. Swallow, T. H. Kleinschmidt, R. H. Howey, Wm. Muth, E. D. Edgerton, Cornelius Hedges, A. R. Gates and E. Ballon.

On August 28, 1885, he was elected Corresponding Secretary of the organization and held that office until 1886. On August 24, 1888, Hedges was elected Secretary of the Society at a salary of $150 and served in that capacity until 1892, when he became the Society's Treasurer. He served two years in that position, and he finally served as the President of the Society of Montana Pioneers in 1904 and 1905.[181]

Again in August and September, 1885, Hedges was involved in another activity for the benefit of the community. On August 10, along with Colonel Samuel Bird, John W. Eddy, William B. Reed and A. E. Bunker, Cornelius Hedges was instrumental in the organization of Helena's Young Men's Christian Association. On August 12, he was elected a Vice-President of the Y.M.C.A. The object of the Y.M.C.A. was to work closely with the churches of the city and maintain reading rooms and facilities of like nature for the young men of the city. The formal opening of the "Y" in rooms over Fred Gamer's store on South Main Street was September 1st, but Hedges was unable to attend because of a Knight Templar Commandery meeting that evening.[182]

In October of 1885, in the "Conclusion" section of his "Report on Foreign Correspondence" in the Grand Lodge Proceedings, he apologized for the slowness of publication and adds "But to tell the truth, we have been having our first encounter with rheumatism, in which we come out second best for about three weeks."[183] This affliction continued to irritatingly hinder him from time to time in his active schedule for the remainder of his years.

After experiencing the grief of losing three children of childhood diseases, Dennis, Langford, and Ellen, Cornelius and Edna again experienced the sorrow of the death of a beloved child. This time it was their first grandchild, Hattie Layette Hedges, daughter of Will and his wife Ida. News of her death due to the croup, on January 6, 1886, was received in Helena on January 9, 1886.[184]

Cornelius, in a spirit of independence that he very much enjoyed, had practiced law alone for many years, but on February 1, 1886, he formed a new partnership with a Mr. Miller. However, the partnership was to last less than nine months. On October 20, the notice of Hedges' dissolution with Miller appeared in The Helena Herald. The source of friction was Miller's unending passion for financial experiments; after the failure of a butter company scheme, Miller immediately became enthusiastic about investment in a new quartz mining scheme and wanted Hedges to invest also.[185]

Because of his dedication to and belief in the future of education in Montana, it was a source of great persona; pride for Cornelius when his daughter Emma became the first of the Hedges' off-spring to be graduated from a Helena High School, on June 3, 1887. The Herald termed it "one of the largest classes in the history of the school," it had a total of eight members.[186]

Both Will and Edna Cornelia had graduated from high school or "academy" in New England. Will attended the academy at Westfield, Massachusetts, and had spent nearly two years at Yale College.[187] Edna Cornelia attended Wellesley College in the early 1880's, according to her father's journals. Emma was married to John Woodbridge at the family home on October 17, 1888.[188]

Judge Hedges had been a member of the Bar of the territory since he had first opened a practice in Helena in 1865. On January 4, 1888, he was elected Treasurer of the Bar Association. Often, because of his recognized professional knowledge and ability, he was the person who conducted examinations for admission to the Montana Bar. As an example, he examined C. R. Connelly and David B. Carpenter on January 10, 1888.[189]

The Omnibus Enabling Act to admit Montana, North and South Dakota, and Washington to statehood was passed by Congress and signed by President Cleveland on February 22, 1889. On the second Monday of May, political conventions were held in the 25 special districts, so designated for that purpose, to nominate delegates to draft a constitution.

Nominated from District 14, which was one of four districts in Lewis and Clark County, was a very talented group. It consisted of Republicans, Cornelius Hedges and L. H. Hershfield, and Democrats, Martin Maginnis and Montana's future first Governor, Joseph K. Toole, Governor Toole was a member of Helena Lodge No. 3 and went on to serve as Worshipful Master in 1889 and 1893. At the election on May 14, three of the four were to be elected delegates, and the results chronicled the defeat of Hedges.[190]

On May 15, his journal entry lends insight to the reason for his defeat. He wrote "My opponents and their associates spent lots of money to beat me."[191] When the Convention opened in Helena on July 4, 1889, though not a delegate, Hedges was on hand for its opening.

"Saw the convention sworn in," he wrote, "Though the oath came rather hard to Hershfield."[192] This may have been in reference to the banking interests of L. H. Hershfield, one of the three men who defeated Hedges for a seat. On the 6th, Toby Hedges, was elected a page and eventually received a salary of $172 for his work during the convention.[193]

On July 22 and 23, he attended the convention during the consideration of the Judiciary bill. On the 23rd, he wrote in his diary, with no small sense of accomplishment since he was not a delegate "I got through one amendment."[194] Needless to say, Judge Hedges was an influential person. When they considered the education provisions of the proposed constitution, his journal reveals that he was very disappointed and dissatisfied with the convention's action, especially with their refusal to retain school lands.[195]

Judge Hedges' acknowledged ability as an orator was again utilized on the occasion of the Silver Anniversary of territorial status for Montana. He was the featured orator at ceremonies held in Helena on May 25 at Ming's Opera House. The celebration was held the day before the actual date of May 26, which fell on Sunday.[196]

On August 17, 1889, Cornelius Hedges was named Republican nominee for State Senator from Lewis & Clark County. He was nominated on the second ballot at a Republican Caucus from a field that included A.M. Holter, T. H. Kleinschmidt, and W. A. Chessman, and at one point he wanted to decline.[197] On the day of the election, October 1, Hedges was concerned about the negligence of the County Republican Committee, and at one point he thought "There were signs not only of negligence, but treachery." On the 2nd, he led by a meager majority, and the results were still inconclusive on October 9. However, upon returning from a Presbytery meeting in Missoula, Cornelius learned he had won by a majority of 121 votes.[198]

On November 8, 1889, as a very proud Montanan, Hedges wrote "Montana was admitted as a State today at 10:40 and news received here by 11 a.m. Great rejoicing; All the flags afloat!"[199]

In his Masonic Grand Lodge Correspondence Report for 1889, he further elaborated on his proud, but somewhat over optimistic opinion of Montana's potential:

> "With Statehood and the control of our resources in our own hands we may reasonably expect a larger ultimate, if not rapid growth. Our area is equal to that of the empire of Japan, with its 37,000,000 inhabitants. We have single counties larger than Maine or Indiana, and our sagebrush desert lands, with only water, would yield more wheat, acre for acre, than the richest bottom lands in any part of the Mississippi Valley. It is the destined home for millions in the great future. Stored away in

> our mountains is enough precious metals to pay all the debts of the world and fill everyone's pockets besides. Masonry and our Grand Lodge have a career proportioned to the area and resources of Montana. We have no occasion to envy others."[200]

The First Legislative Assembly was scheduled to convene on November 23, 1889, but it was not until December 19, that the Republican Senators organized to transact some business. Efforts for organization of the entire Senate had been thwarted by boycotting Democratic Senators. On that day, Lt. Gov. J. E. Rickards, President of the Senate, appointed Hedges to the Committee on Rules.[201]

On December 30, Hedges' patience was wearing thin, he wrote: "Most of the day spent in caucus and taking compromise - It came to nothing, thoroughly disgusted and will try no more." On the 31st, the Republican members of both houses met in joint session and proceeded to elect U.S. Senators. Hedges supported W. F. Sanders, who was elected on January 1, 1890.

The next day T. C. Powers was elected. Although they were contested by W. A. Clark and Martin Maginnis for Montana's seats in Washington, they were eventually seated.[202]

On the 15th of January, he commented that he was appointed to all the Senate Committees which he wanted without any previous request.[203] On February 8, after Senator William S. Becker had been brought back to Helena under guard, Hedges wrote:

> "Great Day in Senate, Becker brought back on special -Released from contempt of Legislature till 2/12 but contemplated nothing - Trusted Becker's word that he would be present Monday."

But when Becker left the state, Hedges exhibited his indignation and anger in his journal. To Hedges, honor was a sacred virtue and Sen. Becker had violated it. In bold strokes he wrote "When we met today found that Becker had skipped - All confusion"[204] On the 18th, Hedges "was appointed by the Republican Senators to address the people of Montana and explain the situation to them.[205] The session expired by law on February 20, without any organization of the Senate.[206]

The Second Session of the Legislative Assembly opened on January 5, 1891. On that day, Hedges was defeated 10 to 6 by Sen. William Thurston of Deer Lodge County for the position of President pro tempore on a strict party line vote.[207] Thurston was a Freemason from Deer Lodge. On the third day of the session he was appointed to a three-man committee to meet with the House to decide joint rules.[208] During that session, Senator Hedges was a member of the following standing committees: Corporations other than Municipal, Education, Federal Relations, Judiciary, Public Morals, and Rules.[209] Senator Hedges' term expired in November, 1892.[210]

In a biographical sketch of his father, Will summarized his dad's contribution as a member of the State Senate. As the first Senator from Lewis and Clark County, he "exhausted every honorable means to rise above consideration of partisan advantage" in the enactment of wise laws for the future, which to him was much more important than trivial partisan politics.[211]

At a meeting of the Historical Society of Montana on February 1, 1890, Hedges was elected Vice-president. He succeeded Granville Stuart, who was elected President in place of W. F. Sanders. Sanders had just been elected U.S. Senator and would be in Washington, D.C., much of the time.[212] And on April 3, 1895, Hedges was elected President of the Historical Society.[213]

In July and August of 1891, Cornelius, Edna, and Toby took another vacation trip, this time to the Pacific Northwest and up the "inland Waterway Passage" to Sitka, Alaska. They left Helena on July 31, and sailed from Seattle on August 6. Toby reached Wrangell on the 8th and Sitka on August 12. On the way up, Judge Hedges was much impressed with the "wooded mountains on both sides and patches of snow and cascades" in the inland waterway passage. At Sitka, they were the guests of Territorial Governor Knapp at dinner and an evening Ball.

They returned to Seattle on the 18th of August and visited at Olympia with Grand Secretary Read of the Washington Grand Lodge. They proceeded on to Portland on the 19th and arrived home on August 21.[214] Cornelius Hedges was also off traveling in the summer of 1892. He attended the Templar's General Grand Commandery Triennial in Denver, and he commented, "The chief pleasure and reward anticipated from our Denver Trip was the meeting of fellow laborers in the Masonic vineyard and in this respect we were not disappointed."[215]

In August, 1895, he attended a similar Triennial in Boston. In remarking that he attended that Templar's reunion, he added: "In fact, that is one of the chief attractions to us in making a long pilgrimage to the east at a season when we would much prefer to be in the mountains."[216]

By 1893, his Masonic writing was taking precedence over all other types of writing. He was then writing the voluminous fraternal correspondence report for not only Grand Lodge, but also for Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery because he was the Grand Secretary and Grand Recorder of those respective bodies.[217]

Judge Hedges and wife Edna attended the Masonic Congress in Chicago held during the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. He was appointed as one of five Past Grand Masters to attend and represent Montana, but due to the financial panic of 1893, Hedges was the only one to attend, and he went at considerable personal financial sacrifice.[218]

In 1899, during the long, bitter Clark – Daly fight over the election of the U.S. Senator, Judge Hedges was nominated as a deadlock breaking candidate, and received support of the Republican party in both Houses.[219]

Cornelius Hedges along with W. B. Hundley and Martin Maginnis, acting as Committee of the Grand Lodge of Montana, selected and collected the materials for the metal cornerstone of the State Capitol Building in 1899.[220]

Within the cornerstone: [221]

Register of Members of the Society of Montana Pioneers Presented by James U. Sanders, Secretary.

Photograph of Hangman's Tree, Helena, Montana, and July 1870. Presented by L. B. Lyman, First Register U. S. Land Office.

Volumes 1 and 2, Contributions of Historical Society of Montana. Presented by the State Historical Society.

Piece of flooring from the White House laid in 1798. Presented by Sol. Genzberger.

Printed list of Committees appointed by the Governor to arrange for laying the corner-stone of the Capitol building.

Constitution of the State of Montana. Presented by Secretary of State, T. S. Hogan.

Constitution framed by the Convention of 1884. Presented by Cornelius Hedges.

History of the Society of Framers of the Constitution, and Second Annual Reunion of same Society. By its Secretary, Hon. Henry Knippenberg.

Acts, Resolutions and Memorials of the First Legislative Assembly of Montana, convened at Bannack, Dec.12, 1864. By Secretary of State T. S. Hogan.

Sixth Annual Report of the Bureau of Agriculture, Labor and Industry of Montana, for 1898. By J. H. Calderhead, Commissioner.

Programme of exercises of the corner-stone ceremonies, July 4, 1899.

Complete Codes and Statutes of Montana, also containing the Constitution of the United States. By Ex. U. S. Senator Wilbur F. Sanders.

Weekly Herald of Helena, issued June 29, 1899; and Daily Herald, issued July 3, 1899. - By Publishers.

Proceedings of the Grand Commandery K. T. of Montana, for 1898.

Proceedings of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Montana, for 1898.

Part of a manuscript of George Washington, formerly the property of the Ladies' Mount Vernon Association, saved from fire at Alexandria, Va., in 1867. By Sol Genzberger.

A piece of adobe brick, made at Fort Benton in 1816, and part of the old fort built there in that year. A part of the wall of this fort is still standing. - Presented by Jere Sullivan, of Fort Benton, and brought to Helena by Joseph Hirshberg, Esq.

Photograph of autograph letter of credit from President Thomas Jefferson to Captain Mariweather Lewis, who commanded the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1805. From negative owned by T. H. Kleinschmidt, and presented by W. II. Taylor, Photographer.

List of City Officers of Helena, from its incorporation. Printed list of City Officers and Council Committees of the City of Helena for 1899. — By City Attorney Edward Horsky.

Dimsdale's "The Vigilantes of Montana." By T. H. Clewell.

Roster of officers and members of the First Montana Regiment, U. S. V., together with brief account of their service. By Adjutant General C. F. English; also List of casualties in First Montana Regiment, U. S. V.

Resolution of congratulation to the Montana Regiment, by the Sixth Legislative Assembly of Montana.

Copy of address of Ex-Governor Joseph K. Toole, at the laying of this corner-stone, July 4, 1899.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Montana. Reprint 1866-1872, and for year 189S.- By the Grand Secretary.

Anaconda Standard, issued July 4, 1899. — By J. S. Ailing, Jr.

Weekly Independent of Helena, issued June 29, 1899; and Daily Independent of July 4, 1899. - By publishers.

Daily Butte Inter-Mountain of July 1, 1899. Daily Butte Miner of July 2, 1899

Figure 9. This Gavel belonged to Cornelius Hedges, he acquired during a visit to Washington D.C. and Mount Vernon, and was used during the cornerstone laying of the Montana State Capital building, on July 4, 1899. Presented to the Grand Lodge Museum on the death of Cornelius Hedges.

Hedges presented a second gavel to Helena Lodge No. 3 on November 6, 1897. He had acquired it on a "recent" visit to Washington D.C. and Mount Vernon. In his letter (copy in the Grand Lodge Museum) he stated:

"As a memento of my visit to Mount Vernon, and yet more as a material reminder of the noble character and inestimable services of Washington, I brought away this little implement whose use is well known to a Master, made from the wood of a tree planted by him subsequent to the hatchet period of his early life. And as the first Worshipful Master of Helena Lodge, now more than 32 years ago, when there was no other lodge in our mining camp, I desire that you accept it for the use of the lodge, and may all the virtues that made Washington "first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen" distinguish the Masters of this and sister lodges and be reflected in the character and conduct of their members while time endures."

Figure 10. 1888 Benton Transportation Company Pass used by Cornelius Hedges as Supreme Court Reporter.

The Vigilantes of Montana

Civil law and order was also a concept which Hedges highly valued, but there were times that he, like many early Montana pioneers, found it necessary to resort to extra legal means of maintaining order. This, of course, was the Vigilante movement, which Hedges later defined as the time when:

"The habeas corpus act and the criminals were suspended simultaneously."[222]

It was in the early summer of 1865 when the first murder was committed in Helena. This led to the organization of the Vigilance Committee (the Committee on Safety) for the throng of incomers had brought in many desperadoes from every part of the country and somebody was robbed every day and the gamblers flourished their pistols and told what they would do if the strangers interfered with them. In Hedges words:

A crisis was approaching; the test was to be made. Robbery is not generally regarded as a capital offence, but it was getting to be altogether too common. There were no prisons and banishment was ineffectual besides imposing outlaws on other communities. It was voted to make an example of the next case of robbery and the officers and men selected to carry the decision into effect. It was not long to wait. The first offender was arrested in the largest gambling room in the city, crowded with gamblers who had been uttering oaths that they would shoot the first man who attempted to interfere with their way of doing business.

But the appearance of a hundred men with cocked revolvers and a strong reserve outside with repeating rifles altered the case so much that there was no shooting done. The evidence against the guilty party was quickly disposed of the verdict was death. This was repeated a few times, when panic seized the desperadoes and they left town in a hurry in every direction. In two weeks time it was all over and a more peaceable and orderly community never seen in any part of the country.

"It was rude, rough justice, only to be defended on the plea of necessity and the right of self-defense and self- preservation. When on a subsequent occasion of the kind when one who several times evaded the law was hung from a railroad bridge

> near town and one of our Judges determined to bring these vigilantes to trial, every member of the Grand Jury was a vigilante and no indictments were found. Helena never has forgotten what it owes to the vigilantes, and the law has no more loyal supporters."[223]

His son Will claims that Hedges assisted: "by wise council and active support the wresting of peace and safety from the terror of Henry Plummer and his gang of road agents." Will went on to say "At no time and in no sense one to appeal to force; he was so great a lover of peace and civil quiet."

Hedges wrote of the value of Masonry and the establishment of law and order:

> "Masonry brought together those who were Masons and made them acquainted with each other, and in the stormy events pending and ensuing, it furnished the nucleus around which rallied the "law and order" elements.
>
> "We will not say that all the vigilantes were Masons, but we would not go far astray to say that all Masons were vigilantes. And the knowledge of this fact disseminated among the roughs and road-agents gave them a wholesome dread of seeking victims among those whose death they knew would be avenged. The story of the struggle between these elements has been eloquently told by Brother Langford in his book, "Vigilante Days and Ways," and does not belong to Masonic history especially. We hardly think the annals of history afford a more conspicuous example of the revelry of crime than existed in Montana from 1862 to 1866. There were no courts or officers of law, wealth was flowing from the mines in profusion, men passing constantly from one camp to another exposed to assassination and robbery, gambling and drinking were universal and escape for the criminal was easy. We have seen how hard it was to plant Masonry here conforming to all the requirements of Masonic law and usage." [224]

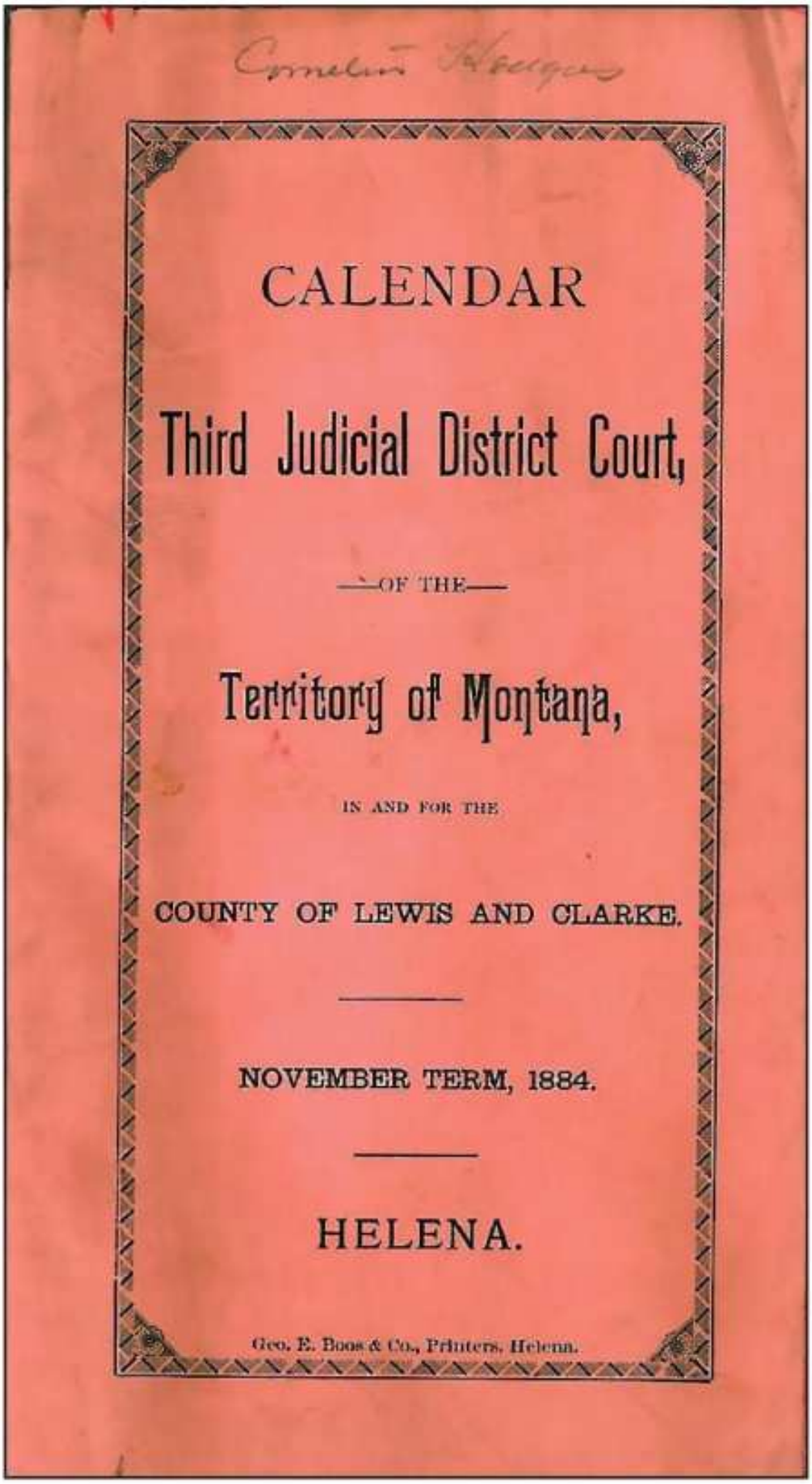
However, Hedges felt "that the lives of notorious renegades should be sacrificed" for civil order for the many. Finally, Will added, his father "stood with the Vigilantes" from 1864 to 1870 when Wilson and Compton were hanged in Helena. During August of 1865, Hedges wrote:

"We shared our Lodge room with another organization which was establishing law and order by raising candidates in a different style. We were watched very closely by the gamblers, and they soon discovered that there was some mysterious connection between Masons and the vigilance committee. These outlaws soon changed their swaggering style and after our executive committee, a hundred strong, not all Masons, by any means, had marched a few times into a room full of gamblers with cocked pistols and taken out some victim whose criminal career had been investigated and led him over to the pine tree and there left him in suspense, there was a sudden change that came over these outlaws. After about seven had been hung in about as many days, there was a general exodus and effort to get out of the country. About two hundred left in one day, by any kind of conveyance that could be procured, and those who could not procure any other means of transportation went afoot and did not tarry till they were beyond the boundaries of Montana. It was wonderful what a transformation came over the face of society. The more decent gamblers were on their good behavior, and miners could show their bags of gold dust without fear of being robbed or murdered. It was powerful and effective medicine, but it wrought a permanent cure. So complete had been the treatment that only occasionally since has it been necessary to resort to it to show that the organization was still alive and ready for business."

However, Hedges was grateful for the legal conviction and execution of Wheatly on August 13, 1875 for the murder of Frank Hale.[225] His satisfaction over the legal execution of Wheatly was expressed in his Journals, August 13, 1875. He noted that his editorial to the Helena Daily Herald that day was entitled "Public Execution."

Oscar O. Mueller stated that Cornelius Hedges, along with M. P. Langford, C. W. Cook, David E. Folsom, and others, was a member of the Vigilante executive committee which met monthly in Helena.[226] Langford, served as Grand Master in 1869, Cook was Mason and Folsom served as Senior Grand Warden in 1887.

Some signs of the true passing of the "Vigilante era" appeared in Judge Hedges' own Probate Court in October, 1876. He commented: "Had several vigilantes up for threatening young Campbell - Waived examination and gave bond."[227]



CALENDAR

Third Judicial District Court,

—OF THE—

Territory of Montana,

IN AND FOR THE

COUNTY OF LEWIS AND CLARKE.

NOVEMBER TERM, 1884.

HELENA.

Geo. E. Boos & Co., Printers, Helena.

Figure 11. Third Judicial District Court Calendar, 1884.

15		
3012.	Morris Bros., vs. Bullock & Co.	Bullard & Barbour.
3013.	Chas. I. Brown, vs. S. C. Gilpatrick,	E. W. & J. K. Toole. Lowry & Voss.
3014.	Kate Denny, vs. James Denny.	E. W. & J. K. Toole,
3017.	Gebauer & Yergy, vs. Chas. P. Mathews.	Bullard & Barbour.
3019.	Scebree, Ferris & White, vs. Bullock & Co.	E. D. Edgerton.
3032	John Duffy, vs. Lorenz Kappler.	Lowry & Voss.
3034.	Thos. C. Dutro *et al.*, vs. George S. Kennedy *et al.*,	Sanders & Cullen, and Hedges. E. W. & J. K. Toole.

Hon. DECIUS S. WADE, Judge,
WILLIAM H. DeWITT, United States Attorney,
ALEXANDER C. BOTKIN, United States Marshal.

J. A. JOHNSTON, District Attorney, 3d District,
S. C. GILPATRICK, Sheriff,
ALEX. H. BEATTIE, Clerk,
C. G. REYNOLDS, Deputy Clerk.

ATTORNEYS:

William Chumasero,
W. F. Chadwick,
E. W. Toole,
J. K. Toole,
J. A. Johnston, (Dist. Attorney,)
Cornelius Hedges,
Massena Bullard,
Ashburn K. Barbour,
I. D. McCutcheon,
F. P. Sterling,
A. E. Mayhew,
William F. Wheeler,
William Wallace, Jr.,
W. F. Parker,
T. F. Casey,
Thos. H. Bach,
W. F. Sanders,
W. E. Cullen,
John H. Shober,
Thos. J. Lowry,
George Voss,
H. R. Comly,
E. D. Edgerton,
E. D. Weed,
Thos. H. Carter,
J. J. Williams,
Rudolph von Tobel, Jr.,
Samuel A. Balliet,
H. F. Titus,
James Wells,
John Mills, Jr.
H. W. Foote,

Chapter 3
The Character of the Man

Behind Cornelius Hedges' accomplishments and contributions to the positive development or Montana was a set or ideals which permeated every activity and concern with which he was associated. Because Hedges believed in and practiced the virtues or honor, brotherly love, and charity, he accomplished uncommon things in relatively common ways.

Cornelius Hedges' character which can most succinctly be described in his own words, taken from his Address as Grand Master of Montana Masons in 1871.

> "Good men and true are best seen and known in times of trial and difficulty. While fair weather adventurers break, fall and disappear, men of character and moral strength, the genuine heroes of common life, loom up with grander and firmer front, like firm set rocks in an ocean storm."[228]

It would be quite misleading to represent Hedges' character as absolutely impeccable. However, the flaws in the character of this man are certainly secondary to his significant contributions to the total development of Montana. The motivating forces of his dynamic character, which were largely based on his Masonic ideas as well as, some of the manifestations of his moral character and ideas, and his multifarious interests. To Hedges, honor was sacred and he enjoyed no greater pleasure than to be trusted as a friend.

Will Hedges described the extent to which honor was important in his father's life when he said, "He believed a good name was worth more than riches and thus spread good will far and wide."[229]

Also to him, reliability was an important part of honor, thus it too was exhibited in Hedges' life. An excerpt from N. P. Langford's diary:

"Hedges are to be my comrade-in-arms in this service. He has expressed to me his great satisfaction that he is to be associated with me throughout the trip in this night guard duty, and I am especially pleased at being assigned to duty with so reliable a coadjutor as Hedges, a man who can be depended upon to neglect no duty."[230]

Even the once hostile Helena Independent wrote of him:

"...from the time when he first came to the state he was honored with positions of trust by the people. Never did he violate those trusts, but did the duty that devolved upon him with fearlessness and rare ability."[231]

In 1887, an Attorney named George Foote called on Hedges and questioned his handling of public moneys as Probate Judge, and attempted to accuse him of betraying a public trust. The charge was made seven years after Hedges had last served as Probate Judge, but it concerned him to the point that he laid awake most of that night and was not satisfied until the next afternoon when he had located all the old vouchers to account for every cent of money handled in his five years in office.[232] George B. Foote, was born in St. Lawrence Co. NY on July 8, 1838. He received his education in that State and studied Law. During the War he served as Inspector of Arms for the U.S. Government, and in 1864 went to Helena, MT, erected the seventh cabin in the camp, and engaged mining until 1867, at which time he became U.S. Deputy Surveyor a position he held for thirteen years. He also held the office of county surveyor for several years. In 1881 he resumed the practice of law mostly as a land attorney.

The second cardinal virtue of Hedges' life was brotherly love, and along with it an undying faith in the essential goodness and worth of mankind. Speaking of the qualities exhibited in Hedges' writing.

Edward C. Day commented:

"And through it all runs as a clear, limpid stream that grand characteristic of his life Brotherly Love, that love which is broad enough and wide enough to embrace suffering humanity everywhere and to seek for its amelioration."[233]

A complement to brotherly love was Hedges' third and perhaps most important cardinal virtue-charity. Judge Hedges held a more inclusive concept of the meaning of charity and what constituted charity than is held by most of us. To most of us charity involves some form of the distribution of material wealth to the indigent or unfortunate, but to Hedges it meant much more. His ideas on charity are brilliantly expressed in his Masonic writings, but more important to him those ideas were translated into beneficent actions in his daily life.

There were many facets of charity which were important to Cornelius, and each of them will be examined briefly. First of all, he was convinced that personal charity practiced daily as the need of others arose was much more effective than the efforts of large institutional charities.

Secondly, a charity to be most effective must promote usefulness in the lives of the recipients. He also felt that if charity is not cheerfully and inconspicuously given, then the purpose of the charity is all but defeated. And finally he believed in what could be called "total charity" this is the charity of not only material possessions and money, but the charity of all the intangibles that a person has at his command, or the general giving of one's time and talents.

In a speech as Worthy Grand Patron before the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star in 1893, Cornelius Hedges expressed it this way:

> "Rituals, ceremonies, regalia and such are good in their place, but while you pay tithes of these lesser things, forget not the weightier matters of the law. Study and practice charity; charity of thought, judgment and speech, as well as in acts of feeding the hungry and clothing the naked. The field is everywhere. There are objects of charity in palaces as well as hovels. It is not money or meat that is needed half as much as kind words of advice and encouragement. Your treasuries will never be empty if your hearts are full. Be fruitful in good works and never wait for a more convenient season."[234]

And another time, he wrote:

> "Not only disease and evil habits are contagious, but happily this is true of bright examples of high and noble living, giving, and doing. The more one does, the more he sees to do; the more one gives, the more one is disposed to give and finds means to give and the good Lord, who "loves a cheerful giver" never fails to observe and reward such a giver. None are so poor but that they can give something if it be only a word of cheer, comfort, sympathy, or counsel. No one was ever poorer for giving to a worthy brother or sister in distress."[235]

Judge Hedges' ideas on the value of personal acts of charity as compared to the operations of massive, often impersonal, charity Organizations were very definite. He cautioned against the possibility in a large charity that the things that are everybody's concern often suddenly become nobody's concern. In his meaningful style, his own words express his ideas best:

> "What we need most to cultivate is the spirit of private, personal beneficence. Let every Masonic heart become an asylum, warmed, lighted, and expanded from internal, connecting with infinite and eternal, sources of supply. We want even more than our organized, concentrated systems of charity, fed by tithes, perhaps grudgingly paid, a diffusive system in which each individual member shall strike out and pursue his independent career of beneficence continuously, intelligently, energetically, and as a necessary consequence, profitably and successfully."[236]

He went on to clarify his position:

> "We do not mean to say that organizations to dispense charity are not good institutions, or that it is not desirable to have funds raised by general assessment to answer the most pressing, extraordinary calls, but we are very clear that it is unwise to make this the only or principal channel through which to bestow charity. It neither promotes liberality in the soul of the giver, nor gratitude in the recipient."[237]

And finally he leaves us in no doubt concerning his beliefs about large, organized charities:

> "We would not for anything discourage any effort in any direction, however bungling, expensive and ineffective the machinery; but if it is thought that these and any other substitute that can be devised will take the place of individual exertion, it is an error that cannot too soon be exploded and our train switched on to the right track."[238]

Hedges also warned against those who might unworthily apply for charity.[239] The need to be inconspicuous in giving and the need to promote usefulness among recipients of charity were common themes in Hedges' writing.

> "When we have learned to do our charities in secret, anticipating the request, and have really learned to do kindness for sweet charity's sake, without thought or hope of praise or pay, we shall have found our way into the sanctum sanctorum by the only path or doorway through which mortal can ever enter it. We want aggressive, discriminating charity, not that passive, blind sort that encourages mendicancy and begets helplessness."[240]

How were these ideas manifest in Hedges' daily life? In the broad, general sense, because of his integral concept of charity, every time he aided or supported a movement that was noble and beneficial, he was really rendering an act of true charity and brotherly love.

Specifically, an excellent example of personal charity, which promoted usefulness, is recorded in Hedges' journal in the early months of 1888. On January 20, a night when the temperature was somewhere between -10 and -25, and he noted "we have a tramp sleeping in the cellar."

By the 25th and 27th, Judge Hedges found usefulness in the "man in the cellar" and had given him a job tending the furnace and glazing the cupola. By March, Hedges noted that Carl Johnson, his "cellar boarder," was still there, and he had put him to work painting. Thus Hedges had brought out the usefulness in a former outcast of society. On March 31, Carl left with Cornelius' "old suit of clothes."[241]

Another case of Hedges' personal charity is revealed in an answer to a request for Masonic charity from the widow of Past Grand Master James W. Hathaway:

> "Yours of the 13th ultimo was received some days since and I have showed the letter to some of your husband's friends in Morning Star lodge, and I find there was a general strong feeling that you neglected your husband in his last days and they were unwilling to do or suggest anything to help you. For myself, I was a warm friend of your husband, and I am willing to do what I can to assist you and your son."[242]

These were the motivating forces of his inimitable character. However, there were many other character traits which were distinctive in Judge Hedges' life.

He had a fine sense of devotion to duty in any endeavor he undertook. This is a direct outgrowth of his charitable giving of time, talent, and intellect.

An outstanding example of the devotion to duty was recorded in 1876. In preparing the report on Fraternal Correspondence, he noted the receipt of the Proceedings from Brazil. Instead of entirely disregarding it, he wrote:

> "We are not familiar enough with Portuguese to read it readily, and not finding a dictionary of that language in the limited stock of our book stores, we shall have to defer a proper attention to our foreign brethren till we have leisure to learn that language or can secure the services of a polyglot assistant."[243]

Another trait most noticeable in the lives of both Judge Hedges and the rest of his family was unselfishness. Oscar O. Mueller, son-in-law of Charles W. Cook (both Mueller and Cook were Masons) of the 1869 Folsom-Cook expedition to Yellowstone, wrote the following about that trait of the Hedges:

> "In all his activities Hedges was primarily motivated by the best interests of the state, and Montana citizens speak of the Hedges family as "unselfish to the extreme." They enjoyed working for the public even to the disadvantage of their personal matters. This is the one criticism that has been made of them!"[244]

> And by Judge Hedges' own admission in 1882:
> "Seem to be spending most of my time working for other and doing little for myself."[245]

This spirit of unselfishness again can be traced to charity, charity which at times demanded all the talents he possessed. Because of his many and diverse interests, Hedges enjoyed doing a variety of work, and he sometimes expressed wishes for more variety when the pace of activities seemed to slacken.[246]

Total compassion for all living creatures, "as well as for human beings, was another of his character traits. Cornelius tells of one incident involving a fish in Yellowstone Lake. The incident took place on the 1870 Yellowstone Expedition, and briefly it was this:

"I returned along the narrow rim of this partition between a hot spring and the lake and catching sight of some expectant trout lying in easy reach, I solicited their attention to a transfixed grasshopper, and meeting an early and energetic response, I am tempted to land my prize beyond the spring, but unfortunately for the fish, he escaped the hook to plunge into this boiling spring. As soon as possible I relieved the agonized creature by throwing him out with my pole, and though his contortions were not fully ended, his skin came off and he had all the appearance of being boiled through. The incident, the fish excusable as an incident, was too shocking to repeat."[247]

One unique quality in his life was his attitude concerning office seeking. Hedges said:

"There is one, and only one Masonic way to seek office and that is by best deserving it. Office gained and held by merit is an honor to the bearer, and to those who bestow it, otherwise a dishonor…There is more satisfying enjoyment to the well balanced and trained soul in deserving success, though not attained, than anyone can feel by attaining it undeserved."[248]

It was therefore said of him at his death:

"His record speaks for him and tells in unmistakable terms that be had "sounded all the depths and shoals of honor" at the call of his brethren. He sought not preferment, and his honors were literally thrust upon him in recognition of disinterested and distinguished devotion to the order of Masonry."[249]

He also had his own ideas on the value of money. On May 6, 1884, after he had given his wife Edna a pair of diamond earrings for her birthday in the early morning which "made her happy all day". Hedges recorded in his journal: "Really can the value of money be better estimated than by the satisfaction it affords."[250]

When our nation turned its eyes toward the Pacific and the Caribbean areas in an era known as that of "expansionism," Hedges decisively defended his expansionist views. Two selections from his Masonic writings state his beliefs well. In 1899, he wrote:

"We are not ashamed to confess that we are an "expansionist," especially for the expansion of Masonic charity and the extension of Masonic influence for peace among nations."[251]

And in 1902, he further explained:

> "With the Philippines we have a hard problem, made harder by the foolish transcendental sentimentality in this country that encourages in the natives ideas of independence for which the mass of people cannot be prepared in a hundred years. Of our own free will our people are disposed to give the inhabitants of those islands all the liberty they can use to advantage, but we bought the islands from Spain to gain a "pou sto" in the Far East and for that purpose they are well worth all that we paid and all that it will cost to hold them. Filipinos in the mass are pretty hard subjects for civilization. They have fallen share to our share of the "white man's burden" and we must do the best we can for them. Perhaps in a hundred years by missionary labor and helpful instruction they may be made into fair citizens. But for Dewey's visit and the subsequent cession and occupation by the United States they would still be oppressed subjects of Spain.
> Masonry may well assume a share of this burden and much of the work must be done at home in keeping this question from becoming a political football as seems to be its present fate."[252]

Judge Hedges was a devoted family man, and he believed that the well-regulated home is the foundation of our institutions, and was blessed with domestic happiness such as few men enjoy."[253] He took time out of his busy schedule to take his family fishing and to circuses.[254] He was a man so close to his family that when they had been gone for an extended visit in the East, he would remark upon their safe return, "Thank God the long agony is over."[255]

There were also times in his life when he was hesitant to help around the house, and also times of domestic disagreeableness, as he termed his disagreements with Edna. For these instances, he was sorry and apologized in his journals and undoubtedly to Edna.[256]

He was also concerned about the problems of his offspring as they approached adulthood. On October 2, 1880, he wrote, "Worried about Will's conduct and prospects -He is going to be discharged from the cattle company's service."[257]

However, Will accounted well for his life. At the time of his father's death, he was a respected stock man in Fergus County and Speaker of the Montana House of Representatives. [258]

There were also some occasions when he "indulged in slight dissipation." On October 27, 1881, he confided in his journal, "Templar Encampment" in the afternoon - Went out to Nick Kessler's… Too much beer most made me sick."[259]

Another instance of this concern care after Edna Cornelia had broken an engagement with Mr. French in 1889. Hedges wrote, with justifiable pride:

> "But as I feel for Edna's disappointment and even humiliation, I am glad at the bottom of my heart there is hardly a man living worthy of that girl and I feel almost selfish enough to hope that she will never fancy another man, enough to be engaged to him - A great mistake has been corrected."[260]

Chapter 4
Economic Ventures

With the exception of the last decade and one half, proper financial support for his family's need was a definite problem. Hedges, often gave more of his time, talent and moral support to movements than money because he was only of adequate means. However, had he always been well-to-do financially, he would have probably given more of this talent and intellect because he was so well endowed with such qualities. And he had developed his potential well. Hedges literally enjoyed paying his debts, and not being in debt with anyone. He illustrated this in 1868. After paying a bill of $34.50, he proudly remarked, "Don't owe a bill in town."[261]

In order to provide adequately for his family, Cornelius often engaged in economic pursuits other than his law profession and public offices such as Probate Judge, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and State Senator. Hedges was never fully content when he had to limit his family, such as was the case on Christmas Day, 1869. On that day, he wrote in his journal, "Christmas - Sunday school festival last evening - I was busy getting something for the children -Spent $5.00 in presents -Times are too hard to do much.[262]

In most cases his economic ventures were means of simply maintaining a source of revenue, however, in a few instances, such as in the sheep industry and the Home Building and Loan Association, Hedges again succeeded in substantially contributing to the growth and development of Montana. He also held ownership of some downtown real estate.[263]

Mining was a field of interest which Hedges maintained from 1865, which he worked himself; his first venture in this field was the purchase of a 5-stamp quartz mill in partnership with Capt. George Wood in the spring of 1867. The mill was shipped up the Missouri to Fort Benton, and around the mill and with additional funds; a Quartz Mill Company was formed. The company was disbanded and the mill sold for $3000 in September, 1868.[264]

In August, 1873, Hedges drew up the by-laws for another mining company and invested $250 in 25 shares.[265] Again in 1880, he noted the purchase of one-tenth interest in the Black Alder and Black Swan Lodes for $600.[266] Helena businessmen including

E. W. Knight, T. H. Kleinschmidt, H. N. Parchen, Cornelius Hedges and others filed a supplemental location on the two lodes. The Black Swan and Black Alder lodes were located on the ridge between Oro Fino and Grizzly gulches near Unionville.

Often his editorial writing for the Herald was an important source of income. Such was the case in August, 1876. Hedges lamented: "Much puzzled what to do to provide for all my wants -No business to bring in money -Disappointed in not getting money from Herald -Continue to write because I don't know what better to do."[267]

In 1878, Judge Hedges helped form the Montana Navigation Company.[268] The Montana Navigation Company was organized for the purpose of improvement and navigation on the upper Missouri, above the falls, to a point 12 miles from Helena. Officers: John T. Murphy, President; Albert Kleinschmidt, Vice President; E. W. Knight, Treasurer; Cornelius Hedges, Secretary. Trustees: H. M. Parchen, A. M. Holter, James T. Ryan, T. C. Power, J. T. Murphy, A. Kleinschmidt, Harry Klein, A. Sands, and Chris Kenck.

An interesting, but unsuccessful, speculation which Hedges helped organize in December of 1885 was a butter company.[269] For a short time the company prospered, and on May 10, 1886, the company directors met to contemplate purchasing the patent for the remainder of the territory. But prosperity was short-lived and on June 9, Hedges admitted "Butter Co. is making no sales of product and I am wanting money." And Edna was quite displeased with the situation.[270] On the 21st of June, Mr. Miller, Hedges' law partner, left for Oregon and Washington to try to sell the butter patent, but he returned on October 17 completely unsuccessful. In the meantime, Hedges was chosen President of the ailing company. The butter company was formally dissolved on October 20, along with the Miller Hedges law partnership.[271] Later, when Miller finally settled accounts with Hedges, Cornelius did regain some of the money he had invested in the butter company.

In April, 1887, he bought into the Helena and Rimini Mining Co.,[272] and he helped organize the Queen Esther Mining Co. on June 22, 1888, and was elected attorney.[273] The Queen Esther Mining Co. located north of the Liberty mine and east of the Barker claim. Two short adits provided access to the mine. Before the arrival of the railroad, the company shipped its lead-silver-zinc ore out but soon found it hardly worth the effort: the owners paid $52 per ton in freight charges and netted just $52.48.

Judge Hedges invested $6800 in 3400 shares of the Morning Star Mining Co. in 1889.[274] The placers in the Upper Tenmile contained large masses of rich tin ore. Numerous gulches that feed into Upper Tenmile each contain several lode mines, the Morning Star was one of these.

His investment in the Bald Butte Mining Company was perhaps his most successful financial venture in mining. On July 21, 1890, he noted that he owned stock in that company and that on that day he was elected Vice-president of the company, whose mines were located above Marysville.[275] Bald Butte mine and mill site first began recorded production in 1882, predominantly of gold, silver, and lead. The Bald Butte mill operated on a 10-stamp facility from its inception, but upgraded in 1891 to a 40-stamp facility, which operated 24-hours per day, over 315 days per year. The Bald Butte Mill site is located approximately 17 miles west of Helena, near the headwaters of Dog Creek, a tributary to the Little Blackfoot River. Bald Butte lies within the historic Marysville Mining District. The first reported production from the mine occurred in 1882 when the mine produced $32,000. The property was worked from 1890 to 1901 when the discovery of a new vein was found. The ore was treated in the company's 20-stamp mill that was expanded to 40 stamps around the turn of the century. The next year the mill continued in full production with ore in reserve waiting to be processed.

In 1902, when production figures became available, the mine produced 25,565 short tons of ore which was reduced to 14,776.24 ounces of gold; 8,939 ounces of silver; 4,588 pounds of copper; and 81,962 pounds of lead. After 1902, the ore produced from the mine dwindled until 1909 when only 814 tons of ore were extracted.

In January, 1891, the company paid a 4% dividend.[276] Four months later, Hedges wrote that at a recent sale of Bald Butte stock, the price was established at $2.50 per share, and on that basis commented that his 10,000 shares of stock were now worth $25,000.[277] Many of those 10,000 shares were purchased in November, 1890, when he received $1200 for the copyright to his volumes of Montana Supreme Court Reports and his extra copies of those volumes.

He also gave Bald Butte stock as Christmas presents to his family in 1890, 500 shares to Edna and 100 shares to each of his five children, and he noted that they seemed very pleased.[278] Judge Hedges still held his interests in the Bald Butte Mining Co. at the time of his death[279]

Aggregately, livestock rising became the most lucrative business in which Judge Hedges invested. Most of his interests were in sheep growing, but he was for a time Vice-president of the Montana Cattle Company. He resigned the position and sold all his stock at par value for $900 in 1882.[280] He was associated were the Home Building and Loan Association in 1885.[281]

Hedges journals indicate that he first became interested in sheep growing in March, 1863, and his interest was revived a decade later, but not until October of 1880 did he actually invest in sheep growing. On October 13, 1880, he invested $3000 in sheep with Carr and Diamond by contract.[282] The first winter, 1880-1881, due to severe conditions on the range; about half of his band of sheep perished.[283] In September, 1882, Will sold 277 head of his dad's sheep at only $2.00 a head. Hedges remarked that it was enough to make him sick.[284] In 1883, Hedges bought out Shaffer, his sheep partner, for $3800, and entered this comment in his journal, "higher than I intended to pay but want him out and can trust Will and Henry."[285]

On August 30, 1886, Cornelius incorporated his sheep interests and formed the Hedges Sheep Company. The articles of incorporation were filed with the Territorial Secretary on September 2nd September, 1887.[286] On the 3rd, he wrote, "First mail for many days brought bad news of loss of 1250 sheep in a storm -Went home crushed and didn't sleep at all." The next day, he wrote this, showing his dominant true self, "Wrote letters to the boys Will and Henry with the sheep and tried to encourage them as much as I could."[287]

On October 28, 1888, Cornelius made an agreement with his son Will to buy all the sheep and hay land, assume the existing debt, and lease the sheep to Will. In payment, he would receive annually half the products of the wool and 1000 lambs.[288] On July 2, 1890, Judge Hedges was running a band of 5200 sheep, 4300 ewes, 863 lambs, and 37 rams. On July 29, he shipped 37,968 pounds of raw wool and received a profit of $5504.20 from the wool. Half of that sum was placed in Will's account.[289]

Joaquin Miller claimed that in 1893, Cornelius and his son Will were running "no less than 10,000 head of sheep" in the Musselshell County "and during the present year (1893) expect to largely augment that number."[290]

Cornelius Hedges was among those who formed the Montana Wool Growers Association as a statewide organization in Helena on November 11, 1895. He, like the other delegates, was elected at a county meeting the previous month to attend the convention.

He also chaired the committee which drafted the constitution for the Wool Growers Association on November 12.[291]

Again in 1897, Hedges was instrumental in further promoting the sheep industry in Montana. On January 6, 1897, he was one of a group who approved the formation of the cooperative Montana Wool Commission Company, which was perhaps the first "wool pool" organized in the state. Again he was on the committee to draft the constitution.[292]

In 1897, when the State Board of Sheep Commissioners was formed, Judge Hedges became its first Secretary and held the position until 1906.[293]

As has been shown, Cornelius was involved in many economic endeavors, but he never forgot the noble beautiful things of life, and always conducted his business with ethics beyond reproach.

The Helena Independent paid tribute to Hedges for his high ideals in this realm:

"The material pursuits which engrossed much of his time in youth, in middle life, and in old age, never blurred or eclipsed his appraisement of the beautiful things, never hindered his persistent devotion to the good of the community, never cooled the ardor of his charity for others or his zeal to help them. More than wealth or fame, he prized the high and spiritual things which become at last the best and most beautiful characteristics of a people as of an individual and it must be that his name and his deeds will linger with an almost majestic tenderness in the heart of his neighbors and in the best and bravest traditions of Montana."[294]

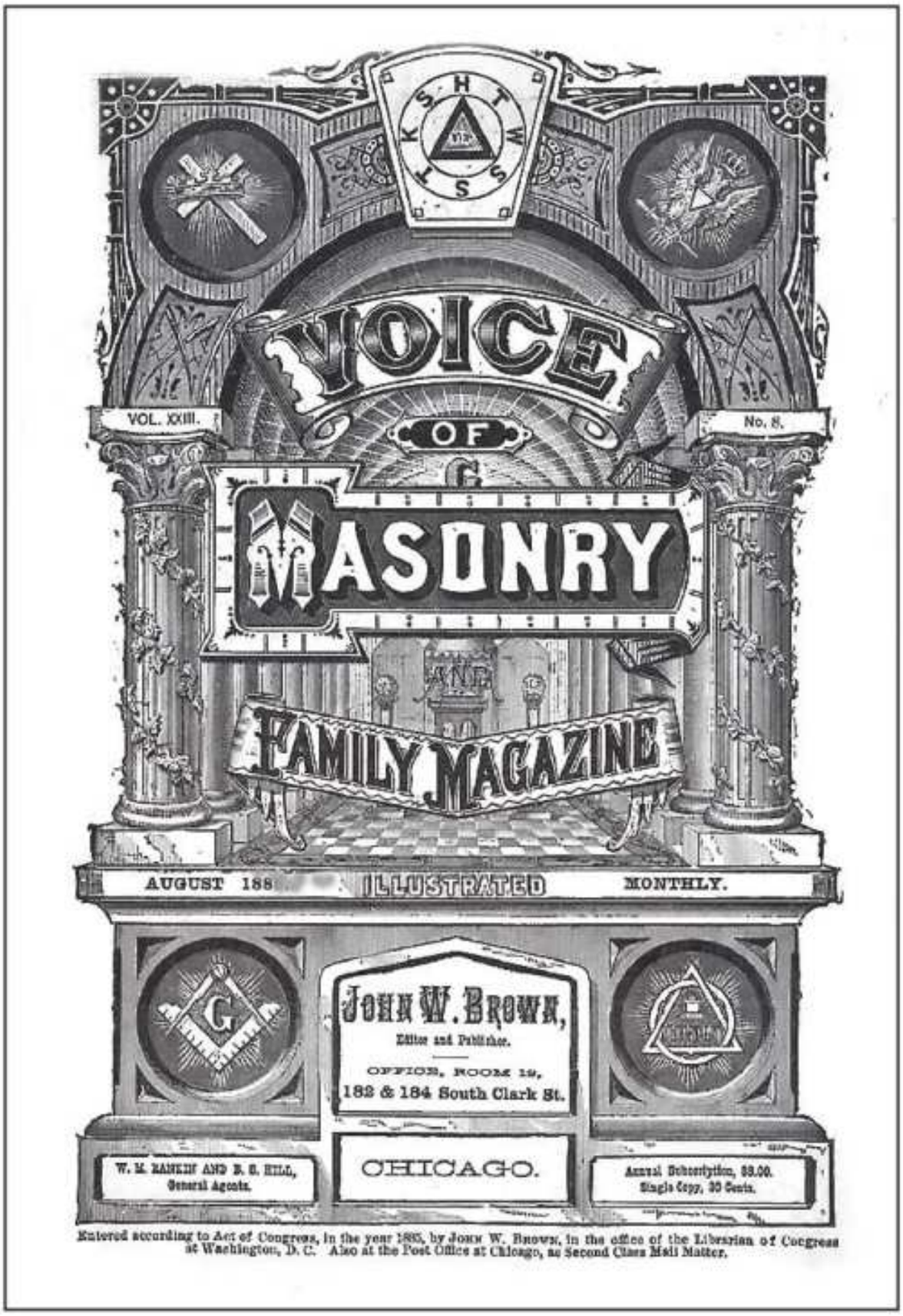


Figure 12. Voice of Masonry Family Magazine, 1884.

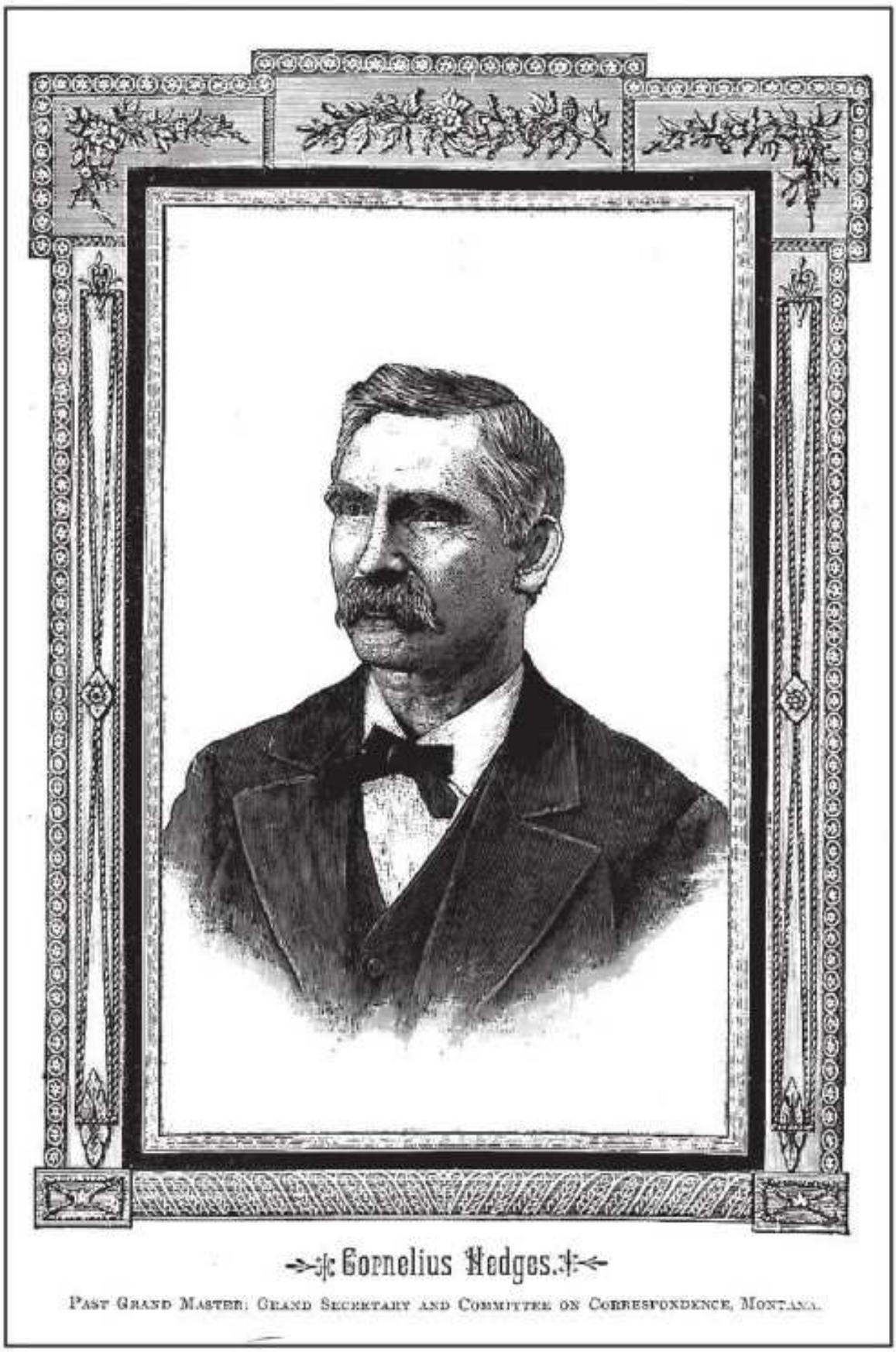


Figure 13. Voice of Masonry Family Magazine, 1884.

Figure 14. Letterhead of the Montana Board of Sheep Commissioners.

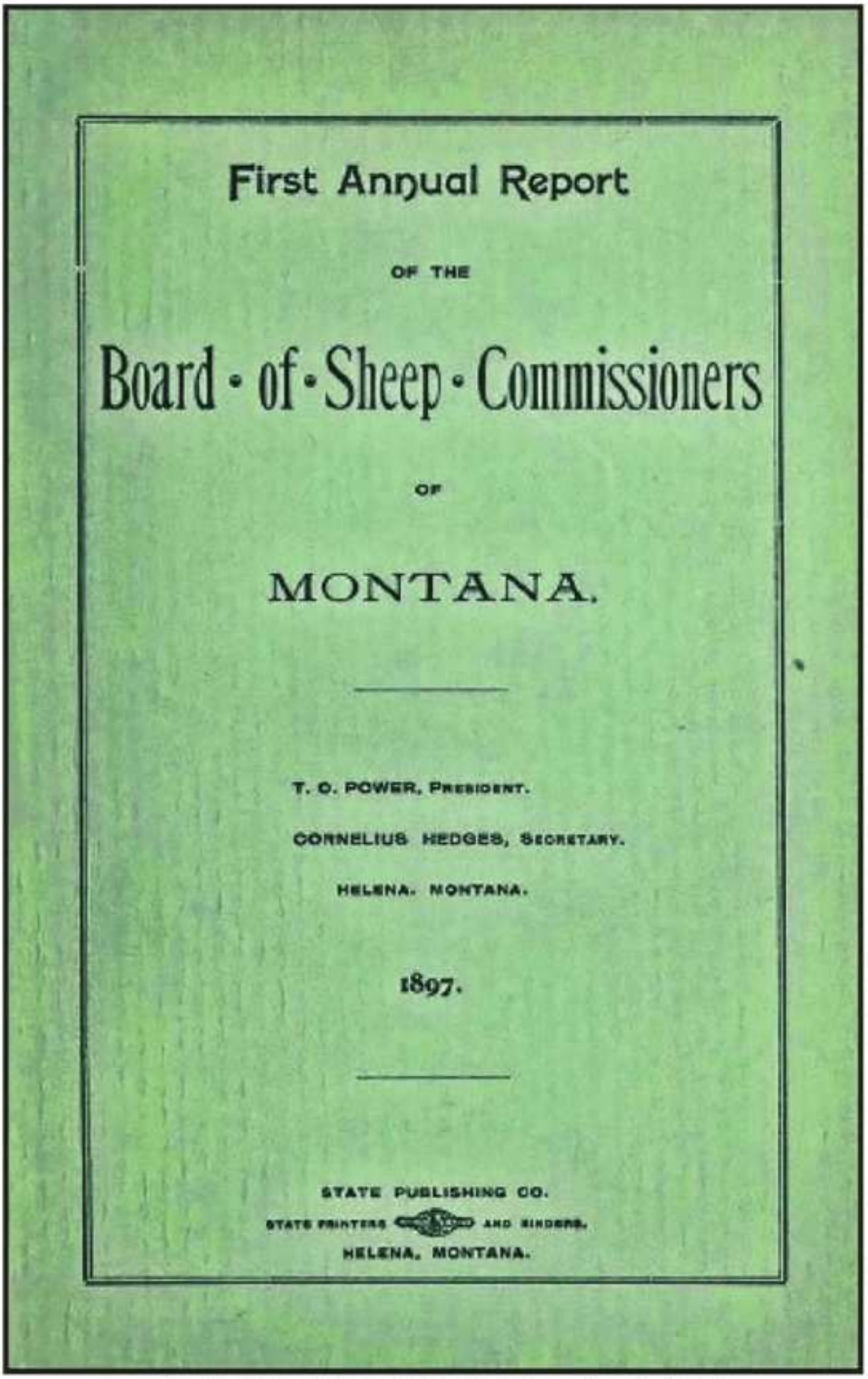


Figure 15. First Annual Report of Board of Sheep Commissioners.

"She's a sterling silver lady, gold dust in her veins."
-Rob Quist, "A Lady Called Montana"

"Tell me of that Treasure State
Story always new,
Tell of its beauties grand
And its hearts so true.
Mountains of sunset fire
The land I love the best."
-Charles Cohan, "Montana"

"Homesteaders, including my grandparents who left behind almost nothing, and arrived in Montana with nothing but the clothes on their back, high hopes, faith in God and dreaming of the future."
–Brian Schweitzer,
Governor of Montana, 2005-2013

I'm in love with Montana. For other states I have admiration, respect, recognition, even some affection. But with Montana it is love. And it's difficult to analyze love when you're in it."
- John Steinbeck, Travels with Charley: In Search of America

Chapter 5
The National Park Idea

The purpose in this chapter is not to discuss in detail the entire Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition to the Yellowstone country in 1870. That has been written several times.[295] This Chapter is concerned with a solitary idea the National Park idea and its relationship to the total character of Cornelius Hedges.

The background of this idea began when several prominent citizens of Helena heard the reports of the Folsom-Cook Expedition into the upper Yellowstone in 1869. An expedition was planned for 1870 into that area, and after several alterations of their plans, the expedition left Helena on August 17, 1870.[296] The party reached what is now the northern boundary of Yellowstone National Park on August 25, via Bozeman, Trail Creek, and the Yellowstone Valley.[297] From that point, they visited and explored the Tower Falls area, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, the eastern and southern shores of Yellowstone Lake, the Firehole basin, and were camped at the headwaters of the Madison River on the evening of September 19.[298]

During the trip, Cornelius was extremely impressed with the magnificent mountain scenery, and the unique features of the area such as the hot springs and geysers served further to implant the natural grandeur of the area in his mind. On August 28, as he sat viewing the portion of the canyon of the Yellowstone near Tower Falls, he described his view and expressed these thoughts:

> "As there was no prospect of moving camp I returned on our trail to Prospect Point, about one thousand feet above the river where is altogether the finest view I ever had. Here I sit on the brink writing these lines. The mouth of the Falls Creek is directly in front, from the base of this rock bounded by creek on right and river on left is a sunken tract hundreds of feet below me, filled with coarse fragments of a crumbled mountain, tall river rise precipitous bluffs almost at my level and running nearly horizontal as far as I can see through the gorge. About two-thirds down the bank is another similar but more irregular layer, out from which near its upper part and opposite beautiful rapids in the river a singular rock has slid out from this layer and looks like the grim, shaggy head of a

bison. I call it Bison Rock. The color of this bluffly bank is singular, appropriate to the name of the river its general color is yellow, from dark below growing brighter up the stream, and at the point where it descends to river becoming almost white and so continuing one-half mile upstream. The general course of the river seems from southeast with graceful curves.

I see two men fishing who started from camp as I left to come up here. Away beyond bluffs on opposite bank is a bare hill, and beyond and running back in a canon between rugged and partly pine-clad mountains seems to be the bed of another stream, perhaps East fork of the Yellowstone undoubtedly the Lamar River. Through an opening in these mountains I see snow covered mountains beyond - the horizon limits the view on the opposite side - to the right on some barren mountains right across the ravine through "which river comes from S. E. stretches a pine-clad mountain. At my extreme right the land rises fast in barren hills, mostly pine covered and above tops of pines, rise two peaks of more distant mountains. I thank God for creating such scenery and again for permitting my eyes to behold it."[299]

The above was expressed early in the expedition, and by the time the expedition was ready to leave the area his thoughts and ideas were well formed. In perfect harmony with his idea of total charity, Hedges was ready to do what he could to share the natural beauty, which he had seen, with others.

As the expedition sat around the campfire on the evening of September 19, and discussed the area and its potential as a resort development, Hedges' sense of unselfishness, of giving and sharing, would not allow him to agree with narrow, mercenary ideas of restricting this wonderland of nature for exploitation of a few.

It was then that Hedges spoke:

"He did not approve of any of these plans - that there ought to be no private ownership of any portion of that region, but that the whole of it ought to be set apart as a great National Park, and that each one of us ought to make an effort to have this accomplished."[300]

He wrote this about the night of the 19th "didn't sleep well last night - got to thinking of home and business, seems as if we're almost there..."[301] Hedges' humility and unobtrusiveness would explain most of this lack of notation of the idea in his journal. And the following written in 1904, also sheds some light on the matter:

> "It was at the first camp after leaving the lower Geyser basin when all were speculating which point in the region We had been through, would become most notable that I first suggested the uniting all our efforts to get it made a National Park, little dreaming that such a thing were possible."[302]

But that night, September 19, Hedges "disturbing National Park proposition" kept N. P. Langford awake half the night pondering the idea.[303] To all but one of the party, the idea was "met with a quick and favorable response."[304] A nucleus of gentlemen were now inspired with an idea which would ultimately grow to mean much to millions of Americans who visit the National Parks each year.

On November 9, 1870, as one of a series of articles on the Yellowstone country, Hedges first publicly proposed the creation of a National Park, within an area to be attached to Montana. He wrote:

> "This beautiful body of water Yellowstone Lake is situated in the extreme northwest corner of Wyoming, and, with its tributaries and sister lakes of smaller dimensions, is entirely cut off from all access from any portion of that Territory by the impassable and eternally snow-clad range of the Wind River Range of mountains. Hence the propriety that the Territorial lines be so readjusted that Montana should embrace that entire lake region west of the Wind River Range, a matter in which we hope our citizens will soon move to accomplish, as well as to secure, its future appropriation to the public use."[305]

From that point, many persons aided in the effort to establish Yellowstone National Park. N. P. Langford delivered a series of lectures on Yellowstone in New York and Washington, D.C., in January, 1871. Many, such as William H. Clagett, Senator Pomeroy, and Dr. F. V. Hayden, helped see the measure creating the Park through Congress.[306] Louis C. Cramton, in his Early History of Yellowstone National Park, asserts that both Samuel T. Hauser and Cornelius Hedges visited Washington, D.C., in the winter of 1870-1871 and promoted the National Park idea.[307]

The efforts of all concerned in promoting "the National Park idea" culminated in the passage of the act of dedication setting the Yellowstone area aside for the public on March 1, 1872.[308]

In 1896, Judge Hedges reflected and commented on Yellowstone Park, the Washburn party, and his own National Park idea. In a distinct air of modesty, he wrote:

> "The members of the Washburn Party of 1870, who first suggested and labored successfully with the others to make known the wonders of the region and secure its dedication for a National Park, "built even better than they knew." They thought chiefly of the wonders on canon, falls, lake, mountain, boiling springs of infinite variety, and the crowning wonder of all, the great geysers, throwing vast volumes of boiling water hundreds of feet into the air, eclipsing those of Iceland, and of the healthful pleasure to future generations in visiting this cool region during the heated season. But undoubtedly its utility to the great central arid region surpasses all other considerations, and renders its preservation as near as possible in a state of nature undisturbed, a safe and secure retreat for the great game that but for this last resort would in all probability be soon extinct, a sacred trust for our national government. While some think it wasteful or unjustifiable use of public money to expend in opening and improving such a vast area as a people's pleasure-ground, further consideration will satisfy the worst fault-finder that his expenditure is more than justified on prudent business principles. What would otherwise be spent on foreign travel will more and more be retained at home in visiting our own Alpine region, Where are congregated living pictures by the hand of the Creator, far more numerous, sublime and beautiful than those contained in all the museums of the Old World."[309]

Then he added an auxiliary, but interesting, observation and suggestion:

> "And when this travel has increased that horses and bicycles can no longer suffice, there is enough power that could be taken conveniently from the upper Falls of the Yellowstone, and converted to electrical power, to propel cars to every portion of the Park. All are agreed that steam cars, with their dangers of spreading fires, and their noise in scaring the game, should never be admitted to the Park; but these objections do not apply, at least in much less degree, to electric cars." [310]

A major tribute was paid Cornelius Hedges at the cornerstone laying of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Arch at the North Entrance to Yellowstone Park on April 24, 1903. Among the articles placed in the cornerstone were the following: Pictures of Hon. N. P. Langford, first Superintendent of the Park, one of the Washburn party of 1870; also of Cornelius Hedges, member of the same party, who first suggested making a National Park.[311] These were the only pictures placed in the cornerstone box, and Hedges was in attendance that day to witness the laying of the cornerstone for the Memorial Arch.

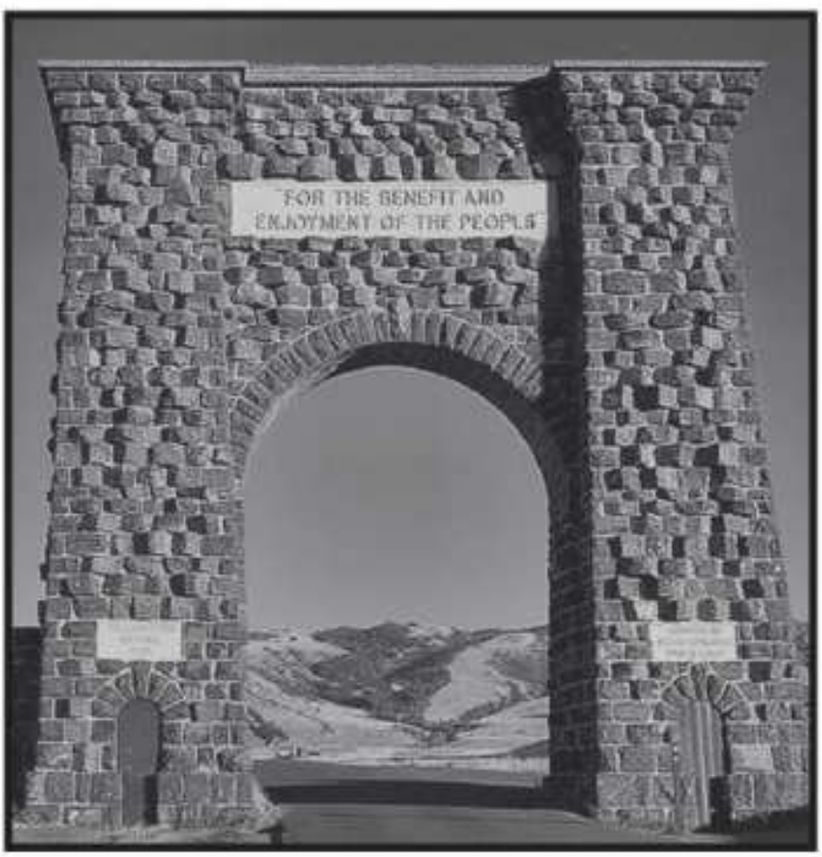


Figure 16. Roosevelt Memorial Arch.

Held as a treasure among the archives of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A.M. of Montana is a letter from N. P. Langford in which he states in no uncertain terms that Cornelius Hedges was the one who first spoke of setting the area aside as a National Park. N. P. Langford served as the first Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park the following is his letter to Hedges:

S' Paul June 7, 1894.

My dear Hedges:-

Your letter of June 3rd is received, and I have found the memorial in the Montana (sic) statutes.
The Northern Pacific R. R. intends to get out a Park Book this summer, and to give a history of the origin of the Park. Mr. Olin D. Wheeler, who wrote "6000 miles through Wonderland", and also "Indian land and Wonderland", (both of which I mail you today) will have the matter in charge. I am aiding him all I can in getting at the facts.

Dr. Hayden, in his report for 1878, which was not printed before 1883 makes use of the following language:- "So far as is now known, the idea of setting apart a large tract about the sources of the Yellowstone river, as a National Park, originated with the writer". Hayden does not positively declare that he originated the scheme, but leaves it to be inferred that he did. His statement to this effect is dated Feb 1, 1883, or eleven years after the Park bill passed, and this is the first time he made the claim. If he was ever acquainted with the facts, he must have forgotten them.

I have hunted up my old lecture, and on the margin I find noted the following:-

Advocated Nat'l Park		*Washington Jan 19, 1871*
"	*"*	*New York " 21, 1871*
"	*"*	*Minneapolis (no date)*

Although I worked hard for the passage of the Act of dedication, I had no part in originating the scheme, but I suggested it to the public long before Hayden visited the region.

I have, in my scrap book a number of your letters written in the autumn of 1870, soon after our return. Among them is your letter published in the Helena Herald of Nov 9, 1870 from which I copy the following:-

"The territorial lines should be so readjusted that Montana should embrace all the lake region west of Wind River Range;- a matter in which we "as well as to secure its future appropriation "to the public use." Here, you plainly see: you put yourself on record as Advocating the scheme, and though you briefly touch upon it, the very brevity (sic) of your suggestions bear evidence that you had previously discussed the matter in other communications to the press. I feel sure that you did do so. Now I want you to do our duty, and that is this: Examine the old files of the Herald of those days, and see if something more cannot be found, in which you distinctly suggested the idea of the Park.

Give the date of the paper, and the language used, as I have done in this quotation.

The Herald, in one of the issues of Feb, 1870, says that the explorers of 1869 suggested the idea. I think the Herald meant to say 1870. Folsom was the 1869 explorer and I do not remember that he ever proposed it. I have written him, asking him about it, and if he has any printed record of the suggestion, if made by him.

When this record is fully made up for permanent preservation, and publication by the N. P. Railway, I want due credit given to you as the originator of the scheme, which I work hard with Clagite(sic) to carry out, Clagete(sic) drew the bill, and gave Pomeroy a copy to introduce in the Senate. Pomeroy was Chairman of the Public Lands Committee.

You will remember that I was dubbed National Park Langford; (my initials coming in just right.) because of the work I did in the matter. Can you ascertain for me Clagett's (sic) address? Mr. O. D. Wheeler will soon be in Helena, and I will give him a letter to you. He wants your photograph, in making up a page of the original explorers. Wife and I send love to all your family.

Very truly yours N. P. Langford [312]

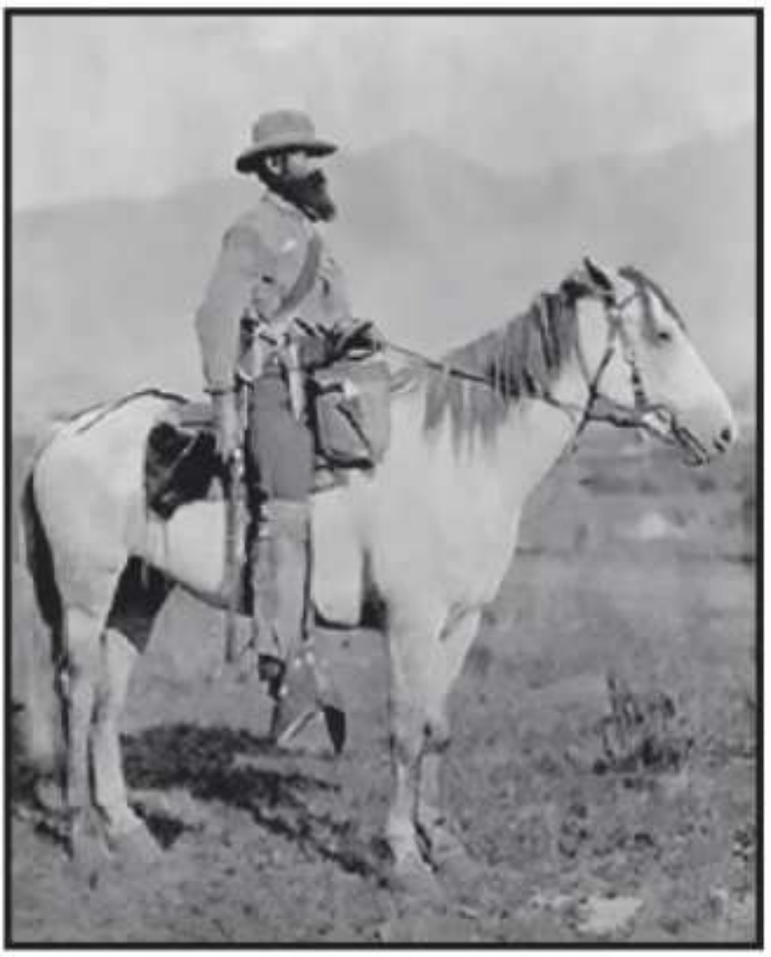


Figure 17. Photograph of Nathaniel P. Lanford, 1872, taken by William H. Jackson. From Yellowstone National Park Museum Photo Archives.

N. P. Langford wrote: "Who originated the plan of setting apart this region as a National Park? I answer that Judge Cornelius Hedges of Helena wrote the first articles ever published by the press urging the dedication of this region as a park." [313]

> "The Helena Herald of Nov 9, 1870, contains a letter of Mr. Hedges, in which he advocated the scheme, and in my lectures delivered in Washington and New York in January, 1871, I directed attention to Mr. Hedges' suggestion, and urged the passage by Congress of an act setting apart that region as a public park. All this was several months prior to the first exploration by the U.S. Geological Survey, in charge of Dr. Hayden. The suggestion that the region should be made into a National Park was first broached to the members of our party on September 19, 1870, by Mr. Hedges, while we were in camp at the confluence of the Firehole and Gibbon rivers, as is related in this diary."

Hon. William H. Clagett, delegate from Montana Territory responded to William R. Marshal, Secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society on July 9, 1894 to the question "Who are entitled to the principal credit for the passage of the act of Congress establishing Yellowstone National Park? [314]

> "The history of that measure as known to me, is as follows,... It has always been a pleasure to me to give to Professor Hayden and to Senator Pomeroy, and Mr. Dawes of Mass., all the credit they deserve in connection with the passage of that measure, but he truth of the matter is that the origin of the movement which created the Park was with Hedges, Langford and myself; and after Congress met, Langford and I probably did two-thirds, if not three-fourths of all the work connected with its passage.
> I think that the foregoing letter contains a full statement of what you wish, and I hope that you will be able to correct, at least to some extent, the misconceptions which the selfish vanity of some people has occasioned on this subject."

Nathaniel P. Langford said: "It is true that Professor Hayden joined with Mr. Clagett and myself in working for the passage of the act of dedication, but no person can divide with Cornelius Hedges and David E. Folsom the honor of originating the idea of creating the Yellowstone Park."

An interesting and rather detailed discussion of the antecedents of the National Park idea, and who should be credited with the idea, has been written by the highly respected Aubrey L. Haines, Park Historian for Yellowstone National Park. His book The History of Yellowstone Park implies that there were others with whom the National Park concept should be shared.[315]

More recently authors Paul Schullery and Lee Whittlesey in their preconceived book Myth and History in the Creation of Yellowstone National Park have tried to turn the history and facts of the establishment of Yellowstone National Park into a mere myth. They prefer their story that the establishment of Yellowstone was the result of complex social, scientific, economic, and aesthetic forces and with the intent to give more credibility to the National Park Service with the idea it will give them more legitimacy. Their historical revisionism tries to appeal to the intellect via techniques illegitimate to historical discourse to advance a given interpretive historical view.

Philetus W. Norris was the second superintendent of Yellowstone National Park. In his Report upon the Yellowstone National Park to the Secretary of the Interior for the Year 1878, writing of the history of the park states the follow:

"During the following autumn (1870) the Washburn expedition was suddenly organized for exploration of the park. It was comprised of H. D. Washburn, N. P. Langford, T. C. Everts, S. T. Houser, C. Hedges, W. Trumbull, B. Stickney, W. C. Gillett, and J. Smith.

General Washburn, in command, was the surveyor- general, at least T. C. Everts and N. P. Langford ex-officers, and all prominent and esteemed citizens of Montana Territory, well equipped; and at Fort Ellis, joined by Lieut. G. C. Doane and seven men. This is the first party of really successful explorers of any considerable portion of the park of which we have any public record."

Even the more recent investigations into the national park concept as tied to Yellowstone most historians concur that a significant amount of credit is rightfully given to Cornelius Hedges.

On July 14, 1922 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of Yellowstone Park held near the spot where on September 19, 1870 Cornelius Hedges first spoke of the idea of making a National Park of the Yellowstone region. The sons of Cornelius Hedges, Cornelius Hedges Jr, and W. A. Hedges planted a tree to commemorate the event. Also attending was C.W. Cook a member of the Folsom-Cook expedition of 1869. Stephen Mather, Secretary of the Interior and acting Director of the Park Service, commented on the principle of preservation of the park as embodied in the original idea of Cornelius Hedges, which is the foundation of our National Park System.

In retrospect, it matters little that perhaps Hedges was not the sole originator of the National Park idea, and that David E. Folsom undoubtedly deserves part of the credit. What matters most is that, in his own benevolent way, Cornelius Hedges was the right person at the right time to present such a potent idea, and that such an idea was so completely in harmony with all the guiding principles of his life. Hedges definitely profited by having such a receptive audience, but it was he, on that September evening of 1870, in an almost common manner, who planted a seed, called the National Park idea that germinated, and today has grown to a National Park system, preserving the scenic and historic heritage of our nation which oversees 394 units, of which 58 are designated national parks.

Montana state seal depicted on the reverse of Series 1882 National Bank Notes. From the Bureau of Engraving and Printing certified proofs. National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution.

St Paul June 7, 1894.

My dear Hedges:-

Your letter of June 3rd is received, and I have found the memorial in the Montana statutes.

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Hayden does not positively declare that he originated the scheme, but leaves it to be inferred that Hedges. His statement to this effect is dated Feb 1, 1883, or eleven years after the Park bill passed, and this is the first time he made the claim. If he was ever acquainted with the facts, he must have forgotten them. I have

Figure 18. Letter from N. P. Langford crediting the National Park concept to Cornelius Hedges.

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Advocated Natl Park Washington Jan 19 1871
" " New York " 21 1871
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"west of Wind river range;- a matter in which we
"hope our citizens will soon move, to accomplish,
"as well as to secure its future appropriation
"to the public use."

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did do so. Now I want you to do one thing, and that is this. Examine the old files of the Herald of those days, and see if something more cannot be found, in which you distinctly suggested the idea of the Park. Give the date of the paper, and the language used, as I have done in this quotation.

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When this record is fully made up for permanent preservation, and publication by the N. P. Railway, I want due credit given to you as the originator of the scheme, while I worked hard with Clagett to carry out. Clagett drew the bill, and gave Pomeroy a copy to introduce in the Senate. Pomeroy was Chairman of the Public Lands Committee.

You will remember that I was dubbed National Park Langford, (my initials coming in just right) because of the work I did in the matter. Can you ascertain for me Clagett's address? Hon. A. D. Shauer will soon be in Helena, and I will give him a letter to you. He wants your photograph, in making up a page of the original explorers.

Wife and I send love to all your family. Yours truly

N. P. Langford.

Vice President Albert Gore, Jr.
Yellowstone National Park 125th Anniversary
Albright Visitors Center
Sunday, August 17, 1997

"...Every so often, a group of explorers would come back to see for themselves. The most important of these was the Washburn-Langford-Doane expedition. All through the summer of 1870, they traveled this region. On their last night at Madison Junction, as the campfire crackled before them and a sea of stars washed over them, they talked about their plans for the future. To a man, each hoped to exploit the land for personal profit.

But then a young man by the name of Cornelius Hedges spoke up. As the story goes -- and there is some debate about this -- he said this land was put here for the use of all, and should be set aside so that it cannot be damaged by man's heavy hand.

Most importantly, he said that everyone who had the chance to experience the wonders of Yellowstone had the responsibility to safeguard for others that same fortune. Yellowstone had found its first protector...."

Figure 19. N. P. Langford with Nieces And Nephews.

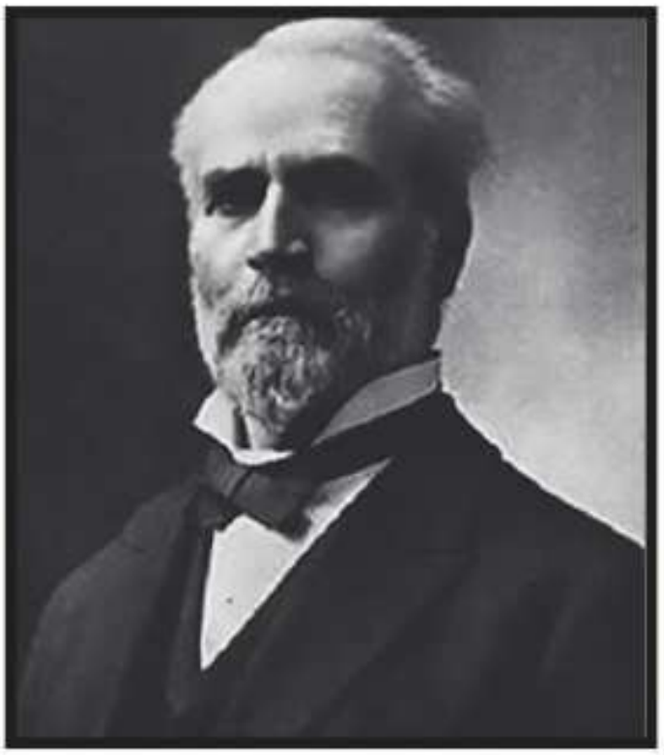


Figure 20. N. P. Langford.

Figure 21. Cornerstone ceremony at the Roosevelt Memorial Arch, Yellowstone National Park.

Figure 22. Dedication of Roosevelt Arch.

Figure 23. 50th Anniversary of the Washburn Expedition.

Figure 24. Hedges Peak.

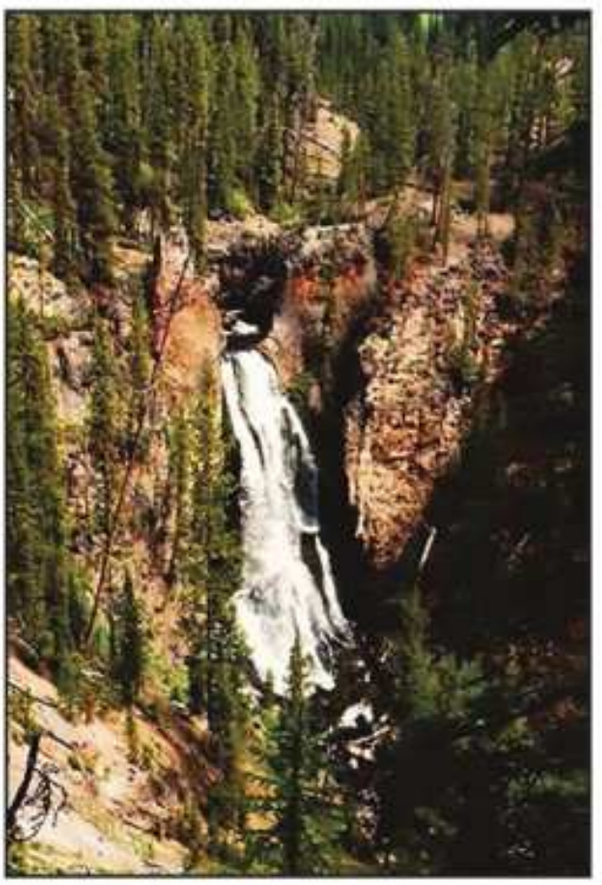


Figure 25. Crystal Falls named in 1870 by Cornelius Hedges during the Washburn expedition.

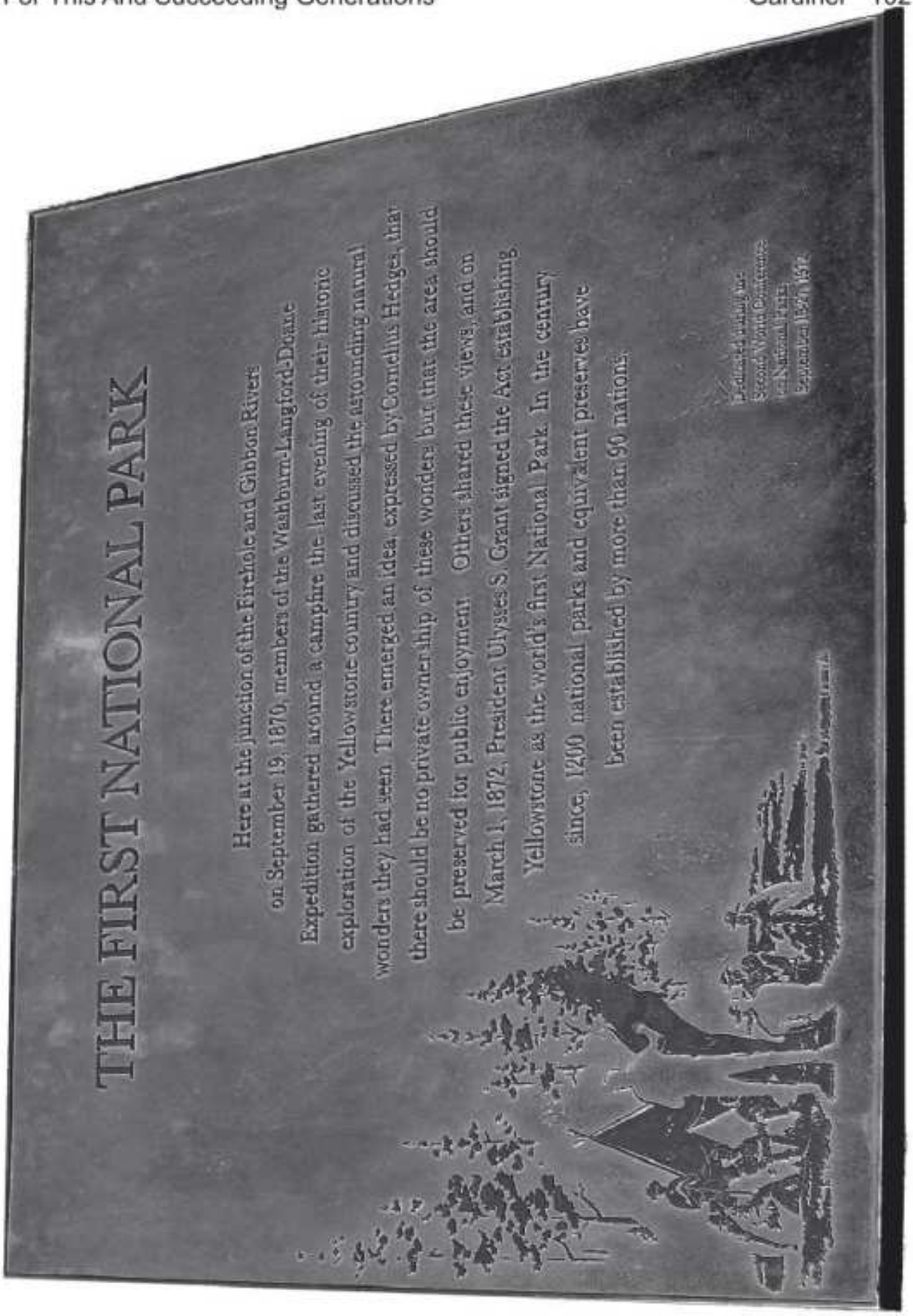


Figure 25. Plaque dedicated during the second world conference on National Parks, September 1972. Here at the junction of the Firehole and Gibbon Rivers on September 12, 1870, members of the Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition gathered around a campfire the last evening of their historic exploration of the Yellowston country and discussed the astounding natural wonder they had seen. There emerged an idea, expressed by Cornelius Hedges, that there should be no private ownership of these wonders but that the area should be preserved for public enjoyment. Others shared these views, and on March 1, 1872, President Ulysses S. Grant signed the Act establishing Yellowstone as the world's first National Park. In the century since, 1200 national parks and equivalent preserves have been established by more that 90 nations.

Chapter 6
A Labor Of Love
Public Education In Montana

Formal education was near and dear to Cornelius Hedges' heart. He had received a good formal education in public schools and the academy in his native Massachusetts. He was graduated from Yale College in 1853 and Harvard Law School in 1855. And he had previous taught in academies in Connecticut on two different occasions, in 1853 at Easton, Connecticut, and from late 1860 to early 1863 at Sally Levis Academy in Berlin, Connecticut. Therefore, when he reached Montana in the summer of 1864, he had a good understanding of the value of good public schools and of an educated, responsible citizenry to the growth and development of the territory.

Hedges wanted Montana to grow and prosper, and he realized that the best way to accomplish those goals was to have well educated citizens. In his 4th of July Address in 1815, he delineated the role of education in Helena, however the same held true for the remainder of the entire territory. Judge Hedges said:

> "If in the earlier years our city neglected its duty of education, this can no longer be cast as a reproach against us. The new century finds us awake to this first duty and greatest trust, preparing the next generation to become wiser than their fathers and better fitted to manage the greater interests that will come to their keeping."[316]

Another time, in a speech on education delivered at Virginia City, he spoke of the advantages of good schools to a community. Hedges termed the schools as the "nucleus around which intelligent communities would gather," and also "they were the foundations of civilization."[317]

Hedges' interest in education and schools was a genuine interest, the type that motivated him to attend meetings and give lectures on education even though not acting in any type of official capacity. In June of 1863, in Independence, Iowa, he noted attending a teachers' meeting.[318] And on March 4, 1869, in Helena, he wrote in his journal that he had delivered a lecture on education to a small audience, but that it was well received.[319]

Cornelius Hedges was asked by Governor B. F. Potts to accept an appointment as Superintendent of Public Instruction on January 7, 1872. At the time, Hedges was attending a session of the Territorial Supreme Court in Virginia City in official capacity as U.S. Attorney. On the 17th, he received his commission, and the next day he filed bond.[320] The Superintendency had been vacant for about two years because the 1870 appointee, S. G. Lanthrop, had never been confirmed by the Council.[321] Thus, even the little which had been accomplished by such men as Thomas J. Dimsdale, A. H. Barrett, A. M. S. Carpenter, and Thomas F. Campbell,[322] was at least partially lost, and much of the foundation work of building an adequate territorial school system had to be laid again.

Hedges' son, Will, later commented that much of this organization and implementation was carried on "under the most unpropitious conditions."[323]

Although he was appointed in January, 1872, and took office at that time, it was not until April, 1873, that the Legislature confirmed his appointment.[324] His first problem was that of making sure he would receive a salary. On January 29, he entered in his journal, "Things look ticklish about my getting any salary - Callaway writes me that Rogers (or Rodgers) will not issue any warrants on my order." However, he continued preparing to do a proper job, and added "Got copy of school law and studied it all night."[325]

On the 3rd of February, he got a letter from W. H. Rodgers, and commented "Looks all right for me to go ahead."[326] Then on April 30, he wrote, "Got warrant from Auditor for $572 - Relieves me greatly, can work better hereafter" and his comment of the next day, "money matters stringent" adds to the indication of urgency of need.[327] Hedges never indicated in his journal why there was some question of his not receiving a salary, but it might well have involved the fact that his appointment was yet unconfirmed by the Council.

The first year, in addition to visiting schools in and around Helena,[328] he made two extended trips in western Montana visiting schools in session. On the first trip, November 9 to 19, he visited schools in Missoula and Deer Lodge. In addition to the school visitation, he gave public lectures at both towns.[329] Most of the month of December, the 9th to the 25th, Hedges spent on a more extended school visitation tour of southwestern Montana.

Hedges visited schools at Hills, Jefferson Island, Whitehall, Argenta, Bannack, Sheridan, and Virginia City, and returned home on Christmas Day. Since his family was visiting in New England that winter, there was little disappointment at his late return.[330]

From January 6 to 20, 1873, Hedges visited rural schools in the Gallatin Valley, and schools in Bozeman, Willow Creek, and Radersburg.[331] Thus in three months, he had visited schools in most of the settled sections of Montana, and those schools in turn had the opportunity to make use of Hedges' competent knowledge and ability. Hedges visited the Bozeman and Radersburg schools again in November, 1873.[332]

In addition to school visitations to impart knowledge, and strengthen and unify the individual schools into a territorial system of schools, Hedges carried on numerous other jobs as part of his official duties. In April, 1872, he noted that he had worked on school law, called for bids to print copies of school law, and had taken some action in an attempt to locate school lands in the territory.[333] In that month, he also examined applicants who aspired to become cadets at West Point.[334]

In April, 1873, he was in Virginia City, sponsoring amendments to the school law for the territory at the session of the Legislature.[335] And often, at the opening of a term, he was called upon to help examine new teachers.[336] Yet another time, he taught a half-day of school in a classroom of one of the Helena Schools.[337]

There were also necessary reports to be completed and filed. In this endeavor, Hedges was no less conscientious than at any other of his jobs. As an example, he noted finishing and sending the "School Report" for 1873 on December 16 of that year. And on February 9, 1875, he wrote in his journal, "Laboring all day on school returns, abstracting them -Sent off abstract to Bureau of Education."[338]

Patience was a virtue which Hedges possessed, and there were times in his job as Superintendent of Public Instruction that he needed all of it that he could muster. For example, on February 12, 1875, he noted, "Miss Sims occupied me in the evening with her school troubles." A little more than a week later, Hedges went to his office on a Sunday afternoon to do some writing. "'Didn't get to writing much before Miss Sims came in," he wrote, "and related her gripes."[339]

Yet another of his duties, or perhaps an action dictated by his devotion to duty, was electioneering for a school tax on May 5, 1875, and his efforts were rewarded, the tax issue passed 290 to 59.[340] In the fall of 1875, he "wrote a series of newspaper articles for publication all over the territory some of the specific titles were "Mental Arithmetic," "Written Arithmetic," "Reading," and "Writing."[341]

In the latter part of January, 1874, Cornelius made a trip to Virginia City with Sol Star, where Hedges visited school and worked on the codified school law for the territory.[342] And during the last four days of that year, he attended the Helena Teachers Association meeting.[343]

In 1875, Cornelius Hedges organized the first Teachers' Institute in Montana. He laid the groundwork for it in an organizational meeting in Virginia City on January 30, and the Institute was held there on April 15 and 16.

The Madisonian noted the new venture on the 17th: The meeting of the Teachers' Institute for Madison County has been in session for several days past. A full attendance of Teachers and others interested in education has been on hand daily, and the order of exercises has been highly interesting and instructive in character. The Institute adjourned yesterday, Friday. We will publish a synopsis of the proceedings in our next. It has been a very pleasant meeting and those engaged have enjoyed themselves in a profitable manner.[344]

And as promised, the resume appeared in the April 24 issue. Although this is but one institute, its form was followed for others held later. The resume was as follows:

The Madison County Teachers' Institute met, pursuant to announcement, at Templars' Hall, in this city, on Thursday, April 15, 1875.

FIRST DAY

The Institute was opened with prayer by Rev. W. W. Van Orsdel. Address by Amos Purdum, on the "Objects and the Aims of Teachers' Institutes." Address by W. I. Marshall, on "Spenserian Penmanship." At the afternoon session addresses, on the subject of grammar, were delivered by Messrs. D. B. Sturges, W. I. Marshall, A. J. Bennett, C. Hedges, and R.N. Blake. The address of Mr. Sturges upon this subject is highly spoken of by those who heard it.

The Lecture of Superintendent Hedges delivered at the evening session, on the "Reciprocal Duties of Parents and Teachers," was well received by his auditors. It was replete with practical thoughts and suggestions.

SECOND DAY

Opened with prayer by Rev. F. A. Riggin. A discussion on the subject of "Mathematical Studies," was ably conducted by Messrs. A. J. Bennett, C. Hedges, and W. Marshall. Address by County Superintendent Purdum, on "Bookkeeping." Mr. Purdum handled his subject in the manner that showed his thorough knowledge of the science.

The afternoon session was opened with an address by W. I. Marshall on "Geography."

Recitation and class drill in mental arithmetic in which Messrs. Hedges, Bennett, Sturges, Purdum, and Marshall, volunteered as pupils, and Miss Maria Purmort conducted the recitations. Messrs. Hedges and Marshall followed with a discussion on the subject.

Essay by Mrs. L. Fitch on "Mineralogy." An elegant paper, doing great credit to the accomplished authoress.

The following persons were elected officers for the ensuing year: Amos Purdum, President; Miss Maria Purmort, Vice President; Mrs. L. Fitch, Secretary; J. B. Baker, Treasurer.

The evening session opened with a lecture by D. B. Sturges, on the subject of "Vocal Music in our Public Schools." This was a really brilliant effort on the part of the lecturer; his points were well taken and ably argued, while his elocution was excellent.

Messrs. Hedges, Sturges, Bennett, Deimling, and Riggin, discussed the subject of "School Discipline." This discussion gave the disputants a fine opportunity to show their facetious proclivities. Mr. Hedges and Mr. Riggin were particularly happy in this vein. Mr. Hedges didn't believe in rod discipline, Mr. Riggin did. The latter gentleman claimed that he owed much of his moral success in life to the very liberal amount of pounding he'd received in his youthful days, both in and out of school. The discussion was interesting and amusing.

After a vote of thanks to the Temple of Honor for the use of the Hall, the Institute adjourned sine die.[345]

To give the other side of the debate between Mr. Hedges and Rev. Riggin, The Madisonian, in the same issue, printed Hedges' remarks and ideas.

Judge Hedges said that when he was a school boy the idea prevailed that muscle was a principal qualification for a teacher to possess, and he had known, in his boyhood, instances where good teachers had been turned out and muscular hostlers had been put in, hoping thereby to pound and beat discipline and knowledge into children by the exercise of brute force and thus making a school room a kind of slaughter pen. This notion was fast going out of date, and brain, not muscle, was what is wanted now-a-days in the school house.[346]

Thus Hedges placed himself in line with the progressive educators of that day, and gave Montana further strength and guidance in forming a true education system and not just a system of disciplinary institutions. Cornelius' own diary also briefly outlined the Institutes's content and he ended with the comment "closed successfully."[347]

That year he organized and held three more Teachers' Institutes, two at Helena, on September 28 and 29, and November 26 and 27, and at Deer Lodge on December 29 and 30. At the Deer Lodge Institute, Hedges "as concerned with the passive disinterest of the teachers, and commented, "Teachers generally did but little."[348]

And in his report for 1875, Hedges asked for legislative action requiring counties with ten schools or more to have annual Teachers' Institutes. The suggestion was finally made law by the Tenth Legislature, held in 1877. They designated an institutes's length at not less than two days nor more than five days that schools would be dismissed during the institutes and certified teachers should receive full pay, and that all persons holding certificates were to attend.[349]

In the meantime, Hedges continued to sponsor institutes. The second Madison County Teachers' Institute was held at Virginia City on April 21 and 22, 1876, and Cornelius, of course, was there to assist.[350]

In November, 1877, he visited the Fort Benton schools and other schools along the Missouri River. Also, in mid-December of that year, Hedges visited schools at Missoula and Butte.[351]

Hedges' third term as Superintendent expired in January, 1878. On January 14, Hedges entered in his journal:

> "Astonished by news from Mills that Governor had appointed Clarke Wright my successor. Kept growing madder all day over it. Changed many plans - Hope it may prove for the best. That I may seek only noble revenge - Clearing out my desk to turn over to successor."[352]

And reaction came from Virginia City and Bozeman. The Democratic Madisonian went on record with compliments for Judge Hedges:

"Laying all political antipathies aside, we are free to say that Judge Hedges has been the best Superintendent of Public Instruction Montana has ever had, and his efforts for the increase of educational facilities were rendered more effective for the fact that he was heartily devoted to the cause, and it was to a great extent a "labor of love" on his part."[353]

In an article in the Bozeman Times, Rev. Clark Wright was bitterly criticized. The reporter believed that Rev. Wright was involved in the "Indian Ring." The article, in essence, claims Hedges was a victim of politics designated to bring greater fame and favor to Governor Potts, who made the decision even though it was carried out by Acting Governor J. H. Mills.[354]

Evidently, Hedges also held Potts responsible for deliberate action. On June 12, 1878, he noted in his diary: "Wrote on Potts as a Herald editorial - news came today of his re-nomination... Sending off telegram to prevent Potts confirmation." And on June 15, he was gravely concerned because the telegraph wires were down, Potts will be confirmed before we can send a protest.[355]

Hedges had served three terms as Superintendent and had accomplished much. He had started the first Teachers' Institutes, and had gotten a law requiring those counties with ten or more schools to have an institute annually. He had made the first complete report of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction that had ever been made in Montana. He also had major influence in getting adequate, new schools built at Helena, Virginia City, Bannack, Blackfoot, and New Chicago.[356] But most of all he succeeded in keeping the need for education in the public view. He had served three full terms, more than all his predecessors combined, and his work therefore had more continuity than any previous efforts.

Dispensation was given November 18, 1870 to form Bannack Lodge No. 16 and the Charter issued on October 3, 1871. In 1874, realizing the need for a school, Bannack Lodge No.16 built the combination lodge and school house. The Lodge consolidated with Dillon Lodge No. 23 as Dillon Lodge No. 16 on May 12, 1921. Classes were held in this building for nearly 70 years. The school finally closed in 1951 as a result of too few students.

As proof of his genuine interest in education, after failure to be re-nominated as Superintendent, Hedges noted attendance at a teachers' meeting in Helena on the evening of January 26, 1878.[357] And he spoke briefly at the graduation exercises of the first graduating class of Helena Graded Schools on the evening of June 12, 1879.[358]

Judge Hedges served Montana education in yet another capacity when he was elected to the Board of Trustees for the Helena Schools, on the afternoon of August 30, 1879. And within a week, he was again exercising his habit of visiting Helena schools.[359]

In 1880, Hedges was appointed a member of a three-man textbook commission, by Territorial Superintendent W. Egbert Smith, to examine textbooks and recommend a uniform set for the common schools of the territory. This was an attempt to promote improved instruction in all schools. The report of the commission was passed by the legislature on February 23, 1881, and it stated that schools not using the recommended texts would forfeit 25% of their funds.[360]

On February 19, 1883, Judge Hedges was nominated by Governor John Schuyler Crosby to again become Superintendent of Public Instruction. Political opposition developed in the Council on the 20th, but on February 21, his appointment was confirmed over the opposition. On the 22nd, he posted bond, got commissioned, and took possession of the effects of the office. On March 31, he drew his first salary, $145.60, as Superintendent.[361]

During the Superintendence of Egbert Smith, the Teachers' Institute laws were amended. The previous act did not make teacher attendance at institutes mandatory, however, the amendment did. The amendment also required the attendance of the Territorial Superintendent at all county institutes, or forfeit ten dollars salary for each institute missed.[362] Because of this law, and more especially because of natural devotion to duty, Hedges did a lot of traveling in 1883 and 1884.

Travel in many areas was much easier than during his previous terms as Territorial Superintendent, however, because of the advent of railroads in Montana. From mid-July to the end of 1883, Hedges was traveling much of the time. He made five trips to visit schools and attend institutes; two of them were extended trips. He also conducted an institute in Helena on December 5 and 6.[363]

On July 17, he left Helena on a school tour. While on the tour, he attended an institute at White Sulphur Springs; visited Will, Henry, and his sheep ranch; visited schools at Oka and Martinsdale; and conducted a three-day Teachers' Institute at Fort Benton. On August 4 and 5, he returned to Helena, via Ulm and Fort Shaw.[364] On August 30 and 31, and September 1, he participated in an institute at Deer Lodge.[365]

Hedges left for Virginia City on another extended tour on October 10. On this excursion, he attended and participated in institutes at: Virginia City, October 11 to 13; Bozeman, October 16 and 17; Billings, October 18 to 20; and Miles City, October 22 to 24. He also visited schools at Fort Keogh and Livingston. He returned by train to Helena on October 27.[366]

He celebrated his 52nd birthday at home on the 28th, and on October 29, left again for an institute at Missoula, which lasted two days. On the evening of the 30th, as was often his custom on these trips, he gave a public lecture. That night his topic was "The Public Duty to the Public Schools." Hedges was home again on November 1.[367] In December, the 18th to the 23rd, Hedges spent an afternoon visiting Butte schools and participated in an institute at Dillon, about which he happily remarked, "Had trustees present."[368]

Judge Hedges' schedule for visitation and institute trips in 1884 was just as full as in 1883. He participated in institutes that year as follows: March 26 to 28, Butte; July 9 to 11, New Chicago, today a ghost town near Deer Lodge; September 22 and 23, Fort Benton; September 26 and 27, White Sulphur Springs; October 3 and 4, Bozeman; October 9 and 10, Virginia City; October 13 to 15, Billings; October 16 to 18, Miles City; he simply visited school at Glendive on October 19; October 22 and 23, Boulder; December 18 to 20, Missoula; and December 23 and 24, Dillon. He returned home on Christmas Day, and spent much of that day sending out certificates of attendance at Teachers' Institutes. He finished the year with three full days of institute in He1ena.[369]

An extract from Superintendent Hedges' 1884 report, which appeared in Lesson's 1885 History of Montana, alludes to the two years of progress made during his term:

> "There are at present about 200 school districts in the Territory, those in larger places employing several teachers and continuing the terms during nine months, but the larger number not more than four months, making the average between five and six months. The number of children of school age in the Territory is about 14,000, and about 54 per cent of that number is enrolled as scholars. If the enrollment were reckoned on the age of actual attendance - 5 to 15 years - the per cent would be over 70, and the per capita of money expended in education would be as great as that in any state of the Union. There are no normal schools in Montana for training teachers, and relatively high wages are paid to induce their coming from other states, the average of teachers' wages for all grades, per month, being $60."[370]

On March 3, Governor B. Platt Carpenter re-nominated Cornelius Hedges as Territorial Superintendent, but he, was rejected by the Council on the 5th. On the 6th, Hedges wrote, "Governor agreed to send in my name again and gave me chance to see the members." But again, he was rejected, and on March 10, he commented, "Realized fully for the first time that I had been sold out by all the Republican members of the Council." On the 11th, he added, "Seriously thinking what to do to increase income -Wife takes it very hard." On March 12, Professor W. W. Wylie was nominated and confirmed, and Hedges turned over the effects of his office to Wylie on March 18.[371]

Still, true to his concern for the best interests of Montana education, he attended institutes after leaving office.[372] Cornelius Hedges was also active in the Montana Territorial Teachers' Association and was elected its second President in 1883 at Deer Lodge.[373]

Although Judge Hedges' most concentrated efforts in Montana education were directed to the promotion of public schools on the primary and secondary level, he was also vitally interested in promoting schools of higher learning.

On June 12, 1882, a proposed University of Montana was incorporated in Helena, and Hedges was among the nine elected as trustees. Among the others were Governor B. F. Potts, Chief Justice Decius Wade, Helena's Mayor E. W. Knight, W. F. Sanders, and

Samuel T. Hauser. The university was to have been located in Helena on land already donated, and the trustees sought a $50,000 endowment in the East.[374] Evidently, the institution died before it even opened its doors.

On May 21, 1888, Judge Hedges met with Wilbur F. Sanders to help in the planning of Montana Wesleyan University.[375] And from the tone of some of his journal entries, and his influential position in the Montana Presbytery, it appears that he was a trustee of The College of Montana at Deer Lodge in 1888 and 1889.[376]

Judge Cornelius Hedges was devoted to Montana education and contributed much towards its advancement. Some might say, and have, that his greatest contribution in this field was the origination of the Teachers' Institutes or perhaps his organization of many isolated Schools into one territorial system. However, these are but integral parts of a yet greater contribution. In his own unselfish, charitable way, Cornelius Hedges kept the citizens of Montana constantly aware of the need of good public schools and stimulated among them a genuine interest and desire to build and maintain high quality public schools.

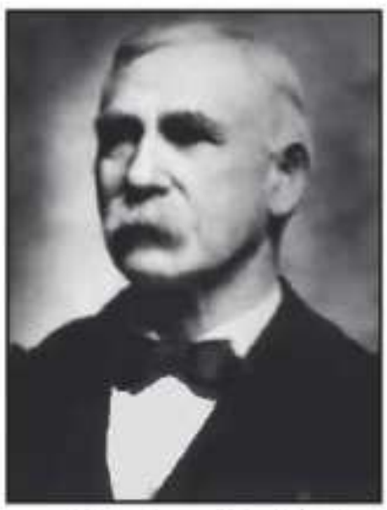
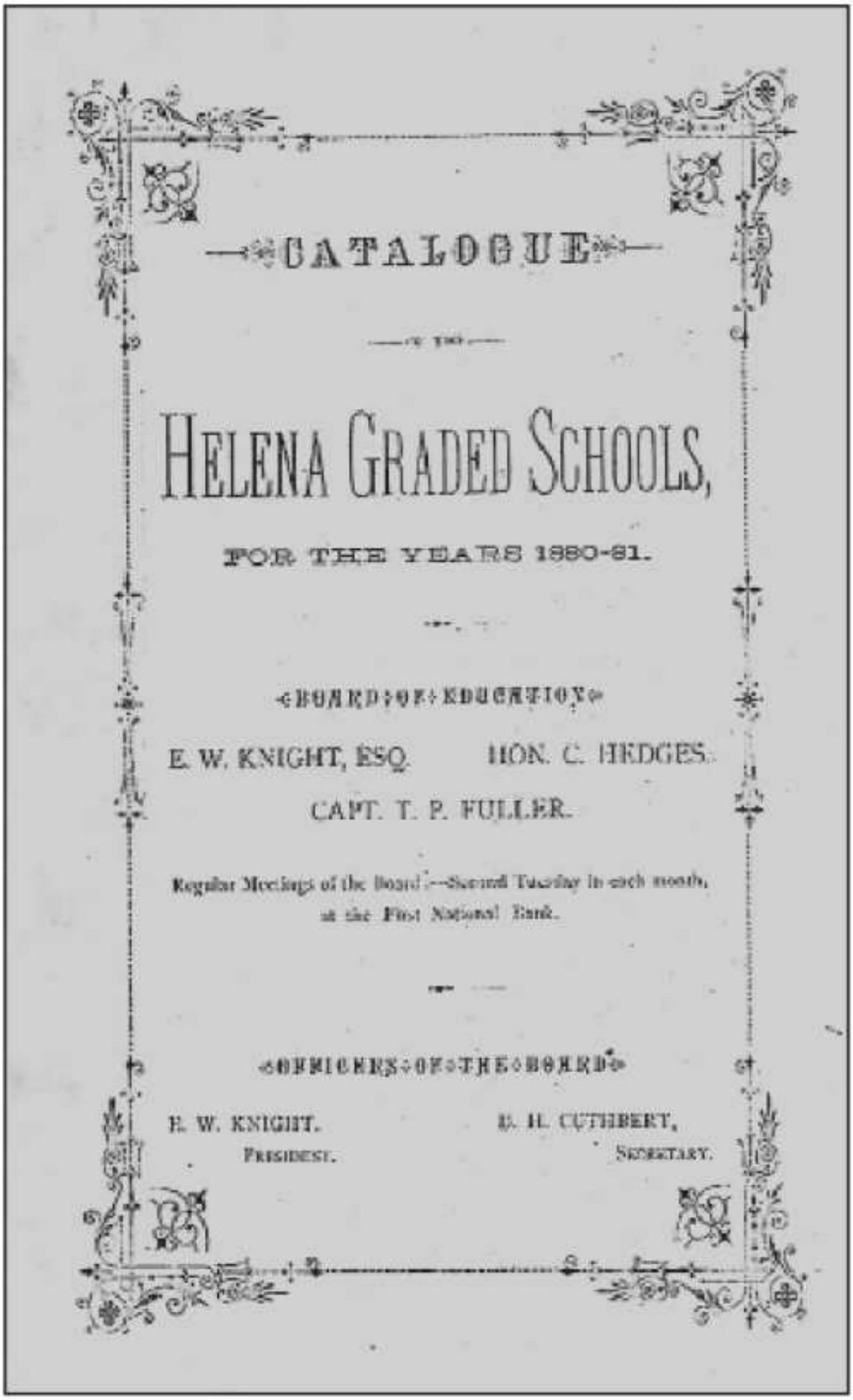


Figure 27. Cornelius Hedges.



CATALOGUE

OF THE

HELENA GRADED SCHOOLS,

FOR THE YEARS 1880-81.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

E. W. KNIGHT, ESQ. HON. C. HEDGES.

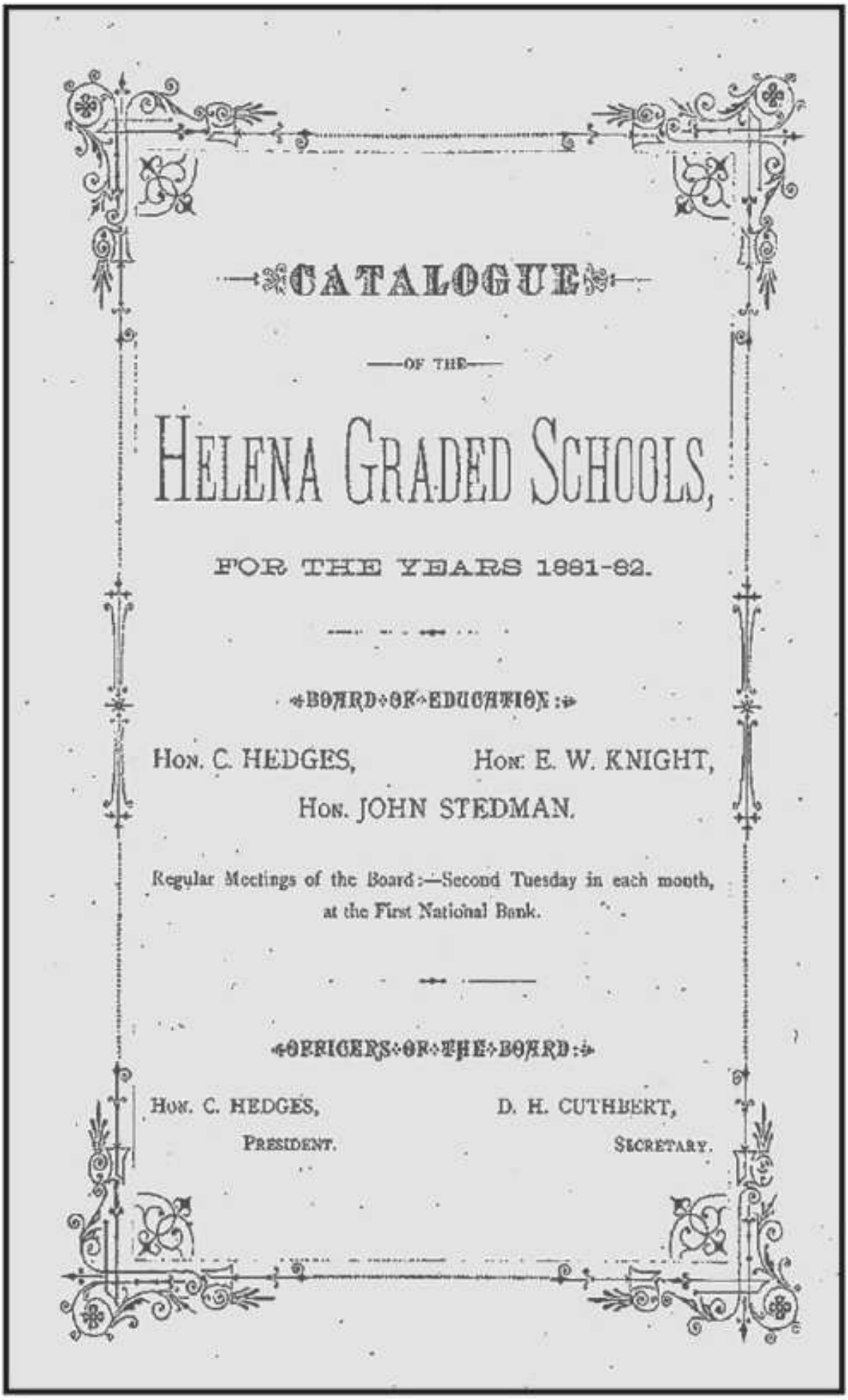
CAPT. T. P. FULLER.

Regular Meetings of the Board:—Second Tuesday in each month, at the First National Bank.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

E. W. KNIGHT, President. E. H. CUTHBERT, Secretary.

Figure 28. Catalogue Helena Schools 1880-1881.



CATALOGUE

OF THE

HELENA GRADED SCHOOLS,

FOR THE YEARS 1881-82.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

HON. C. HEDGES, HON. E. W. KNIGHT,

HON. JOHN STEDMAN.

Regular Meetings of the Board:—Second Tuesday in each month, at the First National Bank.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD:

HON. C. HEDGES, PRESIDENT. D. H. CUTHBERT, SECRETARY.

Figure 29. Catalogue Helena Schools 1881-1882.

O RD Y PLATA

Chapter 7
The Helena Public Library

Cornelius Hedges was integrally involved with the Helena Library Association from its embryo stages. He became chairman of the committee to draft the association's constitution on November 20, 1868.[377] From that time until his death, Hedges name was nearly synonymous with that of the Helena Library Association and the early years of the Helena Public Library. This endeavor, like many others, was the beneficiary of the time, talent, energy, and intellect of Cornelius Hedges.

At the inception of the Helena Library Association, Hedges not only chaired the committee which drafted its constitution, but he,W. F. Sanders, J. W. Whitlatch, and Ben Stickney (Sanders and Whitlatch were also Masons) composed the committee which solicited the original subscriptions for the library.

On December 5, the Helena Library Association was formally organized. James King was chosen its first President. Cornelius Hedges was elected Vice President, and J. L. Douglas was named Secretary.[378]

On December 21, Hedges commented that at a Library Association meeting "my payment was accepted in books for a life membership."[379] Cornelius Hedges was honored, on December 18, 1869, with the Presidency of the Helena Library Association. It was a day of double honors for Hedges; he was also elected Treasurer of Helena Lodge #3, A. F. & A. M.[380]

On December 20, 1869, Hedges and A.M. Holter leased the two back rooms of their new building on upper Main Street to the Library Association for two years at $400 down. On the next day, Hedges moved the library's stove and books to the new building and drew up the lease. At the end of the day, he wrote in his journal, "This will enable me to get along without borrowing anymore."[381] It also made the library much more accessible for Hedges, who made excellent use of it.

Another Hedges' became integrally involved with the library on March 3, 1870, when the association "agreed to try Willie as librarian." Will started work in the library on March 4, with his

dad helping him most of the day, and on April 4, the executive committee of the Helena Library Association hired Will for six months at $40.[382] He held the position for about one year.[383] Will was to later write that the Helena Library provided chess and checkers in addition to books for its patrons.[384]

Hedges tersely wrote in his journal on December 7, 1872, "Library meeting in the evening - was re-elected President in spite of my refusal." The following year W. F. Sanders was elected to succeed Hedges.[385]

Shortly after Sanders became President, the entire library was destroyed in the historic Helena fire of January 9, 1874. Burned that day were "about 2,500 books, together with all its important record books containing its history for the first four year. "And, of course, the list original subscribers shared the same fate."[386]

However, even the fire was only a temporary obstacle. The Library Association began anew on August 24, 1874, under the guiding hand of Cornelius Hedges, who was again elected its President. This time he held the position until sometime in 1876, probably stepping down in December.[387]

Judge Hedges included a brief history of the Helena Library Association in his 4th of July Historical Address in 1876 and in humility never once mentioned his own name. On that day he said of the library:

"In a little more than a year since its revival it has gathered together upwards of 1,200 volumes, and continues its useful career, winning friends and favor under the growing depression of all material interests. When prosperous days again return, no institution in our community stands more deserving of increased favor, nor more likely to receive it."[388]

In March, 1885, Hedges began the foundation work for converting the Helena Library Association into the Helena Free Public Library when he drew up the ordinance for the Public Library's creation. A year later, the voters of Helena approved a one-half mill tax levy for the library's support, and on May 8, 1886, Hedges' ordinance became City Ordinance #79, and thereby the Helena Public Library was formally organized. [389]

On May 7, 1886, Cornelius was confirmed a new trustee, and the Board of Trustees began functioning as the governing body to the Public Library on the 8th. The Helena Library Association held its final meeting on May 14, and formally turned its books and effects over to the new Helena Public Library.[390]

In 1887, Judge Decius Wade was elected as President of the Board of Trustees, and Cornelius Hedges was elected Vice President.[391] Judge Hedges was elected President of the Board of Trustees for the Public Library in 1893 and held that office until his death, April 29, 1907. He "was succeeded, incidentally, by Thomas J. Walsh.[392]

The Helena Public Library paid a final and silent tribute to its founder, Board President, and most important benefactor when it closed its door for six hours on the afternoon of Judge Cornelius Hedges' funeral, on May 1, 1907.[393]

Figure 30. Helena Public Library 1892.

Chapter 8
His Love of Books and Knowledge

Cornelius Hedges' love of books was not only exhibited in his efforts on behalf of the Helena Library, but also in the accumulation of an extensive personal library. To him, books, newspapers and periodicals were necessary tools for mental discipline, and the acquisition of useful knowledge.

According to his son Toby, the Hedges' library "was undoubtedly the largest and most expensive private library" in Helena.[394] Hedges gathered a library to have material to read, not to have books for exhibition and dust collection. He had a tender spot in his heart for books, as is well illustrated by the quotation on his book plate, "Use, But Don't Abuse." One time, in his journal, he disapprovingly commented, "Case of mutilation at the Library."[395]

He maintained regular accounts with book dealers in the east during the time he lived in Montana. The three most important dealers to him were the American Book Exchange, John R. Alden of Boston, and Lovering's of New York City.[396]

In 1868, Hedges purchased a set of American Encyclopedia from a Methodist minister, Rev. A.M. Bough, and commented "They are a great treasure."[397]

Of the hundreds of volumes of Judge Hedges' extensive library, three leather-bound books from his library are now treasured among the historical mementos on display at the Montana Grand Lodge Library and Archives, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, in Helena. The books owned by the Grand Lodge are: Quinti Horatii Flucci Opera: Interpretations - Notes, London, 1741; A Spanish-English Dictionary, Henrique Neuman, Diccionario Neuvo de las Dos Lenguas Espanola E. Inglisa, Philadelphia, 1823; and a history book originally belonging to Dennis Hedges, Cornelius' father, L. H . Young, The Historical Cabinet, New Haven, 1834.

Cornelius was always concerned about mental discipline and constantly tried to keep his mind from being idle. In Iowa, in 1863, he wrote "Evening fooled away at stores for want of something to read or study."[398]

Another time he lamented, "Never accomplish the reading I expect to do on Sunday."[399] On February 28, 1870, after not writing in his journal for 15 days, he wrote:

> "Business has been so dull that I have had nothing to note - Have been occupied with reading the new books of the library and I have accomplished much in mental discipline and am determined to do more -Have slept better of late by using my mind till I was tired out."[400]

His concern for the development of his mind continued through the years. On April 1, 1875, he wrote, "Reading hard all day enjoying it very much. Am doing it more thoroughly than ever before -Using my encyclopedia and Atlases to good purpose." And on May 26, 1875, he further commented "Reading most of the time-trying to devour the Encyclopedia."[401] In June, 1880, he remarked that he was trying to refresh his "acquaintance with Greek."[402]

To fully appreciate Hedges' insatiable hunger for knowledge, it is helpful to realize the immensity of his reading diet. As an example, he read the following books in the first eight months of 1875: Orations of Cicero; Great Events of History) Lechy on Rationalism) Vol. I of Bancroft, Pacific Coast History) DeSenectute; Dictionary of American Ideas; a book about the Jesuits) a book about School Architecture) several early American histories) John Stuart Mill on Representative Government; Life of Hannibal; History of Rome; two different biographies of Julius Caesar; Plutarch on Cicero and Demosthenes; a book on Mythology) a book on Jewish History) Draper's Conflict of Science and Religion) histories of Switzerland, Germany, and Scandanavia) Protestant Revolution) Chamber's Book of Days) English Geography) Social Life in Greece) Bartlette's Danube) something entitled Bric-a-brac; Hopkin's Law of Love) Allibone's Prose Quotations) and the Odyssey. The variety of topics is as outstanding as the number of books.[403]

His reading was not confined to just books. On August 6, 1880, he called attention to his extensive newspaper reading with the comment, "Think I give too much time to newspapers, but how else can one keep up with affairs." [404] Periodicals, too, had an integral place in Judge Hedges' reading.

To illustrate the large number of periodicals which came into his home and his wide variety of interests, on December 5, 1879, he renewed subscriptions to the following periodicals: Princeton Review Youth's Companion, undoubtedly for Henry, Edna Cornelia, Emma, and possibly Toby; North American Review; Scribner's; Harper's; The Agriculturalist; Journal of Health; and Poultry World.[405]

Hedges' interest in books and the gleaning of knowledge was certainly pure pleasure to him, and it would not be difficult to believe that Hedges would have heartily supported the sentiments expressed in Thomas Carlyle's famous quotation, "May blessings be upon the head of Cadmus or the Phoenicians, or whoever invented books!"

Those who were daily associates of Cornelius Hedges were perhaps the major beneficiaries of his constant quest for knowledge because, as has been previously pointed out, he believed in sharing his intellect with others.

Figure 31. Quinti Horatii Flucci Opera, 1741.

Figure 32. Spanish - English Dictionary, 1823.

Figure 33. Historical Cabinet, 1834.

Figure 34. Ancient Constitutions, 1742.

Chapter 9
Cornelius Hedges -The Author

Cornelius Hedges' careful scholarship and his ability to express himself were well-known throughout the Territory. He wrote on a variety of themes and under a variety of conditions. He was a Masonic scholar and author, newspaper journalist, and often wrote for publication.

The writings of Judge Hedges at times served various and sundry purposes. But all his endeavors contained the same crisp literary style. A. W. Bowen and Company, publishers of Progressive Men of the State of Montana, gives Cornelius Hedges major credit and acknowledgment for the compilation of that sizable volume.

They also accorded him the additional honor of placing his biographical sketch at the very front of the volume.[406]

Cornelius was also the proofreader and informant for the Montana section of Hubbell & Company's Legal Directory for several years.[407] He was also chosen to write memorials of three former Librarians of the Historical Society of Montana, Charles Rumley, William F. Wheeler, and Henry S. Wheeler, for the Contributions to the Historical Society of Montana.[408]

At times, he was a ghost writer for others in Montana. From the tone and content of his journal entry for September 27, 1872, Hedges evidently wrote a lecture for Colonel John Gibbon.[409]

In 1887, he wrote one of Governor Samuel T. Hauser's messages, however on January 12, he wrote of his effort, "Governor's message sent in today - Doesn't include more than half what I wrote."[410] Hauser was a member of Helena Lodge No. 3.

Cornelius Hedges was very cognizant of current affairs and endeavored to keep pace with new developments. Therefore comments on the territorial, national and world affairs often became favorite subjects in his writing, especially accompanying some of his Masonic writings.[411] Aside from the various types of writing in which Hedges engaged, much can be said about his style and expression in writing.

In 1905, N. P. Langford pointed out one unique ability which Hedges possessed. In a rather lengthy letter to Judge Hedges, he compared their respective journals of the Yellowstone Expedition of 1870.[412] Langford made this observation:

"Your comparatively brief notes made on any one day in your diary, enabled you to recall, vividly, the full impressions received at the time, and to record them as you did in your fine letters published in the Helena Herald from time to time after our return. The foundation of one of your long letters is found in a single page of your diary, and from the brief entries, you summon before you all the grand scene as if you were again really in its presence."

He went on to relate that he had to write down thoughts in full, on the spot, if he intended to publish it later or he would otherwise forget. Then he added further:

"You, being able to recall the scene, with the aid of your brief notes, can give a far better description of the falls than can I with my fuller journal. My diary for Aug. 31st, the day we spent at the falls, covers 2000 words; yours, less than 200."[413]

There are many passages from Judge Hedges' writings which could be used to illustrate his very fine style of expression. However, three have been selected as examples. The first selection is from a discussion of mining camp society in the earliest territorial days and undoubtedly much of the matter is written from his own early experiences in Montana:

> "Unlike other states settled before or after the Civil War, the war-times during which Montana was settled brought together some of the worst elements of both warring sections of the country, deserters from both camps, seeking a cover in the wilderness beyond the reach of the civil or military arm of government, "here they could shoot off their mouths or guns with comparative impunity. It would be a rank injustice to assert that a majority or a large portion of the early settlers of Montana were desperadoes, seeking a field for unrestricted crime. Rumors of discovery of rich and extensive gold mines at any time, in any part of the world, will attract the attention of the adventurous persons whose visions of great wealth to be suddenly acquired, only gain increased attractiveness by reason of distance and intervening difficulties and hardships. Such were the rumors from the gold discoveries at Bannack."[414]

While on a trip attending Teachers' Institutes, Hedges visited the once great center of Confederate Gulch, Diamond City, in July, 1883. Afterwards he wrote this eulogy for Diamond City:

> "Diamond City is desolate, deserted, and dreary to behold in the shreds of its departed glory, yet those who have known it in the days of its pride, wealth, and activity, cannot fail to recall pleasant associations. Its very site will soon go down the flume, which is already within the borders of the old town and gleaning a rich harvest - probably the last. There are only four families left of all the hundreds that have dwelt here since the glorious days of '66. If the goose that laid the nest of golden eggs can only be found in the shape of a prolific mother vein of gold-bearing quartz, the days of Diamond's departed glory may return; otherwise, it will disappear utterly within another season."[415]

In 1902, Hedges co-authored the book Masonic History in The Northwest. And finally from the first issue in 1900 of Rocky Mountain Magazine, Vol. 1 comes this elegant passage:

> "There is something uplifting and enchanting in the ideas associated with mountains. In the very name "Montana" a chain and network of mountains rise before us. While many of our States preserve the names of rivers, only Vermont and Montana are suggestive of the mountains, the most prominent facts on the face of the earth. Does the awe inspired by the sight of lofty mountains spring from a conception of those Titanic forces that lifted their mighty masses from the plains?"
>
> The Greeks voiced the general sentiment of mankind in ascribing the dwelling-place of the gods among the cloud-capped summits of high Olympus, whence Jupiter, omnipotent, could watch the doings of men and launch his thunderous bolts. It was amidst the thunders of Sinai that Jehovah declared his law to the ransomed Hebrews. A more quiet and better instructed faith looks upon the mountains as altars of incense, lighted by the sun as he opens and closes the day.
>
> Ideas of utility are hardly ever associated with mountains. They are rarely and to a limited degree adapted to cultivation and residence. But so far from being waste and useless, we often think they are the most essential parts of creation. In the circulatory system of a world fitted to sustain life, mountains are indispensable.

They take the moisture from the clouds, store it in snow banks and glaciers, and give it clear and cool to refresh the plains in springs and rivers. They aide the Circulation of the atmosphere as well, and break the force of hurricanes and tornadoes. The cyclones that level cities and strew with wrecks of life, limb and property, and fill the hearts of men with terror are the growth of superheated plains.

While we are not prepared to admit that any square foot of' the earth's surface was created in vain, we are quite sure that without mountains the earth would be a very poor dwelling-place. We are therefore quite content that Montana should be known among the States as "the mountainous one."[416]

Newspaper Journalism

Cornelius Hedges was closely associated with two different newspapers. He owned, and for a time edited and published the Independent Civilian in Independence, Iowa, from 1856 to 1864. And he was editorial writer for the Helena Daily Herald for nearly twenty years, from 1872 to 1891, with some minor interruptions.

Hedges were usually willing to write for a newspaper, but he did not particularly care for the physical duties of printing and distributing the newspaper. When he owned the Independent Civilian, he attempted in March and April of 1863 to lease the paper for the remainder of the year, continuing the policy followed while Hedges was teaching in Connecticut between 1860 and 1863. However, he was unsuccessful. On April 22, he entered in his journal:

> "Suppose the paper comes on my hands today, but I shrink from it with disgust and dread, Have labored long and hard with the boys, the Barnhart brothers, to get out of it think now I shall have them to run it and manage it myself."[417]

And the next day he closed an agreement with Warren and Alson Barnhart to run the newspaper for $9 per week.[418]

In May, he was very concerned and troubled about the Independent Civilian, and he lamented "it runs me into debt constantly."[419] However, in June he commented that prospects for profitable operations were improving because he was getting more job printing.[420]

From the tone and content of his journal entries, Hedges had the only printing establishment in town, and in a sense, was public printer. Therefore due to fall elections, his business increased. On October 11, he noted that he had printed township tickets.[421] Hedges' journals do not indicate how the paper was disposed after his move to Montana. Andrew and Robert Fisk first hired Cornelius Hedges as a regular editorial writer on July 4, 1872.

He was paid $30 per week for one article per day.[422] However, Hedges had been a contributor to the Herald since August, 1869, and had written on such topics as Fire Protection, Universities, the National Park, and Railroads.[423]

Hedges' ability as a newspaper journalist, Michael Leeson called Judge Hedges "one of the ripest scholars and newspaper men in the territory."[424] Also, Hedges' son Will commented, "His extensive reading made his assistance at that time of meager and somewhat uncertain telegraph and mail facilities, most valuable to the paper which he served."[425]

He continued to write for the Herald until March, 1891.[426] There were times in that 19-year period during which he temporarily ceased writing for the Herald, because of duties as Superintendent of Public Instruction, Grand Lodge sessions, vacation trips, and at times, simple efforts to have more time to himself.[427] There were times, also, when Hedges ran the Herald, usually in the absence of the Fisk's. He usually ran the paper for short periods of time during these absences, but twice he was Editor-in-Chief for extended periods. He served as chief editor for four months in 1876, and for a considerable time again in 1882.[428]

Hedges definitely enjoyed editorial writing,[429] but there were problems periodically. On June 7, 1876, he remarked that due to the lack of telegraph reports and mails, it was very difficult to write editorials.[430] He made the comment, on April 28, 1877, "Find it hard getting subjects to suit me -Am not free to say what I like."[431]

While affiliated with the Helena Daily Herald, Hedges helped organize the Territorial Press Association on February 10 and 11, 1885. And on the evening of the 11th, he addressed the association. On June 28, 1889, he was elected First Vice President of that association.[432] as an editorial writer for the Herald, Judge Cornelius Hedges had ample opportunity to share with more people the benefits of his extensive reading and studying. Thus through newspaper journalism, and also through other writings, he helped to stimulate a healthy public opinion in Montana and concern about current events of that day. He also made significant contributions towards the development of a literary and aesthetic heritage in Montana.

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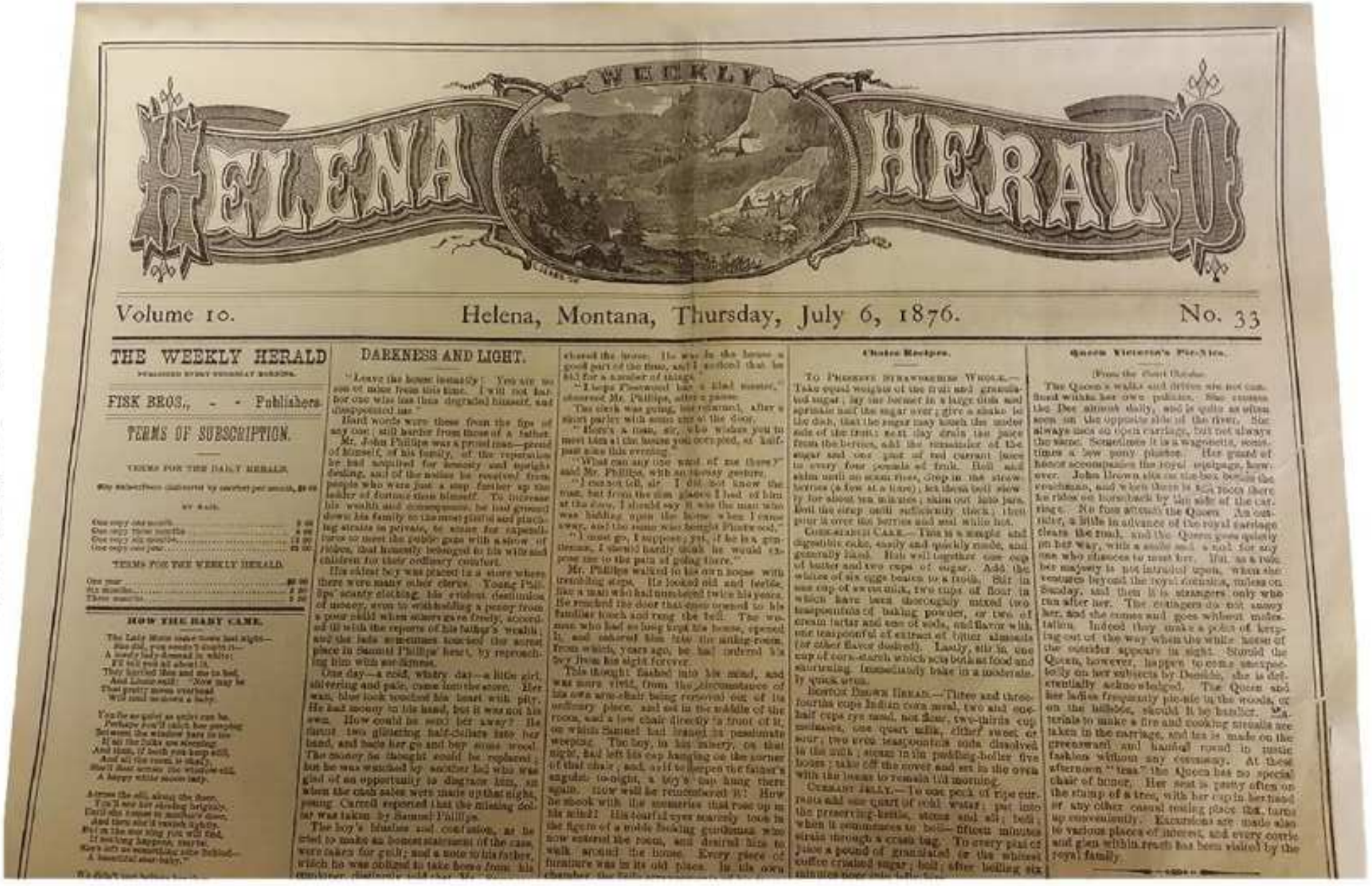

WEEKLY

HELENA HERALD

Volume 10. Helena, Montana, Thursday, July 6, 1876. No. 33

THE WEEKLY HERALD

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING.

FISK BROS., - - Publishers.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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One copy three months	4 00
One copy six months	12 00
One copy one year	24 00

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One year	$3 00
Six months	1 50
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HOW THE BABY CAME.

The Lady Moon came down last night—
Was she, you wonder? Indeed is—
A lovely lady dressed in white;
I'll tell you all about it.

They hurried this and me to bed,
And Lizzie said: "Now may be
That pretty moon overhead
Will send us down a baby."

You'll be as quiet as quiet can be,
Perhaps you'll catch her peeping
Between the window bars in the
If so the folks are sleeping.
And then, if both you keep still,
And all the room is shady,
She'll float across the window-sill,
A happy white moon lady.

Across the sill, along the floor,
You'll see her stealing brightly,
Until she comes to mother's door,
And then she'll vanish lightly.
But in the morning you will find,
If nothing happens, sweetie,
Here's left as something nice behind—
A beautiful star-baby."

DARKNESS AND LIGHT.

"Leave the house instantly! You are no son of mine from this time. I will not have for one who has thus degraded himself and disappointed me."

Hard words were these from the lips of any one; still harder from those of a father.

Mr. John Phillips was a proud man—proud of himself, of his family, of the reputation he had acquired for honesty and upright dealing, and of the name he received from people who were just a step farther up the ladder of fortune than himself. To increase his wealth and consequence, he had ground down his family to the most pitiful and pinching straits in private, to atone for expenditures to meet the public gaze with a show of riches, that honestly belonged to his wife and children for their ordinary comfort.

His eldest boy was placed in a store where there were many other clerks. Young Phillips' scanty clothing, his evident destitution of money, even to withholding a penny from a poor child when others gave freely, accorded ill with the reports of his father's wealth; and the lads sometimes touched the surest place in Samuel Phillips' heart, by reproaching him with penuriousness.

One day—a cold, wintry day—a little girl, shivering and pale, came into the store. Her wan, blue look touched his heart with pity. He had money in his hand, but it was not his own. How could he spare her any? He gazed two glittering half-dollars into her hand, and bade her go and buy some wood. The money he thought could be replaced; but he was watched by another lad who was glad of an opportunity to disgrace him, so when the cash sales were made up that night, young Carroll reported that the missing dollar was taken by Samuel Phillips.

The boy's blushes and confusion, as he tried to make an honest statement of the case, were taken for guilt; and a note to his father, which he was obliged to take home from his employer, distinctly told what the latter suspected the boy. He was in the house a good part of the time, and I noticed that he left for a number of things."

"I hope Fleetwood has a kind master," observed Mr. Phillips, after a pause.

The clerk was going, but returned, after a short parley with some one at the door.

"Here's a man, sir, who wishes you to meet him at the house you occupied, at half-past nine this evening."

"What can any one want of me there?" said Mr. Phillips, with an uneasy gesture.

"I cannot tell, sir. I did not know the man, but from the dim glance I had of him at the door, I should say it was the man who was holding open the door when I came away, and the same who bought Pinewood."

"I must go, I suppose; yet, if he has gumptions, I should hardly think he would expose me to the pain of going there."

Mr. Phillips walked to his own house with trembling steps. He looked old and feeble, like a man who had numbered twice his years. He reached the door that once opened to his familiar touch and rang the bell. The woman who had so long kept his house, opened it, and ushered him into the sitting-room, from which, years ago, he had ushered his boy from his sight forever.

This thought flashed into his mind, and was more vivid, from the circumstance of his own arm-chair being removed out of its ordinary place, and set in the middle of the room, and a low chair directly in front of it, on which Samuel had leaned in passionate weeping. The boy, in his misery, on that night, had left his cap hanging on the corner of that chair; and, as if to deepen the father's anguish to-night, a boy's cap hung there again. How well he remembered it! How he shook with the memories that rose up in his mind! His fearful eyes scarcely took in the figure of a noble looking gentleman who now entered the room, and desired him to walk around the house. Every piece of furniture was in its old place. In the own chamber, distinctly told what Mr. Phillips

Choice Recipes.

TO PRESERVE STRAWBERRIES WHOLE.—Take equal weights of the fruit and granulated sugar; lay one bottom in a large dish and sprinkle half the sugar over; give a shake to the dish, that the sugar may touch the under side of the fruit; next day drain the juice from the berries, add the remainder of the sugar and one pint of red currant juice to every four pounds of fruit. Boil and skim until no scum rises. Drop in the strawberries (a few at a time); let them boil slowly for about ten minutes; skim out into jars. Boil the syrup until sufficiently thick; then pour it over the berries and seal while hot.

CORN-STARCH CAKE.—This is a simple and digestible cake, easily and quickly made, and generally liked. Rub well together one cup of butter and two cups of sugar. Add the whites of six eggs beaten to a froth. Stir in one cup of sweet milk, two cups of flour in which have been thoroughly mixed two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, or two of cream tartar and one of soda, and flavor with one teaspoonful of extract of bitter almonds (or other flavor desired). Lastly, stir in one cup of corn-starch which acts both as food and sweetening. Immediately bake in a moderately quick oven.

BOSTON BROWN BREAD.—Three and three-fourths cups Indian corn meal, two and one-half cups rye meal, not flour, two-thirds cup molasses, one quart milk, either sweet or sour; two even teaspoonfuls soda dissolved in the milk; steam in the pudding-boiler five hours; take off the cover and set in the oven with the doors to remain till morning.

CURRANT JELLY.—To one peck of ripe currants add one quart of cold water; put into the preserving-kettle, stems and all; boil; when it commences to boil—fifteen minutes strain through a crash bag. To every pint of juice a pound of granulated or the whitest coffee crushed sugar; boil; after boiling six minutes

Queen Victoria's Pic-Nics.

(From the Court Circular.)

The Queen's walks and drives are not confined within her own policies. She crosses the Dee almost daily, and is quite as often seen on the opposite side of the river. She always uses an open carriage, but not always the same. Sometimes it is a wagonette, sometimes a low pony phaeton. Her grand or Ghoor accompanies the royal equipage, however. John Brown sits on the box beside the coachman, and when there is less room there is a ride on horseback by the side of the carriage. No fuss attends the Queen. As carrier, a mile in advance of the royal carriage clears the road, and the Queen goes quietly on her way, with a smile and a nod for any one who chances to meet her. But, as a rule, her majesty is not intruded upon, when she ventures beyond the royal domains, unless on Sunday, and then it is strangers only who run after her. The strangers do not annoy her, and she comes and goes without molestation. Indeed they make a point of keeping out of the way when the white horse of the outrider appears in sight. Should the Queen, however, happen to come unexpectedly on her subjects by Dessible, she is deferentially acknowledged. The Queen and her ladies frequently pic-nic in the woods, or on the hillside, should it be handier. Materials to make a fire and cooking utensils are taken in the carriage, and tea is made on the greensward and handed round in rustic fashion without any ceremony. At these afternoon "teas" the Queen has no special chair of honor. Her seat is pretty often on the stump of a tree, with her cup in her hand or any other casual resting place that turns up conveniently. Excursions are made also to various places of interest, and every corrie and glen within reach has been visited by the royal family.

Figure 35. Helena Herald, July 6 1876.

Cornelius Hedges Named To State Newspaper Hall of Fame

LEWISTOWN (UPI) — Cornelius Hedges, a pioneer in Montana newspapering, mining, politics, education, freemasonry, and civil rights was chosen Friday as the 10th member of the Montana Newspaper Hall of Fame.

Hedges, who died in Helena in 1907, was elected to the hall of fame by the Montana State Press Association at its annual convention here.

An installation ceremony will be scheduled later at the Montana State University School of Journalism in Missoula.

THE RECOGNITION is accorded to persons who have made outstanding contribution to Montana journalism and who have been dead at least five years.

A blacksmith's son, Hedges was born in Massachusetts and educated as a lawyer. After editing a newspaper in Iowa, Hedges, then 33, left his wife in 1864 and headed for Montana territory in search of gold, first at Virginia City and later in the Helena area.

He soon became a practicing lawyer in Helena and was appointed U. S. District Attorney for Montana Territory in 1865. He was regarded as the "Father of Freemasonry" in Helena.

HEDGES RETURNED to Massachusetts for about a year and then went back to Helena where he was one of the founders of the Helena Public Library. He accompanied the Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition to the area which is now Yellowstone National Park.

In 1871 Hedges was again named U. S. Attorney for the Territory and the following year was appointed Territorial superintendent of public instruction. In that position he became embroiled in the racial segregation issue and took a successful stand against a law requiring separate schools for Negroes in Montana.

ALSO WHILE school superintendent Hedges began writing for the Helena Herald and served as its associate editor from 1872 to 1891.

Hedges requested money from the legislature to begin the University of Montana and was one of its first trustees. In 1885 he helped organize the Territorial Press Association.

He served as a state senator from Lewis and Clark County and was active in the Society of Montana Pioneers and the YMCA.

Kalispell has named a grade school in memory of Hedges.

Figure 36. Article about Newspaper Hall of Fame.

Chapter 10
Masonic Activities and Writings

Of all the interests Cornelius Hedges pursued, more of his time was spent in Masonic endeavors than at any other activity, with the possible exception of his law profession. He was among the founders of Montana Masonry, and he certainly has earned the title of "Father of Helena Masonry and The Grand Old Man of Montana Masonry." His life, because of the Masonic principles to which he adhered, was an inspiration to many. Moses Morris, in his address as Grand Master of Montana Masonry in 1893, expressed his gratitude for Hedges' influence in his life; the same sentiments were shared by many:

"Our first official visitation was made on Saturday, October 1, to our Mother Lodge, Helena No. 3, where we first beheld the light of Masonry in August, 1865, and by a coincident as happy as rare, we were received and introduced as Grand Master on that occasion by Brother Hedges, who, twenty - seven years before as Worshipful Master of that Lodge, had given us our first impressive lessons in Masonry, and pointed out the way to walk and act, so as to deserve the confidence of the brethren and merit the honors of Masonry. You will pardon us, surely, if we say that the occasion and suggestive surrounding rendered it one of the most pleasurable pride in the experience of our life."[433]

When the guiding hand of Most Worshipful Brother Cornelius Hedges was no longer on this earth to help direct Montana Masonry and the Grand Lodge, the Committee on Necrology, expressed the loss in this way:

"We are told that in the prairies of South America there grows a flower that always inclines in the same direction. A traveler who has lost his way while going across theses prairies may meet no friendly guide; he may have no sun or star to direct him, but in this plant he will always find a compass. No matter how the wind may blow in the opposite direction, this plant always turns its leaves and petals to the north. The compass of our sorrowing hearts is pointed to the darkened place, the symbolic north of Masonry, to the vacant chair of one who filled so well the role of parent to all his Masonic children for nearly four decades of the life of our Grand Lodge. The heart-throbs of our love and veneration for him will never find meet expression in the language of man; nor can numberless encomiums paint with human speech the beloved character of our departed Brother Hedges."[434]

There were so many facets to Cornelius Hedges' Masonic activities that it is most convenient to discuss each as a separate subtopic. The subtopics will be Blue Lodge, Grand Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, Order of Eastern Star, Masonic Writings, Masonic Home Efforts, and a section including sundry Masonic pursuits such as Shrine and the Rite of Memphis. Cornelius Hedges was initiated, passed, and raised in Independence Lodge No. 87, at Independence, Iowa, in 1858. He was made a Master Mason on October 27, 1858, in the evening before his 27th birthday.[435]

With reference to all of his Masonic accomplishments, the memorial committee of the Grand Lodge at his death wrote the following:

"He was per-eminently a Blue Lodge Mason, and was best known by Masons by reason of the zeal with which he taught and practiced the principles inculcated by the Blue Lodge degrees. He not only knew the ritual but appreciated, as few men do, its underlying principles."[436]

Hedges, in 1870 in his Grand Master's Address, said,

> "To be a Master Mason ought to be title enough for the ambition of anyone, as it ought to be a sufficient passport anywhere."[437]

After arrival in Montana, one of the first things Hedges did was attend Masonic Lodge, probably Virginia City #43.[438] When Hedges returned to New England for the period 1860 to 1863, he must have dimitted from his home lodge and affiliated with a Connecticut Lodge, because on February 17, 1864, he noted in his

journal that he was elected to membership in Independence Lodge #87. He retained his membership in that lodge until June 7, 1865, when he demitted to help organize Helena City Lodge, Under Dispensation.[439]

In the summer of 1865, Hedges, with the able assistance of Mark A. Moore, perfected the organization of Helena City Lodge #10, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.[440] He was elected its first Worshipful Master on August 17, 1865, and was reelected in December, 1865, and served another full year.[441] During that year Helena City Lodge #10 became Helena Lodge #3, when it united with the two Virginia City Lodges to form the Grand Lodge of Montana on January 24, 1866. Hedges was also instrumental in its formation.[442] On December 18, 1869, he was elected Treasurer of Helena Lodge #3. And on December 20, 1873, Hedges was called from the ranks of the Past Masters to again become Worshipful Master of his lodge.[443]

His journals show that he was a regular attendant until his death of not only his own lodge, but also Helena's other two Lodges, Morning Star #5 and King Solomon's #9. He would often preside, or assist, at the annual joint installation of officers of the three Helena lodges, which was held in late December.[444]

In the photograph below, the bible on the altar was presented by Cornelius Hedges to Helena Lodge No. 3 in 1866. This bible is still used by the Lodge today.

Figure 37. Helena Lodge No. 3, about 1900.

Freemasonry In Montana

As the Worshipful Master of one of the three lodges which formed the Grand Lodge of Montana on January 24, l866, Hedges played an integral part in its founding. And from that time until his death, he was a Grand Lodge officer, with the exception of four years, October, 1866, to November, 1870. In l884, Rev. Hugh Duncan, who was appointed Grand Chaplain at that first session, in his Address as Grand Master recalled the founding of Montana Grand Lodge and save special recognition to Hedges:

"Permit me to say, with some degree of commendable pride, that through a singular but fortunate train of circumstances a large number of as eminent Masons as could be found in the United States were brought together in Virginia City at an early day in the history of this Territory - men of pure characters, faithful among faithless; calm and steady in the midst of the excitements of those days, they laid well, deep and broad the principles of our noble order in this new land. Among those who deserve honorable mention, and whose name will be held in high esteem for all coming time among the craft in Montana, are John J. Hull, N. P. Langford, Samuel Russell, P. S. Pfouts, O. A. Sedman, Hezekiah L. Hosmer, W. F. Sanders, F. C. Cornell, John Potter, Sol Starr, J. R. Boyce, and our Right Worshipful Grand Secretary Cornelius Hedges. Unlike most of the others, for some have moved away, some have dropped out of active work, and some have passed from the shores of time to that undiscovered country from whose borne no traveler ever returns, the latter is with us today; his steady hand has never relaxed its grasp, nor has his interest ever wavered for a single moment, guiding us safely at home and giving us a name and standing abroad that might well be envied by older jurisdictions."[445]

At the initial session of Grand Lodge, he was elected Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.[446] He was not in attendance at the Second Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, held in October, 1866, because he was on his way east, to get his family and escort them back to Montana. It was the only Grand Lodge session during his lifetime which he missed. At the Third Communication, Hedges, along with N. P. Langford and Hezekiah L. Hosmer, was appointed to the standing committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.[447]

At the next meeting of Grand Lodge, Grand Master W. F. Sanders appointed Cornelius Hedges to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, along with Sol Starr and Hezekiah L. Hosmer.[448] Hedges held a position on that committee for the remainder of his life and for the most part was the sole author of the Fraternal Correspondence Reports for Montana. And it was in these reports, which were sent to most other jurisdictions that he did the Masonic writing which gained him national and world renown as a Masonic scholar. On November 2, 1870, the members of the Grand Lodge honored him by electing him to the position of Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the following day, he was installed.[449]

After he had completed his year as Grand Master with much competence and had reported to Grand Lodge in the form of his Grand Master's Address, the committee to apportion the address remarked:

"If the sentiments promulgated by the Grand Master could be generally adopted by the Craft of Montana, Masonry would attain to a standard of excellence here that would honor its loftiest principles. The end and aim of its creation would be fully realized. This, in our unsettled, almost primitive condition of society, is too much to hope for, but we feel that it is no less an honor to us, and to Masonry, that this Grand Body is presided over by one who exemplifies in his daily walk and conversation, the sincerity of his faith in the grand principles he has so impressively enunciated"[450]

Upon retiring from that office, the Grand Lodge presented him with an honorarium of a "splendid Gold Watch, Chain, and Seal, appropriately engraved."[451] Also upon retiring, on October 5, 1871, he was appointed Grand Historian by his successor, James R. Weston.[452] And as one of the few Grand Historians who ever did anything in the early years, he gave a Historical Address to Grand Lodge the following year.[453]

On June 24, 1872, the same day as the corner-stone laying for Helena's new Masonic Temple, Hedges was appointed to fill Hezekiah Hosmer's unexpired term as Grand Secretary. Judge Hosmer had moved out of the Territory.[454]

The following October, he was elected Grand Secretary,[455] and as he expressed it, the position occupied "so much of my time and service through the best years of my life."[456] He held that position until his death, and in terms of service - two months short of 35 years was longest serving Grand Secretary in the Nation, if not in the world.[457]

It was Hedges in 1875 who called to the attention of the Grand Lodge the urgent need to have their early proceedings reprinted. This was made necessary by the loss of the Grand Lodge records in the Helena fire of January, 1874.[458]

In his "General Report" as Grand Secretary on September 24, 1890, Hedges proposed a celebration of the Silver Anniversary of the Grand Lodge in Virginia City on January 24, 1891. The suggestion was referred to a committee and they "reported aversely on the ground of expense and the inaccessibility of the place, and their report was adopted."[459]

In 1897, Cornelius Hedges was presented with a cut-glass inkstand and inscribed silver tray as a token of appreciation for his 25 years of "long and valuable services" as Grand Secretary.[460]

In 1902, the occasion of his 30th anniversary as Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge adopted a testimonial. Part of it read:

"This is the thirtieth report of your Grand Secretary. Thirty of the best years of one of the purest lives spent in Montana have been devoted with unfaltering zeal to your service and to Masonry, as well as to the general brotherhood of mankind. This service stands out in bold relief as an example to all, and as living argument in favor of unselfishness and charity."[461]

York Rite

On February 18, 1864, Cornelius Hedges was elected to receive the degrees of the Chapter in Aholiab Chapter at Independence, Iowa. He took the Mark Master degree on February19, and completed the preliminary degrees on the 24th. He became a Royal Arch Mason on March 25, less than a month prior to his departure for Montana.[462] He received the degrees of the Council in Springfield, Massachusetts, probably in the early months of 1867.[463]

Hedges demitted from Aholiab Chapter and became a charter member of Helena Chapter #2 on April 18, 1867,[464] and became its first scribe.[465] The following year, on April 27, he helped found Helena Council #9.[466] And during November, 1867, he noted in his journal that he had been studying Hindu theology because it had been adopted by the RAM Chapter.[467]

He was elected High Priest of the Chapter on December 7, 1868, and commented "surprised and pleased." And on December 13, 1869, he was elected Thrice Illustrious Master of the Council, and again remarked "to my surprise."[468] On March 16, 1869, he received the Order of the Red Cross in the Commandery. Cornelius was given the Order of Malta and the Order of Knight Templar on March 25. That evening, he wrote of those degrees, "I liked them very much - best of anything in Masonry."[469] On the evening of January 21, 1873, he was installed as Eminent Commander of the Commandery in the new Masonic Temple at Main and Edwards. He was again elected Eminent Commander on December 17, 1878, and installed on the same evening.[470]

On June 24, 1881, Cornelius Hedges and W. N. Baldwin instituted Montana Commandery No. 3, Knights Templar, at Butte.[471] On May 8, 1888, Hedges indicated in his journal that he was writing a Constitution for Grand Commandery. And on May 14, Grand Commandery for Montana was organized in Helena, with Commanderies from Helena, Butte, Virginia City, and Miles City, and Cornmanderies under dispensation from Livingston and Billings represented. A. J. Fisk was elected Grand Commander, and Cornelius Hedges was elected Grand Recorder. Hedges held that position from 1888 to 1896 and 1904 to 1907. He was elected Grand Commander in 1896.[472]

Hedges were also among the charter members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, when it was organized in the early summer of 1891. He was chosen Grand Secretary at the organizational meeting and served in that capacity until his death. He also received the Order of High Priesthood in 1896.[473]

Figure 38. Past Grand Commanders Jewel.

Engraved on reverse side:

Prest
to
Cornelius Hedges PGC
by Fraters of Montana
1906

Item held by the family collection of Karen Leigh.

Scottish Rite

On May 15, 1881, Robert C. Jordan, 33°, Active Deputy for Nebraska, of the Southern Jurisdiction, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, arrived in Helena to communicate the Scottish Rite degrees and organize a Lodge of Perfection and a Chapter of Rose Croix in Helena. Cornelius Hedges was a member of the first class to take Scottish Rite.[474] Other members of that class were: Harry R. Comly, Past Grand Master and future A. & A.S.R. Active Deputy' for Montana; A. J. Davidson, who was elected Grand Master of Montana Masons in 1882; Richard Lockey; William N. Baldwin; Daniel M. Dellinger; John C. Major; James H. Moe; and Henry Cowden.[475]

On May 16, the class took the 4° to the 13°, and in the evening of the 17th, they received the Perfect Elu Degree, 14°, to complete the degrees of the Lodge of Perfection. On the 18th, in the afternoon and evening, Mr. Jordan communicated all of the degrees of the Chapter of Rose Croix, and the first six degrees of the Council of Kadosh.

The 26th through the 30th degrees were received by the class on May 19. On the 20th, the final day, they received the 31° and 32° in the Consistory, and had a class picture taken. An election was also held that day; Judge Hedges was elected Venerable Master of the Alpha Lodge of Perfection and Orator of the Helena Chapter of Rose Croix.[476]

On April 11, 1887, he was also elected Wise Master of Helena Chapter of Rose Croix.[477] Judge Hedges, too, was an honorary member of Eastern Montana Consistory at Livingston.[478]

In August, 1883, General Albert Pike, Sovereign Grand Commander of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, visited Helena for three days, and Hedges, in his journal, noted that he spent a large amount of time with Gen. Pike.[479]

In August of 1885, Albert Pike again visited Helena.[480] Cornelius Hedges had been elected to receive the 33° by the Supreme Council, A. &A.S.R., on October 23, 1884. On August 16, Albert Pike conferred the degree of Inspector General Honorary, 33°, on Cornelius Hedges.[481]

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1.Cornelius Hedges, 32° 2.Richard Lockey, 32° 3.Harry R. Comley, 32° 4.Daniel M. Dellinger, 32° 5. William Nelson Baldwin, 32° 6.Robert Carrel Jordan, 33° 7.John C. Major, 32° 8. A. Johnson Davidson, 32° 9. James H. Moe, 32° 10. Henry Cowden, 32°

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, 4th to 32nd Communicated May 17 to 20, 1881 at Helena, Montana, to the above members by Robert Carrell Jordan, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General for Nebraska.

Figure 39. First Scottish Rite Class in Montana, May 15 1881.

Order of Eastern Star

Cornelius and Edna Hedges first became associated with the Order of Eastern Star on May 20, 1868. On that day, Hedges wrote in his journal, "Met at Kleinschmidt's, with Jurgens, Gillette, Mathis and ladies took Eastern Star degree."[482] More than three years later, in November 1, 1871, Hedges first noted attending a meeting of the Eastern Star Circle, the predecessor to their Eastern Star Chapter.[483]

On February 3, 1872, Hedges wrote that he was "taken by surprise" when the Eastern Star Circle presented him with a Watch, Chain and Jewel.[484]

Edna and Cornelius Hedges both signed the petition asking General Grand Chapter for dispensation to form a chapter in Helena in 1880.[485] Hedges noted that he had spent the evening of November 26, 1880, at the Masonic Temple laying the foundation for the organization of the new chapter. On January 20, 1881, Miriam Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star was formally organized.

Edna L. Hedges was elected Miriam's first Worthy Matron, but according to Cornelius, she was reluctant to serve.[486] Judge Hedges selected the name, Miriam, for the new chapter. Later in life, Toby told this story about the choice of the name:

"I have heard my father tell with greatest pride of his choice of the name Miriam, and he loved to think of our chapter perpetuating the name of the loved sister of Moses. He pictured her as a devoted sister and the embodiment of all womanly virtue, beauty and loveliness, and this is what he wanted the newly born star to typify."[487]

Cornelius was evidently Worthy Patron of Miriam Chapter in 1891. On the 23rd of December, 1890, he wrote that he had attended the annual election at Eastern Star Chapter and that he "went to get Edna out of office and got put in myself."[488] When the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star for Montana was formed on September 25, 1890, at Livingston, Hedges was too busy with Grand Lodge to attend. The organizational meeting of Grand Chapter has held during 26th Communication of Grand Lodge. However, Edna Layette Hedges was there to give it proper guidance and direction. She was elected its first Worthy Grand Matron.[489]

Even though he had not attended the session and was not the Grand Secretary of Eastern Star, Judge Hedges prepared the first set of Eastern Star Grand Chapter Proceedings.[490]

About the time of the establishment of Grand Chapter, Cornelius Hedges wrote the following brief essay concerning the place of the Order of Eastern Star in the Masonic family of orders. It expresses well his ideas about Eastern Star:

> "We can say from our observation in other departments of the great realm of Masonry, that the Order of the Eastern Star has passed its darkest days of indifference and opposition and is emerging into a bright, broad field of active usefulness, where the value of its services cannot long remain unnoticed and its efficient aid remain unsought in the greatest of all Masonic work, the dispensation of charity in the broadest and strictest sense, as well as in the sweet charities of daily intercourse with one another, and in ministering to the wants of the widows and orphans, the poor and despairing ones that are to be found in every community, of whom many are too proud to ask assistance, or let their wants be known. Then, again, the present is an era in the Masonic world when enlightened energies and great resources of the craft seem specifically directed to the establishment of Masonic homes. At the very beginning of this great work, the aid of woman's inspiration and quick sympathies is felt as a necessity to any measure of success. A home without a woman would be an anomaly, if not an impossibility. Woman by all her instincts and endowments is fitted to be the ministering angel of charity, and when Masonry enters in earnest upon its greatest of all missions it will soon see and feel its need of woman's co-operation. The Order of the Eastern Star tenders such co-operation in an organized form and it comes like a dispensation of Providence at the moment that the Masonic world is awakening to its past dereliction of duty and is seriously striving to reduce professions to practice. We still see in places a pitiable spirit of ignorant hostility, which would refuse the use of lodge rooms for a meeting of chapters of the Eastern Star. Let it pass in silence for it is fast passing away and soon will disappear forever. The fifty thousand members of the Order today will, in a few years, swell to five hundred thousand, and Masonry, instead of having cause to blush or mourn will rejoice that its strength and ability for good and true Masonic work has been quadrupled."[491]

On September 23, 1892, Judge Hedges was elected the third Worthy Grand Patron of Montana's Grand Chapter.[492] And,in speaking of those in attendance at the 1907 Communication of Grand Chapter, Mertie M. Brattin commented:

"But the one best known and best loved was missing, that face of Judge Cornelius Hedges, our second Grand Patron (he was the third). He and his life companion, our best loved sister, Edna L. Hedges, during all the years the Grand Chapter was growing to maturity, protected it from every evil that could have stunted its growth or marred its character; it was their Child and they loved it as parents love their offspring."[493]

As a perpetual tribute, in 1908, the new Eastern Star Chapter at Bridger was named Cornelius Hedges Chapter No.43.The Chapter was instituted by Grand Matron Josephine Hepner while the members faced an enlarged portrait of Judge Hedges, given by Edna and Toby, and the face of that portrait, "as ever in life, smiled a benediction" that evening.[494]

Figure 40. Edna Hedges.

Other Masonic Organizations

The scholarly mind of Cornelius Hedges was always searching deeper into philosophy to discover the deeper meaning of life. It was probably for that reason that he took the degrees of the Memphis Rite from Calvin C. Burt, on December 20, 1888. On December 22, Hedges organized a chapter of the Memphis Rite, 95°, whose dispensation probably was granted from either Germany or France. And on the 23rd, Hedges was appointed Deputy for the Memphis Rite for Montana.[495]

Hedges were also a charter member of Algeria Temple of the Ancient and Accepted Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. The first mention of Shrine in his journals was on May 24, 1888, when he mentioned that seven men were initiates of the Shrine.[496] Algeria Temple was given its Dispensation on March 23, 1888, and its Charter was granted on June 25, 1888, becoming the Mother Temple of the Pacific Northwest.[497] He was one of the 16 charter members of Algeria Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. One of the pleasures which Hedges definitely enjoyed was a summer outing with the Nobles of the Shrine.[498]

Cornelius Hedges was a member of the Masonic Veteran Association, Pacific Coast He served as Right Venerable Grand Vice-President for Montana (1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901), He was described as: Faithful and true, and worthy of the trust and honors conferred upon him.

Masonic Home Efforts

During the closing years of Cornelius Hedges' life, the establishment of a Masonic Home in Montana became of prime importance to him, and the cause in turn received more than ample support from him. The memorial to Judge Hedges, printed in the 1907 Grand Lodge Proceedings, summarizes his most important contribution to the Home:

> "The efforts of his later years have been devoted to furthering the cause of Masonic charity, and especially the work of building a Masonic Home in Montana. By his writings and conversation he inspired a brother of the jurisdiction to devise a large estate, the income of which is to be used for the support of a home for aged and infirm Masons and Masonic widows and orphans."[499]

The brother "who was inspired by Hedges to provide major financial support for the Masonic Home was David Auchard." Hedges first met with Dave Auchard to discuss the Masonic Home on November 1, 1889.[500]

Although Hedges saw a true need for a Masonic Home, he cautioned those who would think that the Home would replace all other forms of charity, both by individuals and by lodges. This excerpt from his "Report on Fraternal Correspondence" for 1891, expresses his concern in more detail:

> "It will seem too many ungracious to breathe a doubt of propriety of the present tendency to build and endow Masonic Homes, some of them luxurious retreats of comfort and ease. Some jurisdictions need Home vastly more than others and some that need them most are least able to comply with the prevailing fashion. Let it be remembered that a Home of the kind now being generally built can at the most only provide for a small portion of those who call for and most need charity. Most only need partial temporary relief which can be provided more cheaply than transportation to a Home at any considerable distance. When one member of a family needs help, say the head of the family, the Home would not supply the need. For single persons, permanently disabled a Home with constant kind attention would perhaps be better than some hospitals, but for the few such it would be

vastly cheaper to provide for them at some hospital. Destitute widows generally be provided for with some families at less cost than to maintain a home that must be a constant tax upon the resources of the lodges. Where such institutions can be supplied by private munificence and generosity and fairly endowed, we shall rejoice to see many of them and in every jurisdiction."[501]

Both Cornelius and Edna Hedges were appointed to a five member committee of Miriam Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, on March 24, 1898, to originate a movement for a Masonic Home fund.[502] At their second meeting, Mattie M. Booker and Cornelius Hedges wrote a circular letter, and sent it to all the Masonic Lodges and Eastern Star Chapters in the state, in an effort to stimulate interest in the fund.

The key paragraph of the letter stated:

"Time is passing swiftly by and it behooves us to be up and working in the noon time of life to prepare for the infirmities of old age. It is apparent NOW that such a Home is needed, or will be in the near future. We trust that our brother Masons will bring this subject up in every lodge in Montana, discuss it, and devise ways of increasing the fund now in the hands of the Grand Lodge, and when the Grand Body meets here net September, can it not be made a general Masonic Fund, looking to the ultimate completion of the Home at no distant day? And during the intervening months all Eastern Star Chapters of Montana can have a charitable object to work for and become co-workers with the great brotherhood of the Masonic Fraternity in this most worthy object."[503]

As a result of that letter, the movement gained momentum, and Hedges began looking forward to the day when the Masonic Home would be built. It was probably in the early 1900's when Hedges persuaded Dave Auchard to provide so well for the Home from the income of his estate. In 1905, Hedges reported to Grand Lodge that he had "endeavored to save Grand Lodge every possible expense till it has secured a Masonic Hone," but the, Grand Secretary's office definitely needed new furniture.[504]

Late in August, 1906, Judge Hedges wrote in the Grand Lodge Proceedings indicating significant progress towards the erection of a Montana Masonic Home. He wrote:

"At home we are reaching the long-deferred prospect of a Home around which our hopes and efforts for many years have centered. It may be all for the best that our hopes have been so long delayed. We shall be the better able to sustain a Home creditably, and with every New Year there will be increased need of such an institution. In the language of the Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Our God is marching on."[505]

The last Communication of the Grand Lodge which Hedges attended was the special meeting held to lay the cornerstone of the Masonic Home in the valley near Helena on December 27, 1906.[506]

And at the time of his death, his Masonic brothers wrote "The only unfinished work upon his trestle-board was the completion of this building, marking the establishment of the institution for which he had so ably and continuously labored."[507]

In September 1907, Cornelius Hedges, Jr., speaking of his father told the Grand Lodge:

"He was supremely happy in the thought of the completion of the Masonic Home and referred to it constantly in his last illness. It seems providential that he was permitted to attend the ceremonies of laying the cornerstone."[508]

In 1925 Past Grand Master William A. Clark, who had become wealthy in the mining industry, died and bequeathed $25,000 to the Home's endowment fund. Invested funds at that time totaled $69,000 and the old debt was all paid. Keeping this in perspective W. A. Clark's' $25,000.00 of 1925 dollars would be worth $339,323.69 in 2015.

Figure 41. Montana Masonic Home.

Masonic Writings

Judge Cornelius Hedges was known to Montanans for a variety of pursuits; however, his fame outside of Montana was a direct result of his Masonic writings. Wherever a Grand Jurisdiction existed, which was recognized by Montana Grand Lodge, the Masonic writing and scholarship of Hedges was known and appreciated.[509]

In 1887, Robert Morris, founder of Eastern Star and Poet Laureate of Freemasonry, visited Montana Grand Lodge, and in his remarks paid Hedges a compliment on his Masonic writings: "Your jurisprudence has been so sound, your Grand Lodge Communications so harmonious, your increase in lodges and members so large and your published papers, especially Reports on Foreign Correspondence, of such merit that few Grand Lodges in the Union can boast so creditable a record."[510]

And in 1897, Grand Master Edward C. Day, in a Silver Anniversary testimonial for Hedges, said:

"Such has been his contribution to Masonic philosophy and jurisprudence that he is recognized as being among the leading Masonic writers of the English speaking people. Glancing through his work recently to familiarize myself with it, I was astonished at the variety of themes with which he has dealt, and the luminosity of his treatment of them."[511]

Significant also are Hedges own ideas concerning his Masonic writings. Of all the types of writing in which Hedges engaged, he felt that his best efforts were expended on Masonic writings.[512] And, in 1878, he reflected on the value of correspondence Reports and his own part in the writing of them. He said:

> "It is encouraging to notice an increased appreciation of the labors of those who write for their several jurisdictions the Reports on Foreign Correspondence. Several Grand Lodges that for the time discontinued these reports, have, during the past year, revived the custom, and acknowledge the value and necessity of such labors. The best talent in the land is engaged in this field of labor, and the annual harvests are rich and bountiful. It is a basket picnic in a continental scale.

> Those who depreciatingly speak of this corps of Masonic workers as constituting only a mutual admiration society, must acknowledge that their labors among the rubbish of the temple, are bringing to light some of the richest treasures to rear and adorn the new world. It is the grand workshop in which principles are elaborated, and whence comes forth tile Promethean fire that gives life, action and feeling to the dead forms and statute-like symbols in which our institution too much abounds. We feel it an honor to be one of such a band, and only regret that we bring to the general fund so little compared with what we carry away."[513]

Cornelius Hedges' Masonic writing was voluminous and varied, as Grand Master E. C. Day pointed out. Actually, the themes of his writing are so varied that in a work of this limitation it will only be possible to mention a few and illustrate his style and depth of thought with certain selected excerpts. Hedges often wrote lamenting the lack of support among the craft for Masonic publication.[514] He also wrote several essays on the pros and cons of voluminous Masonic publicity. Briefly, Hedges held the following view:

> "The secrets of the fraternity have been reduced to the minimum, and many good Masons are in despair, thinking the institution is hastening to its doom. On the contrary, we have believed that the vitality of Masonry consisted in its principles mostly, and very little in its secrets. And this is the ground on which we have favored publicity. If the principles of Masonry had been understood, there would never have occurred, the Morgan excitement and the anti-Masonic crusade."[515]

Other familiar topics in Hedges' writing are essays on: Unwanted Masonic inter-jurisdictional disputes and quarrels,[516] Physical qualifications in Masonry, a question of the operative verses the speculative,[517] the mission of Masonry in the world;[518] and the so called "rival" societies, do they present apparent danger?[519]

Judge Hedges made excellent use of the English language in his Masonic writings, but the thoughts expressed are the elements which give his writing enduring qualities. The ultimate goal of Masonry was one topic of genuine concern to Hedges. At one time he wrote:

> "There is more to Masonry than its few secrets and its ritual. It is the great conservative and cohesive element in society, holding fast to all that is good and reinforcing every agency contributing to human elevation and progress."[520]

At another time, be wrote of the ultimate goal of Masonry:

"After all, is not the only real, the highest purpose for which we can exist, one of so humble a nature that it is overlooked, forgotten? That is the cultivation of a higher manhood, in the loving service of God and humankind. To finish up the human being to the highest point of mental and moral development, seems to be the end of the Creator in framing the Universe, and the course of his providential dealings. What higher aim can we propose to ourselves than humbly imitate his plan, and co-operate with him?"[521]

And he further expounded on this topic in the following passage:

"There must be left plenty of room and play for individual activity and Charity, and not only so, but Masonry needs to correct much of the very general notion entertained about its work. Opening and closing lodges, and conferring degrees, is nothing but dry, uninteresting and comparatively unimportant preparation for work in subduing passions, ministering to the sick, afflicted and destitute. Never think you have made a Mason till you are sure that it has touched and entered the heart as well as the tongue and head. We are taught that it is in the heart that one is first prepared to be made a Mason. It is also the finishing place, unless it miscarries altogether."[522]

In the midst of a broiling political conflict in 1884, Cornelius wrote these lines concerning the relationship of Masonry and politics:

"It is a great, good thing to have one asylum where to retire and feel perfectly above political contention. We have no hard words to say about politics. We have our political beliefs and even prejudices, as strong as anyone, but we leave Masonry better because political contention never enters her temple. We love to greet in the lodge room those with whom we have contend, most stoutly, outside. As Masonry was recognized as stronger than sectional strife on the battlefield, so it ranges on an entirely different plane from that where ordinary political strife holds its carnival. Political conflict is only as a wind that ripples the surface, sometimes rolling high waves, perhaps, but never reaching the depths or stirring the great body of the ocean. Masonry is surely one of the centripetal forces of society, keeping the elements from flying asunder. It pours oil on the troubled waters, and teaches men that their common interests are much the greatest and most numerous."[523]

In 1882, while contemplating the improvements which would be taking place when the railroads entered Montana Territory, he wrote the following timely essay, which still has abundant meaning for us today:

> "Masonry will change, too, in some things. It will grow in numbers, in wealth; we shall have a more complete and methodical organization, perhaps finer halls and some systematic provision for relief, but will the genuine spirit of Masonry be stronger, purer, brighter than it has been in the rough trying days through which Montana Masonry has passed? We have our serious doubts. Peril, hardship, loneliness, developed a cast of brotherhood that nothing else could. Already other organizations are coming in to steal away attention and allegiance that once were given undivided to Masonry. We must put our house in order."[524]

In correspondence to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 1871, Cornelius Hedges closed with:

> "From the watch tower whence our view could sweep the whole horizon we will say to the brethren of our own jurisdiction now stationed as a skirmish line along the crest of the Rocky Mountains Stand firm the mighty Masonic hosts are coming From East South West the line advances The builders of free states are coming Masonry with its organizing and harmonizing forces must prepare the way It is the best ally that civil government ever had for it prepares the way and performs the hardest of its work in teaching and training men to govern themselves Masonry is but in the infancy of its achievements unless it cravenly deserts the logic of its principles our principles are every telling our forms and ceremonies are venerable and valuable only as the vessel that has borne the precious truths and principles of our Order over the boisterous seas of the ages. These principles lead to the very source of light they are good to preach they are infinitely better to practice they are good for others they are best for ourselves. Altogether the best sign of the times the richest reward of our labors is found in the evidence that Masonic principles are better understood and practiced everywhere otherwise growth in numbers would be a misfortune."

Figure 42. Painting of Cornelius Hedges.

Figure 43. Past Grand Masters Apron, Cornelius Hedges.

Figure 44. Grand Secretary Apron, Cornelius Hedges.

Figure 45. Past Grand Masters Jewel, Cornelius Hedges.

Figure 46. Grand Secretary Jewel first worn by Cornelius Hedges from the original set, and still used today.

Figure 47. Walking Cane presented to Cornelius Hedges by Helena Lodge No. 3, Morning Star Lodge No. 5 and King Solomon's Lodge No. 9 of Helena.

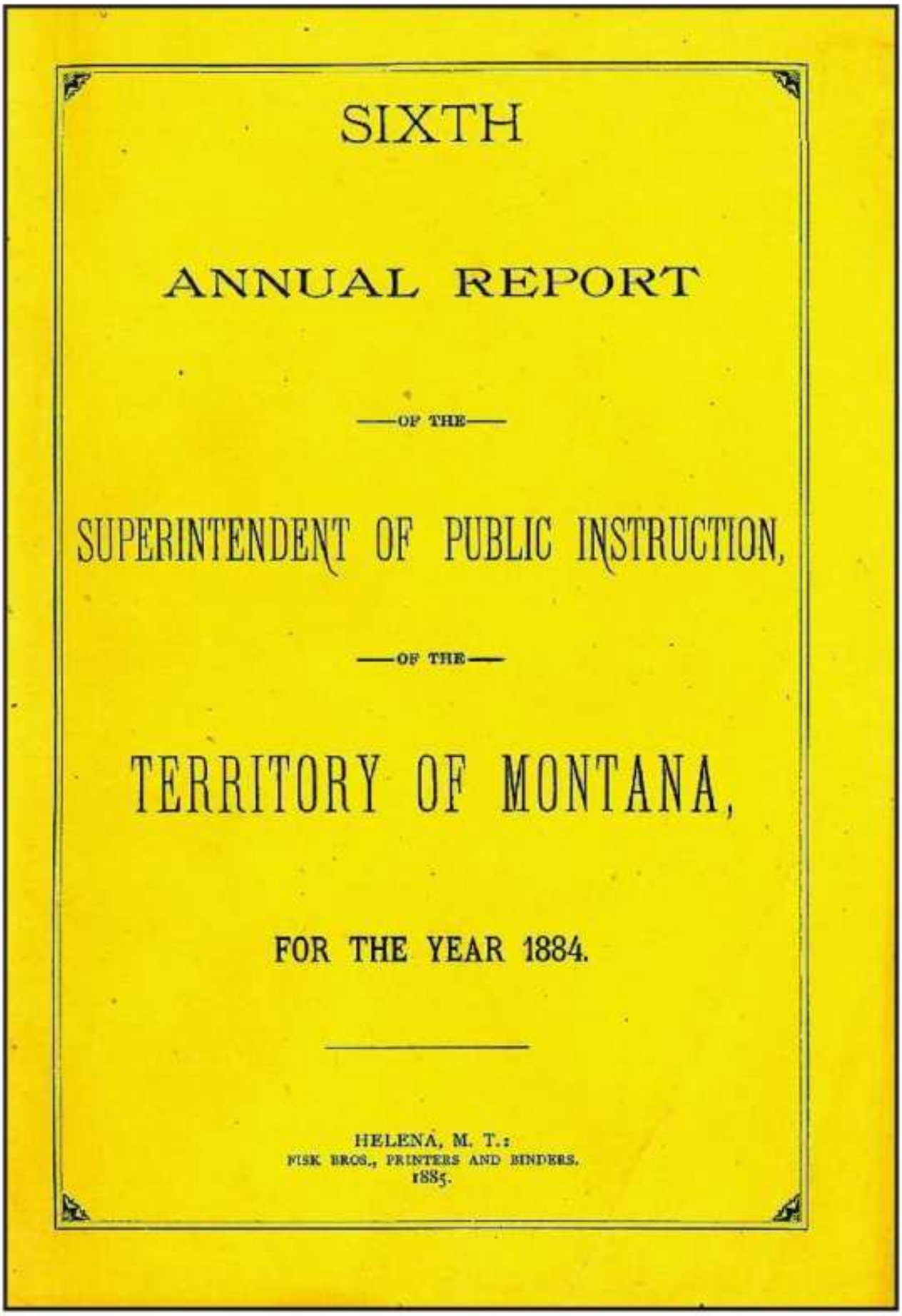
Figure 48. Cornelius Hedges.

Figure 49. Masonic Hall Stock for the Helena Temple, 1872. Purchashed by John Steadman and signed by Sol Star and Cornelius Hedges.

Figure 50. Historic Register sign in front of the Grand Lodge of Montana building.

The text on National Register of Historic Places sign reads (Figure 32:

> Meriwether Lewis's Masonic apron and O. C. Seltzer mural depicting the first Masonic meeting in Montana are among the treasures displayed in "the home of Montana Masonry." A dynamic political and social force since early territorial days, the Masons founded the Grand Lodge in Virginia City in 1866. Headquarters moved to Helena by 1868. After a catastrophic 1874 fire, Cornelius Hedges, then Grand Secretary, warned that the lodge needed a "more stable and ceremonious office than (my) coattails." It took more than sixty years for Hedges' vision to materialize, but in 1935 the lodge retained architect and Master Mason Chandler Cohagen of Billings to design a building to hold the increasingly significant collection of books, photographs and artifacts. Carved Masonic symbols ornament the windows and doors of the resulting Art Moderne style museum, whose horizontal massing, smooth finish and restrained detailing reflect the streamlined aesthetic of the 1930's. In 1937 the Masons dedicated their new Grand Lodge, which today continues to house a museum and the Masons' state administrative offices.



SIXTH

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

—OF THE—

TERRITORY OF MONTANA,

FOR THE YEAR 1884.

HELENA, M. T.:
FISK BROS., PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
1885.

Figure 51. 6th Annual Report for Montana Schools, 1884.

TERRITORY OF MONTANA,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
HELENA, January 12th, 1885.

To the Honorable Members of the Council and House of Representatives, Composing the Legislative Assembly of Montana Territory.

GENTLEMEN:—As required by Section 1,198 of Chapter LXV of the Revised Statutes of Montana, which provides that the Superintendent of Public Instruction "shall report biennially to the Legislative Assembly," I herewith submit the following report, which in addition to the usual statistical information containing concrete results of the operation of our present school law will contain suggestions as to such changes as seem desirable to further promote the efficiency and more successful working of the law.

This report would have been presented earlier, but for the fact that even at this writing and on the eve of the meeting of your honorable body there are still several reports from County Superintendents delinquent, which are absolutely essential to make statistics complete and valuable. Very respectfuly,

Your obedient servant,
CORNELIUS HEDGES,
Supt. of Public Instruction.

OBSERVATIONS ON STATISTICS.

The tables of statistics deserve to be carefully studied. They raise many questions for which answers are to be sought elsewhere; and they answer many questions that are raised elsewhere. Properly devised and kept books of account are as necessary in any department of government or public business as in successful merchandizing or manufacturing. Statistical tables serve as a balance sheet at the end of the year.

If the change is made in the law that the two reports now required shall be consolidated, much of the confusion that now creeps into the reports of County Superintendents will become impossible. As it now is, the number of school census children as given in the regular and supplemental reports should be different, as they belong to two distinct enumerations, and the number given in the supplemental report of December 1883, should be the same as in the regular report of October 1884. The same is the case with the school moneys reported, only that is much worse mixed, for it proceeds upon the theory of two distinct fiscal years, one ending September 1st, and the other December, 1st.

It needs entirely new forms for both District and County reports, so as to include not merely the items required by our own Law, but so as to make them conform with the system of reports common to nearly all the States.

It will be noticed that during the past year or two, the item of voting special district taxes for building school houses, as well as for employing teachers and extending the school term, have almost entirely disappeared. In explanation it may be remarked that under the new law authorizing the issuance of bonds, money to build new school houses is raised in that way, rather than by special taxes, and whenever the counties have made a levy of county school tax as high as 4 or 5 mills there has been no occasion for special taxes.

Choteau and Silver Bow are two of the counties that levy only a 3 mill school tax, and it would only be natural to expect either short terms or small attendance, or both. In one, the attendance is only 25 per

cent of the school population, and in the other only 20 per cent. The situation of the two counties is dissimilar in nearly every respect. The one a small, compact, wealthy county; the other is large, sparsely settled and comparatively a poor county in realized wealth.

Generally, it will be noticed that in those counties where the highest rate of tax is levied, the ratio of attendance is proportionately increased. It seems that it would not be difficult to determine which was cause and which was effect. The school children respond with alacrity to all the facilities and advantages afforded them. The counties that tax themselves most for schools, have the best attendance and the best of everything, and reap advantages from their more liberal expenditures, in geometrical ratio, while those who will give and pay little get even less than their ratio of money would entitle them to receive, illustrating again the Scripture, "that to those who have, shall be given more abundantly, while from those who have not, shall be taken away even the little they have." "There is that which scattereth and still increaseth."

THE SCHOOL TEXT BOOK LAW.

The Law adopted four years ago introduced the principal that text books in branches required to be taught in the public schools, should be uniform throughout the Territory. The second section provides that school text books shall be adopted for periods of four years. Such adoption was made in the subsequent sections of the law and the time for which the adoption was made will expire next July.

It will be necessary for the Legislature by some new act, to adopt the same or some more acceptable series of text books, or provide some general or local board to make such adoption. The effect of doing nothing, is to leave the present series in possession of the field with no power to rule them out, or others in.

The two principal objects sought by the text book law have been secured. Uniformity has been obtained, and children removing from one part of the Territory to another, have not been compelled to purchase new books on returning to school. A still more important gain to the people, has been the ability to obtain school books at a uniform reduced rate in every county. It is not claimed that the publishing houses with whom the contract was made to supply the text books at a schedule of prices set forth by law, made any reduction from their

usual rates to dealers. The money advantage to the public, came through the arrangement by which the retail dealer, in consideration o a larger and surer trade, charged less retail profit. There has been but little complaint during the continuance of the law, of failure to comply with its terms, and whenever such complaints have been made, they have been promptly attended to and the cause removed.

At the reeent Territorial Teachers' Institute, in which were gathered some of the ablest and most successful teachers and county superintendents, it was voted unanimously, that the principle of uniformity of text books established by lay, and furnished at moderate fixed prices, had worked well and should be continued.

With such record of experience and endorsements it is presumed that some similar text book law will be adopted at your present session.

During the past two years there has been a general complaint of the Independent Series of Reading Books. The principal grounds of complaint have been, that however good this series may have been when first introduced, it has not kept pace with the improvements of recent years in choice of matter, in proper grading or the attractive methods of presentation, and mechanical excellence.

There are several superior series of readers, seeking recognition. The teachers and superintendents, both singly and in institute assembled, have expressed a preference for Bancroft's Readers. Aside from such general considerations which you can estimate as well as any one, the opinions of active teachers and the most experienced and successful County Superintendents will probably go further to determine your choice than anything else.

There has been less, but still considerable complaint with the prescribed text book in grammar, much of it on the score that it is not suitable for beginners and some supplementary book or books are necessary, unless our teachers generally are able to teach grammar without a book, which unfortunately is not the case.

There has been some fault, but considerably less, found with the geography and arithmetic in use.

We have no doubt that there would fault be found with any series, though the best in the opinion a large majority of those best able to judge. It may also be laid down to start with, that between the leading competitors for your choice, there is less difference than the

publishers would have you believe, when the appreciable excellencies and defects are summed and weighed. Good teachers with the poorest book will harvest more good fruit than a poor teacher with a good book. And yet, with other things equal there is an advantage both to teacher and pupil in having the best books, and sometimes a change is good even if the new books are not much superior.

In any change that is made, unless it be a free exchange, I would recommend that a gradual change be provided for, allowing the use of the old text books till new classes were formed needing to purchase new books.

When the time comes that our population is more settled, generally distributed and wealthy, with revenues from our prospective school fund, it may be the wisest course for each district to furnish the books for the scholars. It would not be difficult to show that this was really the cheapest and best method of all, wherever practicable.

So long as it is agreed that uniformity is a good thing, and that, when any book is adopted, it should be used for at least four years, why should not the adoption be made directly by the legislature on the best terms that competition will offer between books of nearly equal excellence. If you devolve this duty on any territorial, county or district board the same struggle with agents ensues, followed by charges or suspicions of indirect and improper influences.

It seems best for all concerned that this issue be settled where it first rises, before and by the people's representatives. It is for you to save the people unnecessary expense and to see that they get the best for their money.

INCREASING THE REGULAR STUDIES.

Probably you will be asked to include in the course of study required to be taught in our public schools, that of Physiology, with especial reference to teaching the young the evil effects of the use of intoxicating drinks and narcotics. Conceding the good purpose in view, I still consider it inadvisable to make the teaching of Physiology by the use of any text book in all our schools imperative. As the law now is, it is in the power of the trustees of any district to add this study to the prescribed series in such higher grade schools where it could be introduced with profit. And for schools of lower grades and most of our

ungraded schools these matters can best be brought to the notice and impressed upon the hearts and minds of children by short and familiar lectures by the teacher as occcasion may offer, against whose use of any text book on any subject there is and should be no restricticton. Until we can succeed vastly better than we have yet done, it does not seem wise to attempt to do any more in other directions. The teaching of book-keeping was once made obligatory and subsequently dropped, not because considered any less important, but simply because it was beyond our reach with our present limited means and short terms in a majority of our school districts.

A WORD TO TEACHERS, SCHOOL OFFICERS AND PARENTS.

It is made the duty of the Superintendent to suggest means of improving our schools, and there seems no better way in the world to do this than by an appeal to the teachers, parents and school officers.

It is not by any means of fine school houses and furniture or the best text books printed, that we can secure good schools. A good teacher is more important than all these—is indispensible. We have probably as good teachers in Montana as anywhere in the country. They are not turned out by any institution of learning and are not always found by the usual examinations. Good teachers make themselves, just as good scholars become such by their own exertions. A teacher who cares only to put in his time and draw his salary is a fraud and a disgrace to the noblest profession in existence. A good teacher looks for higher rewards than his salary. A good teacher can learn as much from his scholars as they can from him, and this self-discipline and developement ought to be always kept in sight and valued above all other returns. One of the most celebrated of the German Professors and one of the most brilliant lecturers, in reply to an expression of thanks from his grateful pupils, said, "Ye have been my wings." He was not ashamed to acknowledge that his chief incentive to unusual success had been drawn from those who followed him so eagerly; whose questions he had sought to answer fully and honestly; whose difficulties he had sought to anticipate and remove.

Teachers must get down or up into mental world where the children live, think their thoughts, be interested in what interests them, and

like an elder brother or sister encourage their efforts to advance into new fields. It is not the part of a teacher to strike on in advance and get out of sight of his pupils, in order to impress them with the vastness of his knowledge, but he must keep along with them, helping them to feel their own way, and all the time on the solid ground of conquered and occupied territory. Always advance from the known to the unknown.

It is a pleasure to a child to study and to think, unless his confidence has been abused or his tastes perverted. When a school has once been started in the right path, even in one single study, the spirit and method will apply to all. In a school where the children are all wide awake and interested, they learn from one another as well as from the teacher. The envy arising from another's success is lost in the interest aroused to understand how that success was secured, and confidence in ability to succeed as well or better. A school with interest and ambition once aroused governs itself. There is neither time or dispostion for busy idleness or or malicious mischief. Text books in such schools are not the end of the law, but only the beginning of inquiry.

Many teachers burden and hamper themselves with superfluous dignity. Familiarity does not breed contempt, unless there is something contemptible in the thing or person when thoroughly known. Teaching is no doubt hard work, but good teaching is pleasant and profitable work. If a teacher after honest trial finds that he cannot feel pleasure in it and be conscious of growth himself, he had better abandon the business, for he cannot succeed.

In order to secure the maximum of success with good teachers, it is very necessary that parents cooperate with them openly and actively. This cooperation, necessary all the time, is most essential to begin with. It is usual to leave the teacher alone to make his acquaintance with his pupils. But the sooner and the more thoroughly he can get acquainted the better, and the parent can do very much to accelerate and improve this acquaintance. The teacher goes forward with more confidence, and the children yield to the teacher's influenee and guidance more readily, if parents' active cooperation intervenes.

Let complete understanding begin early and remove all chance for misunderstanding. It is not indifference, so much as ignorance of their own ability to assist, that keeps the parents estranged from the teacher.

Advances should come from the parents, for they ought to have more interest in their children's welfare than any stranger, however benevolently disposed. But neither parent or teacher should stand on ceremony. Each should seek the other at the first opportunity, and if opportunity does not offer, make one. The greater difficulties of government would all be obviated by early acquaintance between parents and teachers. The best time to cure trouble is before it begins. It may require watchfulness, but it seldom, if ever, breaks out without premonition.

It is not overstating the facts to say that children generally might get twice the advantage from schools that they do, by the constant and hearty co-operation of teachers and parents, and by the latter doing no more than is within easy possibility of accomplishment.

School officers too often think their whole duty discharged when they have employed a teacher. But in this business, as in every other, a thrifty and careful employer should see that every facility is furnished the teacher to do good work. After furnishing all proper means to work with, there is still need of constant oversight, to see that good work is done. Familiarity with the text books is not necessary for an officer of good common sense to tell whether good work is being done. There are points about good school work that cannot escape the attention of every observer, even in a half hour's visit. The looks, speech and behavior of the children proclaim it.

There are numberless ways in which parents, trustees and the general public may aid in securing better results from our schools, and that, too, without any further expenditure of money, only by a little thought, care and effort. The labors of a teacher could be so lightened that he can do more and better work with less exhaustion.

In our present circumstances, with limited means, this is the direction in which to concentrate attention and effort. If we cannot increase the quantity, let us improve the quality of our teaching. If our teachers are not as good as they might be, we can make them better by assistance, encouragement, co-operation—by incessant watching, by timely suggestions. The trustees, it is true, employ the teachers, but they do it in behalf of the parents who have children to send to school. Every parent, to a certain extent, has a right to regard the teacher as his employee to carry out his wishes, when consistent with

the general good, and the equal rights of others. Be assured, good teachers will be thankful for and profit from your kindly suggestions and hearty co-operation, and poor ones will soon retire from the field.

Good books are cheap now, and there are but few parents too poor to have some other books besides those studied in school, some dictionary, encyclopedia, history, geography, books of travel, etc. See that the subjects studied at school become subjects of conversation and study at home, and the school is, as it should be, the center of intellectual life to the family and the whole community. If children are interested in what they study at school, they will surely let it be known at home. If they say nothing, be sure they are not interested, and the case demands the parents' notice. It works also reversely, and if children are made interested in subjects of study at home, they will carry it to school and circulate it among fellow pupils, and perhaps awake a sluggish teacher to new life.

Cleanliness is said to be next to godliness, and, in some cases, it is godliness, when it goes to the cleanliness of thought, speech and behavior.

Remember that it depends wholly on the spirit in which work is done whether it is hard or not, whether the heart is in it. The heart must be enlisted, or education of the head will fail.

Our schools are to educate character, as well as develope the mental faculties, and in this training of character parents and school officers can do a most important part—possibly more than the teacher. It is too often the case that the efforts of the teacher to form good character and habits are counteracted by influences outside, possibly in the home itself. The best results can only be attained when the lessons of the school room are sustained and reinforced at home. The education of our children is going on all the time, as well in vacation a in term time; out of doors as well as within doors, either at the school house or at home. It should be one consistent, progressive whole, working with nature and not against it, enlisting head, heart and hands, and calling to its willing aid teacher, parent, school officer, and every good citizen.

CORNELIUS HEDGES,
Superintendent.

Chapter 11
Religious Life

Judge Hedges' Christian faith was a real and personal thing. He had a deep concern for his spiritual condition, and would often comment about it in his journal. On October 25, 1863, he wrote "Tried to realize my true condition in the sight of God." And on November 8, 1863, he recorded "Resolved to live hereafter in the fear of God."[525]

He regularly attended week-day evening prayer meetings during most of his lifetime, except between the years of 1864 and 1872.[526] And he sincerely believed that one of the best methods of interpreting the scripture was to put into practice in his life.[527]

Cornelius was raised Congregationalist, and the first church in which he held a membership was at New Haven, Connecticut. He belonged to that church during the time he was attending Yale College. Next, he was a member of the Westfield, Massachusetts, Congregationalist Church.[528] Hedges maintained Congregational sentiments in later life even though a member of the Presbyterian Church. On November 14, 1883, he wrote in his journal, "Congregational convention held today to start the new church. Sorry not be able to attend."[529]

After moving to Independence, Iowa, in 1856, Hedges attended the Presbyterian Church. Upon returning to Connecticut to teach in 1860, Hedges resumed his Congregationalist membership at Southington. His church membership remained in Connecticut until 1873, when Hedges transferred his membership to the Helena Presbyterian Church.[530]

> "An average mining camp and community do not usually give the first attention to founding churches, like the Puritan and Pilgrim Fathers. But we well remember the first Sunday religious services were held in Helena. West Main street was the scene, a pile of logs furnished seats for most of the audience and Rev. McLaughlin stood on the ground floor. Brother Wilcox led the singing, the services were not lengthy and we are not sure that the contribution box was passed.

> A subscription was soon after taken up to build a log church, which was dedicated in July by Rev. A. E. Hough. The earliest church was located on Cutler Street and I was a pretty regular attendant and taught a Bible class there. To tell the truth, Sundays were not very religiously observed in those early days. On the contrary Sunday was the greatest business and sporting day of the whole week."

Hedges said that the first time he had attended "anything like a religious observance of the Sabbath" after arriving in Montana, was on March 26, 1865, and Rev. E. T. McLaughlin conducted the service. He recalled that "Brother McLaughlin was a Methodist, but church connections went for little then and all contributed to build him a church."[531]

On July 10, 1869, Rev. A.M. Hough asked Hedges to become a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Hedges consented. He also was teaching Sunday School at the Methodist Church.[532] In reference to an unsuccessful attempt to organize a Presbyterian Church in Helena in 1869, Cornelius recalled, "I doubted the wisdom of trying to sustain another separate church organization."[533]

However, on August 15, 1872, he noted in his journal that a meeting of the Presbyterian Church was held in his office.[534] And in December, 1873, was elected a Trustee of the Presbyterian Church.[535]

His Christian faith and activities was not necessarily bound by denomination. On August 22, 1875, Judge Hedges was re-elected as President of the Southern Methodist Bible Society.[536]

On August 13, 1876, a Communion Sunday, he noted "I was ordained elder, with some hesitation and misgiving – I hardly know what was my duty."[537] As a trustee and elder of the church, Hedges evidently regarded church attendance as a duty. His journal for December 18, 1887, contains this terse comment, "Went to church like a good boy, but I don't like to hear Mr. Moore preach."[538]

In addition to being an influential leader in the Helena Presbyterian Church, he was a respected member of the Montana Presbytery.[539]

Because Cornelius Hedges felt that one of the best ways to interpret the Scriptures was to live them, his life was an inspiration to others to improve their lives.

In a presentation on the history of the First Presbyterian Church of Helena, Thomas V. Moore, D. D., on June 20th, 1897, made the following comments about Judge Hedges.

"Here let me pause to record the tribute which history renders to the fidelity in these times of one man in the church. The records show that for many months at a time after his election in 1876, Judge Hedges was often the only available elder. During the long absence and illness of brothers Pyle and Williams, and for a year after Mr. Pyle 's death, the responsibility of the eldership rested practically upon him alone. Amid general discouragement, through many vicissitudes and great troubles, let it ever be remembered to the honor of our present senior elder, that he never despaired or refused to stand in the place to which the church had called him." [540]

The following address was delivered by Judge Cornelius Hedges at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary celebration of the First Presbyterian Church of Helena.

Early Reminiscences

"In undertaking to write a sketch of the First Presbyterian Church of Helena for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary, after much research among my diaries and all accessible means for reliable information possessing sufficient definiteness and accuracy to deserve the name of history, I find myself incapable of doing the subject justice, and had I realized my ignorance sooner, should have declined the task. I am not an original Presbyterian. I was reared a Congregationalist, and my first church connection was with the college at New Haven, and next in my native town of Westfield, Massachusetts, where all my ancestors and relatives were Congregationalists. For a time in Iowa, before coming to Montana, I was connected with a Presbyterian Church at Independence, but later resumed connection with the Congregational Church in Southington, Connecticut, my wife's native town, and it continued until 1873, after the organization of the Helena church. So I am not one of the first members of this church, and others still living and present with us can tell you more of its beginning. I have lived in Helena about from its first settlement, arriving here in January, 1865, with Brother Wilcox, when Helena was only a mining camp, without a school or church of any kind, and when Sunday was distinguished from other days chiefly by greater activity in business and amusements of decidedly nonorthodox kinds.

The first attempt at anything like religious observance of the Sabbath was on Sunday, March 26th, 1865, when a few were assembled on a vacant lot on the corner of Bridge and West Main streets, where there was a large pile of logs intended for the erection of another gambling house. Rev. E. T. McLaughlin preached a short sermon and brother Wilcox and Justice Miles led the singing. Brother McLaughlin was a Methodist, but church connections went for little then and all contributed to build him a church. It was of logs and stood on the corner of Joliet and Cutler streets. Sawed lumber then was worth 20 cents a foot. Everything about the church was home-made, but was considered fine in those days. It was Rev. McLaughlin who officiated as chaplain at the first execution by the Vigilance Committee when one gambler was hung on the old pine tree for shooting another. The preference of the condemned for spiritual influence of another kind on that occasion led to a suspension of the benefit of clergy in subsequent executions. In that first log house I had a bible class till I went to United states in the fall of 1866, and after my return with my family in the early summer of 1867, we

lived nearby, in what was then the best residence portion of the city and attended that church. And when the new Methodist church was erected on Broadway, I gave the address at the laying of the cornerstone and contributed to its erection, teaching in its Sunday school and acting as one of the trustees. Rev. A. M. Hough was then and for some time thereafter the pastor of the church. Another minister, Rev. Pritchard of the M. E. Church, South, was here in the summer of 1865, a very eloquent pulpit speaker and excellent man, who held services and drew large audiences to Crescent Hall on what was then Lower Main street. Bishop Daniel S. Tuttle of the Episcopal Church early began making visits in Helena and found hosts of friends and admirers among people of all denominations.

There is no conflict of authorities as to tile fact that to Rev. Sheldon Jacobson of the Presbytery of Iowa belongs the credit of making the first attempt to establish a Presbyterian church in Helena, and that as early as the summer of 1869. There exists a somewhat apocryphal reminiscence of that event and a list of the names of the few so called members, including one male member, James Witherspoon, familiarly known as 'Limber Jim," being very tall and with a slouchy gait, who soon after returned to Yankton, Dakota.

For some reasons not fully understood that first attempt to establish a church of our denomination failed. Probably the prevailing reason was the uncertainty that Helena would ever be anything more than a transient mining town. There were no titles to any real estate here at that time, except possessory right, and the mining right to dig anywhere for gold was held superior to any other possessory right. During the mining era our population was extremely fluctuating. Government title to our townsite was not acquired till late in 1869, and then only subject to existing mining rights. For the first ten years, roughly estimated, Helena was chiefly a mining camp, resembling the New Jerusalem only in one respect, that its streets were paved with gold, a misfortune in our case, for this paving was torn up and run through sluice boxes. By the end of the first decade, Helena had become the de jure as well as de facto capital and other interests in the city had become permanent and paramount and population was settled.

The purpose of establishing a Presbyterian Church in Helena, though it had slumbered for three years, had never been abandoned. Rev. Sheldon Jackson returned in the summer of 1872, better equipped than on his former visit.

We know by early experience of the church that even when Paul planted, it needed an Apollos to water. Especially in an arid county like Montana, morally as physically, the watering was full as essential as the planting. Rev. James R. Russel, now of Butte, accompanied Mr. Jackson, when the First Presbyterian Church of Helena was organized June 15, 1872, Mr. Russel was left in charge to nourish and water it. I was not personally present at the organization in 1872, and will leave to others who were, to speak of what transpired. I was at the time one of the trustees of the Methodist Church and had a bible class in their Sunday School, as I had ever since 1865, though my church connection was in the East, and remained there for a year or two more after the organization of this church. My denominational feelings were never strong, and as I now recall my sentiments of that distant date, I doubted the wisdom of trying to sustain another separate church organization. My family went east within a few days after the organization and remained away a year, and my duties as Superintendent of Public Instruction kept me away much of the time.

At the organization, or soon after, Brothers A. T. Williams and J. E. Pyle were chosen elders, and through the kindness of our Methodist brethren the use of their church was granted for the services of completing the organization, June 16, 1872, by Rev. Sheldon Jackson preaching a sermon, ordaining the elders, and holding communion service. Therefore, according to church canons, the First Presbyterian Church was an organized entity. But its members were few, a very little leaven in a very large lump, with no place of meeting and dependent upon the Home Mission Board for the main support of a minister. There were no Pentecostal outpourings at the time as when the apostle Peter preached in Jerusalem and thousands were converted in a day. Nor was the general inquiry, "What shall I do to be saved?" but, "How can I make my pile and get back to God's country," as the country east of the Mississippi was then generally called.

Meetings were sometimes held in the Rodney street school house, which stood on ground now occupied by Mr. Reinig's residence. I find in my diary a memorandum that on August 15, 1872, there was a meeting of the Presbyterian church committee at my office, when it was voted to buy a lot for a church and Lockey's corner was chosen, at a price of $400. The site is now occupied by the Chessman Block on Ewing Street, corner of Sixth Avenue.

I find also noted that on Sunday, September 20, 1872; I attended services conducted by Rev. W. C. Rommel in Odd Fellows' Hall in Donaghey and Bentley's Block on Main Street. Mr. Rommel had come to take Mr. Russel's place, who was called to minister to the church at Deer Lodge.

Sunday, November 7, 1872, Rev. W. S. Frackleton, whose field was Bozeman and the whole of Gallatin and Madison Valleys, preached for us. Pyle was one of the three young graduates from theological seminaries that Mr. Jackson had induced to come to Montana. Prayer meetings were held at the residences of members and on November 10, 1872, I find that I attended prayer meeting at the house of Mr. Walker, the first for several years, and the attendance was quite large. These meetings continued to be held weekly at the houses of the members.

During the year 1873 and 1874 any historical facts are very scarce. Mr. Rommel continued to preach and grew in favor and influence steadily. He did not confine his labors exclusively to Helena, but frequently went to Unionville and other places. Meetings continued to be held in Odd Fellows' Hall, the use of which was generously tendered on condition that the carpet should be protected by a covering, which was done by the good ladies. We think a church organ must have been secured, for Mr. Koenigsberger was organist. The Sunday School was not organized till services began to be held in the old court house, nor were there evening services at Odd Fellows' Hall.

The record book of the trustees is unfortunately very incomplete, but it furnishes a memorandum of a meeting of the church members in December, 1873, at which Col. Sanders, B. H. Tatem, Joseph C. Walker, T. H. Kleinschmidt, E. W. Knight, D. H. Cuthbert, and myself were chosen trustees. Also a meeting held March 31, 1874, when Messrs. Samuel Neel, R. E. Fisk and Elder Pyle, with Mr. Koenigsberger subsequently added, were chosen as a committee to select a location for a church edifice. And on April 21, 1874, at a joint meeting of the trustees and building committee, after much discussion it was voted to buy the lot at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Ewing street of I. W. Stoner for $500 on which to build the church. I was not present at the time, having gone to the states and did not return till the middle of the summer, and after that was busy with a congressional canvass.

The great fire January 9, 1874, which destroyed almost all the business portion of the city, crippled everybody and all the resources that anyone could command were devoted to rebuilding business places. Just when the foundation of the new church was laid I do not know, but it must have been in the autumn of 1874, for 1 find that on March 29, 1875, there was a children's sociable in the new church building, and on April 11th there was a large Sunday School held there, at which 259 were present, and on June 20th 1875, the first church service was held there with communion.

I think Mr. Rommel was east in the early part of 1875, for I find an entry of April 10, 1875, of his return. I think he secured a loan of $2,000 from the Church Erection Fund toward the completion of the church building, the entire cost of which was about $11,000. A large part of this was raised by the good ladies of the church by means of bazaars, strawberry festivals, and other like means, in which their genius and incessant devotion always shone to profit.

Though the church was tenantable it was not completed for more than a year thereafter, for I find an entry, Sunday, July 9, 1876, "Attended services in our church, freshly painted and carpeted." Nine days later there was a strawberry festival for the benefit of the church, and on Sunday, July 30th, Rev. Sheldon Jackson preached in the church. Thursday, August 10, 1876, I was chosen an elder against my protest, and the Sunday following, August 13, 1876, was ordained as such. On that day the church was dedicated and Mr. Rommel preached his farewell sermon in the evening. Our people had become greatly attached to Mr. Rommel. He was indefatigable in his efforts to build up the church. He was universally respected and his services were in constant demand and always cheerfully rendered. But he became impressed with the idea that his health was failing and a change was necessary. He has always been remembered with loving regrets. He promised soon to send another to take his place, but it was not till March, 1877, that Rev. J. D. Hewitt came. For more than six months we were without a pastor or any stated supply, and much like a flock without a shepherd. Elders Williams and Pyle were away, and myself, besides being inexperienced and unfit for the duties of an elder, exceedingly occupied with the duties of Superintendent of Public Instruction, which took me often and much of the time away from home. The year 1876 was a very depressing one generally in the fortunes of Helena. Those who had rebuilt after the great fire were heavily involved, and the discovery of gold in the Black Hills created almost a stampede to Dakota. It seemed as if the city was going to be deserted.

The values of property declined enormously and it was nearly unsalable at any price. Our hopes of getting a railroad, so often deferred and defeated, almost culminated in despair. Our church building was a bond of union and strength at the time when so many other conditions seemed adverse.

Rev. J. D. Hewitt came to us in March, 1877. I find an entry of March 30th of that year that I went to Bozeman to Presbytery with Revs. Hewitt and Russel. Wednesday, April 25th, a church meeting elected trustees and Thomas Smiley as deacon, who was ordained the following Sunday.

On Sunday, May 6th, I find mention of an excellent sermon by Mr. Hewitt and much religious interest manifested. Meetings were held every evening the following week and union services on Sunday, May 13th. The Sunday following Rev. M. L. Cook of Missoula preached at our church and on June 3rd communion was held and seven united with the church. June 8th there was a Presbyterian concert. Sunday, June 24th, it was noted that Mr. Hewitt had returned and preached, and a Sunday School concert was held in the evening. At the services on Sunday, September 2nd, communion was held and four united with the church. Sunday, October 7th, the Presbytery was in session here and at the evening service Messrs. Richards, Cook and Russel spoke on Sunday School work.

Sunday, October 13, 1878, it was noted in my diary that the seats in the church were supplied with new cushions — getting luxurious.

My diary mentions the fact that on Tuesday, April 8th, there was a debate in the church on the respective merits of the pulpit and the bar, on which occasion Col. Sanders presided, and the congregation decided on the merits of the debate in favor of the bar."

1. J. Hopkins Taylor, Bozeman
2. John E. Plye, Helena
3. Joseph J. Davidson, Hamilton
4. Hon. Cornelius Hedges, Helena
5. Fred Kennett, Missoula

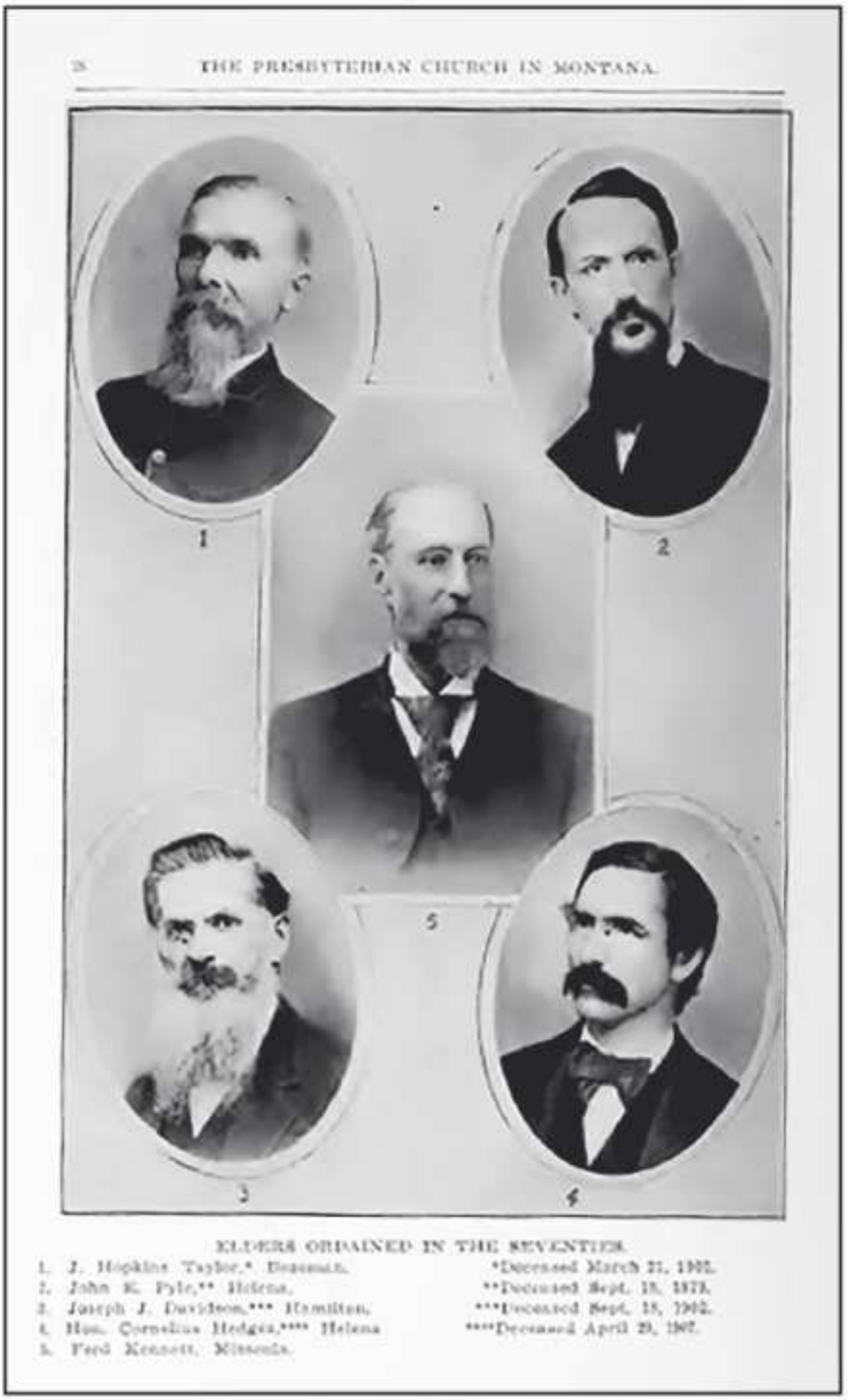


Figure 52. Elders Ordained in the 1870s.

Figure 53. The Old First Presbyterian Church of Helena built 1876.

Figure 54. First Presbyterian Church of Helena, dedicated 1905.

ORO Y PLATA

Figure 55. Cornelius Hedges and Grandkids.

Chapter 12
The Twilight Years 1901 - 1907

Early in 1901, rheumatism, which first afflicted Judge Hedges in 1885, grew more acute and found it necessary to go to southern California for two months of vacation to seek relief. He noted that the rheumatic pains were still bothersome in the fall.[541] Also on July 4, 1901, in commenting on a "sumptuous banquet" spread "under the shade of Fruit trees of all kinds" after a Grand Lodge cornerstone laying at Stevensville, he stated:

> "The occasion will long be cherished in memory of those who participated and even the Grand Secretary for the occasion almost forgot the pains and disabilities of his rheumatism."[542]

In 1901 and 1902, he began to indicate that his rheumatism no longer allowed him free use of his limbs, and that the writing of Fraternal Correspondence Reports, which were a source of pleasure to him for over 30 years, was now a painful and wearisome job.[543]

And in 1902, the year he had an extended and almost fatal illness, he gave indication that he was perhaps almost ready to lay down his Working tools for his just reward. He wrote:

> "It is usually a pleasure to write these reports, but we confess the pleasure has been materially lessened thinking of old associates in this work. We often envy them that this life of limitation and disappointment is over. Yet there is pleasure in living and watching the mighty strides of progress, not only in Masonry, but in all the arts and sciences that minister to higher civilization."[544]

Hedges condition was so acute in December of that year that his close personal friend, Past Grand Master Charles H. Gould wrote Toby: "A few days since, the press dispatches reported your dear father ill nigh unto death. Daily, since then, I have scanned the papers, each morning, with anxious eye and heaved a sigh of relief as I found his name had not been added to the scroll of immortals… Kindly tell him that I grieve that one whom I deem so true and noble should be called to undergo such suffering."[545]

An erroneous report of Judge Hedges' death even reached E. T. Carr, 33, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, A. &A.S.R., in Leavenworth, Kansas. Carr wrote to Toby expressing condolences and requesting a personal history. The next day, he wrote another letter expressing relief that his first report had been in error.[546]

However, Cornelius Hedges' temporal joys and pleasures were by no means at an end. In 1903, he gained restored health, and with much pride returned to New Haven, Connecticut, in the early summer to attend the 50th Anniversary of his Yale graduating class. In his own words:

> "It was a great privilege and pleasure to return after fifty years to our old college and renew the acquaintances formed a half century ago though under greatly changed conditions."[547]

On July 17, 1906, Edna and Cornelius Hedges, with great pleasure, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in Helena. All of their living children were in attendance at the celebration; Will Hedges from his ranch in Fergus County, Henry H. Hedges from his ranch in Valley County, Mrs. Emma Woodbridge from Boston, Massachusetts, and Mrs. Edna Cornelia Palmer and Cornelius Hedges, Jr., both of whom lived in Helena.[548]

On their 50th anniversary, 50 members of Commandery No. 2 of the Knights Templar in full dress uniform visited the Hedges to pay honor to their Past Grand Commander and current Secretary Cornelius Hedges and his wife. Just one of the many demonstrations of the esteem in which he was held.

One item proudly displayed by Judge Hedges was a walking stick that he had presented to his father, Dennis. In 1874 the mother and father of Cornelius Hedges celebrated their golden wedding. Judge Hedges as a memento of the event had made by W. G. Bailey, then the leading jeweler of Helena, a walking stick with a silver stock and a gold head. William G. Bailey who made the cane was born in Michigan in 1849. He arrived in Virginia City about a month after Hedges. In 1879, W. G. Bailey was added to the list of Helena jewelers. Bailey later became director of the Union Bank in Helena. He died in 1920 at the age of 81.

The cane was presented by Judge Hedges to his father and on the death of Mr. Hedges the cane into the possession of the Judge. It was admired by many friends on the events of the now anniversary of Judge and Mrs. Hedges.

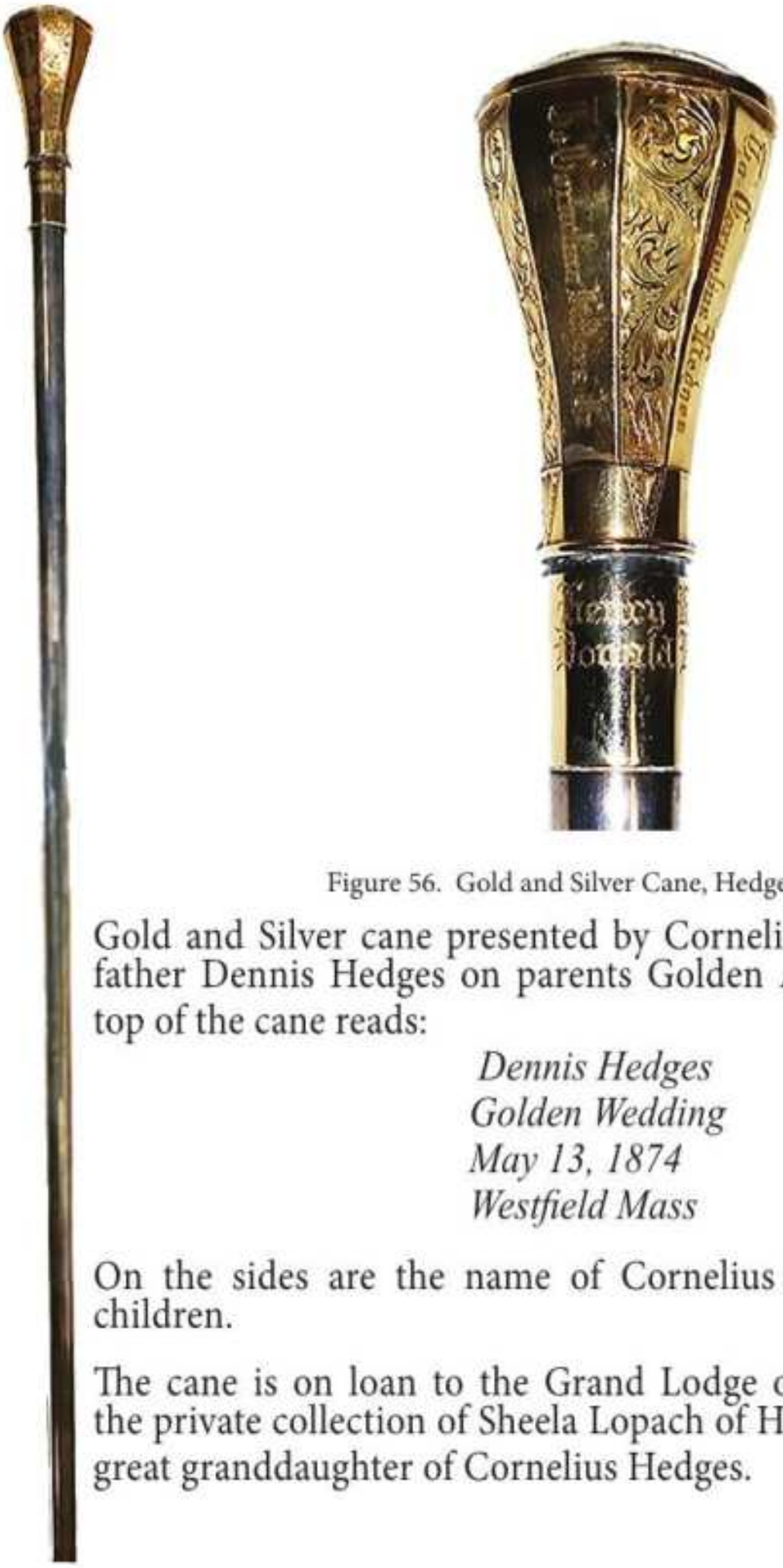


Figure 56. Gold and Silver Cane, Hedges.

Gold and Silver cane presented by Cornelius Hedges to his father Dennis Hedges on parents Golden Anniversary. The top of the cane reads:

Dennis Hedges
Golden Wedding
May 13, 1874
Westfield Mass

On the sides are the name of Cornelius Hedges and his children.

The cane is on loan to the Grand Lodge of Montana from the private collection of Sheela Lopach of Helena, great great great granddaughter of Cornelius Hedges.

A souvenir that was given each of the friends of Judge and Mrs. Hedges was a copy of a daguerreotype of the couple taken shortly after their marriage.

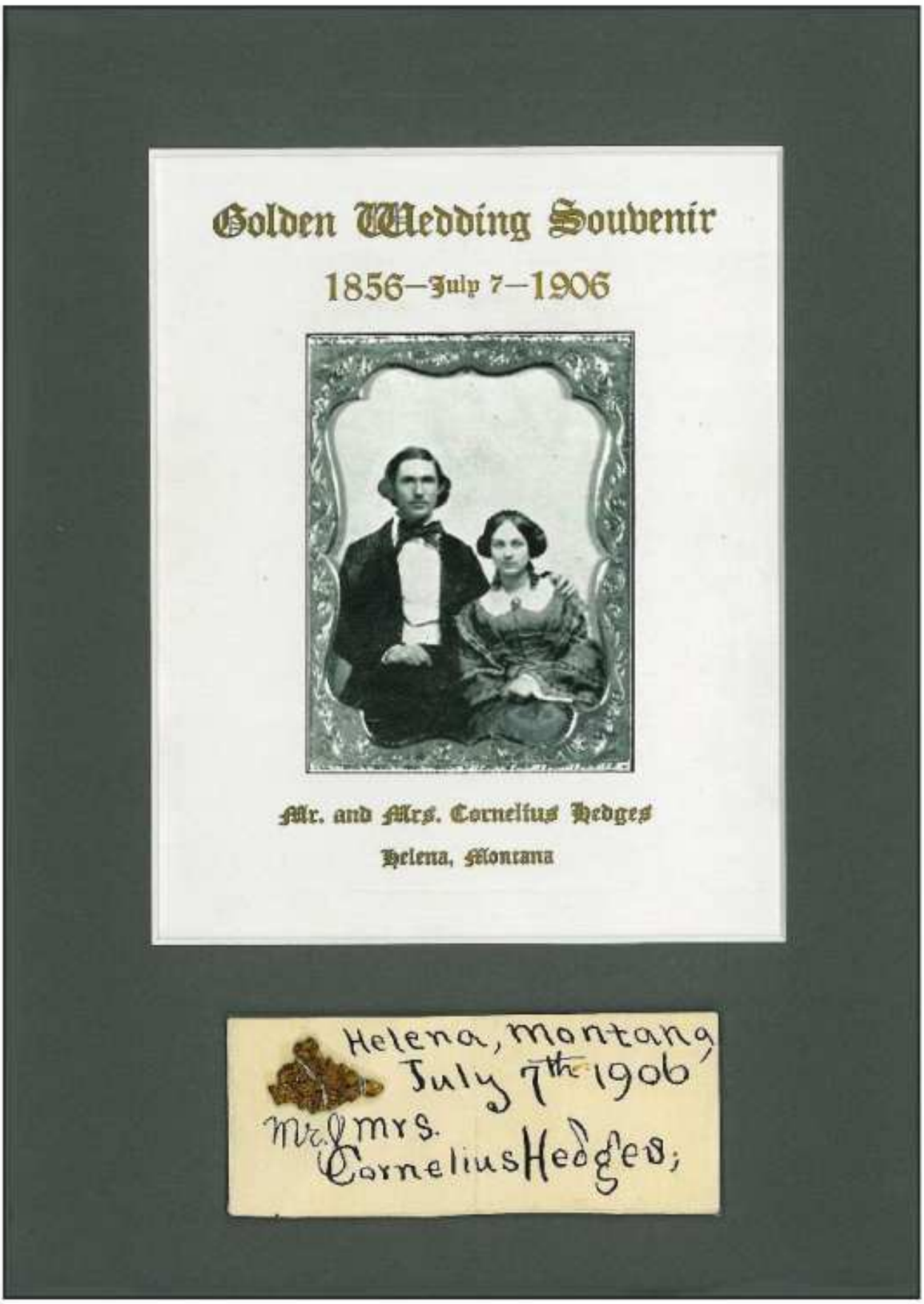


Figure 57. 50th Wedding Souvenir.

The last communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana which Hedges attended was the special communication held to lay the cornerstone for the Masonic Home near Helena on December 27, 1906.

He described the sleigh ride of about eight miles out into the valley to the Masonic Home site:

> "The sleigh ride was greatly enjoyed, though the snow was light and thin. The sun shone out occasionally, and the fog lifted, showing the trees covered with a glistening array of hoar frost, and the circling mountains in white winter apparel. There was no wind, and the sun shining through fleecy clouds seemed to be smiling a benediction."[549]

The establishment of the Masonic Home for Montana was very dear to Hedges' heart. The Grand Lodge Memorial written at his death tells of his contribution in this field:

The efforts of his later years have been devoted to furthering the cause of Masonic charity, and especially the work of building a Masonic Home in Montana. By his writings and conversation, he inspired a brother of this jurisdiction to devise a large estate, the income of which is to be used for the support of a home forced and infirm Masons and Masonic widows and orphans.[550]

Judge Cornelius Hedges' final illness began in August of 1906.[551] Hedges kept a journal until approximately two weeks before his death, but the last two weeks of entries are extremely difficult to read and the final entry is all but impossible to decipher. He suffered a heart attack during the first week of April, 1907, and lived approximately three more weeks.

As proof of the high respect held of him by the citizenry of Helena, The Helena Independent recorded that "since his last illness scores of people have inquired daily about his condition."[552]

Death came to this grand old Montana pioneer at 12:30 a.m., April 29, "worn out after a struggle of almost three weeks with disease which ravaged the once strong constitution, unconsciousness came as a relief to the patient." At his bedside at death at the family home were his wife Edna, his son Toby, and his daughter Edna.[553]

Judge Hedges' funeral was held at the First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. on May 1, 1907. The funeral sermon was given by Rev. Dr. W. N. Sloan.[554] The Public Library was closed from noon until 6 p.m. that day out of respect and tribute. All of his living children attended except Emma and her health did not permit her traveling from Boston.[555]

All but five of the Grand Lodge Officers were in attendance along with eight Past Grand Masters.[556] The group of gentlemen paying their last respects for the Society of Montana Pioneers read like a roster of the most important living pioneers. It included W. A. Clark, Walter Cooper, Granville Stuart, Henry F. Edgar, Conrad Kohrs, and A.M. Holter.[557] (Clark, Cooper, and Kohrs were all Masons). Also, large numbers of Masons from all over Montana and others "of every walk and station" attended the services. He was buried with Masonic honors at Forestvale Cemetery at Helena.[558]

Hedges' influence reached beyond the boundaries of Montana, his was known as a dedicated scholar throughout the Masonic world which included Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, most of Latin America and Western Europe, and the Grand Orient of Egypt, as well as the remainder of the United States. His death was felt in many parts of the globe. Letters of condolence written to Toby after his father's death came from five states, Maine, Virginia, Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota, the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia and the Gran Logia de la Isla de Cuba.[559] And a telegram was received from Grand Secretary Master "on May 11th issued a general letter in the form of a dispensation to all the lodges, directing them to meet in their lodge rooms on Sunday afternoon, May 26th, to hold either public or private Memorial Services for Cornelius Hedges."[560]

At such a Lodge of Sorrow in Livingston on that day, Past Grand Master Edward C. Day delivered the Memorial Address. In conclusion, he remarked:

> "I said, in opening, that his death marks the closing of an era. He is among the last to pass away of the great founders of civilization in Montana. He was the last of the great founders of Masonry in Montana."[561]

The words of Grand Master Alexander D. MacDonald very succinctly sum up the life of Cornelius Hedges:

> "He was the very best product of the cultured East, developed and broadened by association with the generous and vigorous spirit of the West."[562]

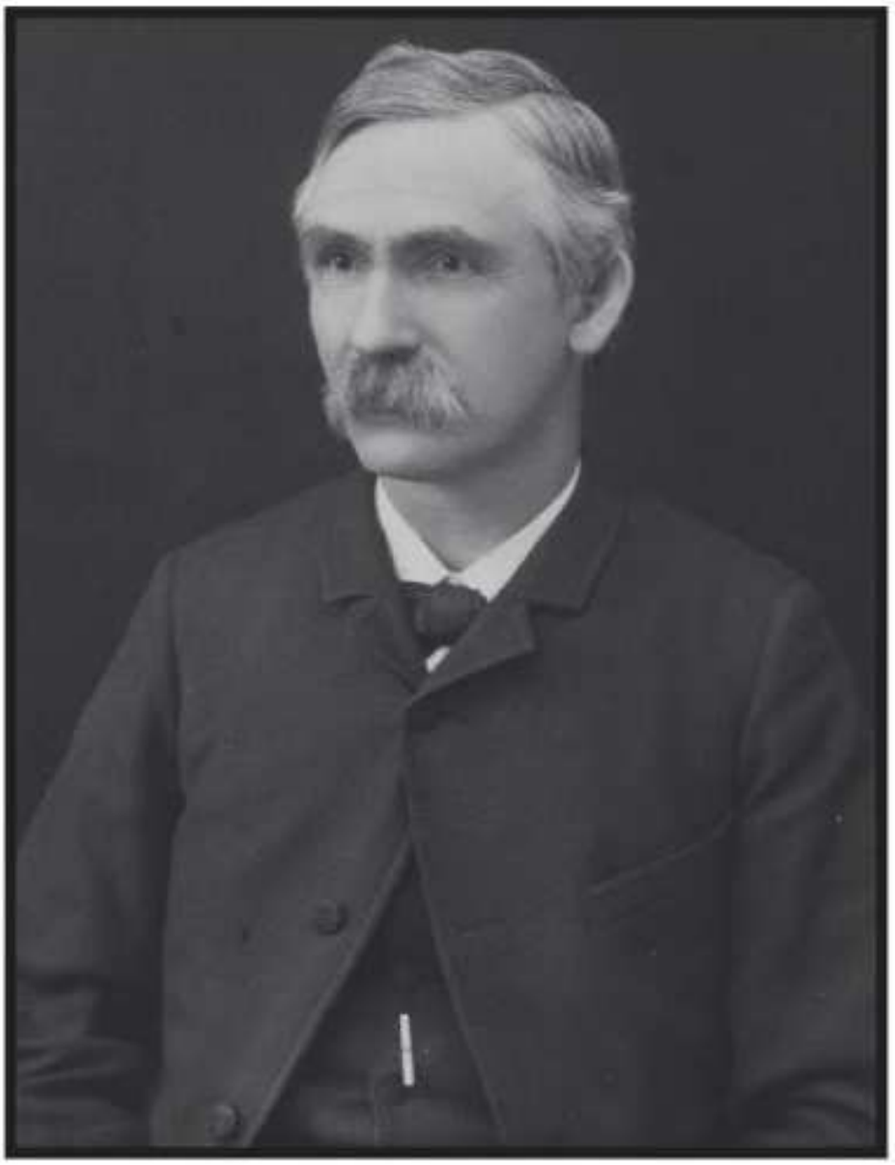


Figure 58. Cornelius Hedges.

Figure 59. Headstone.

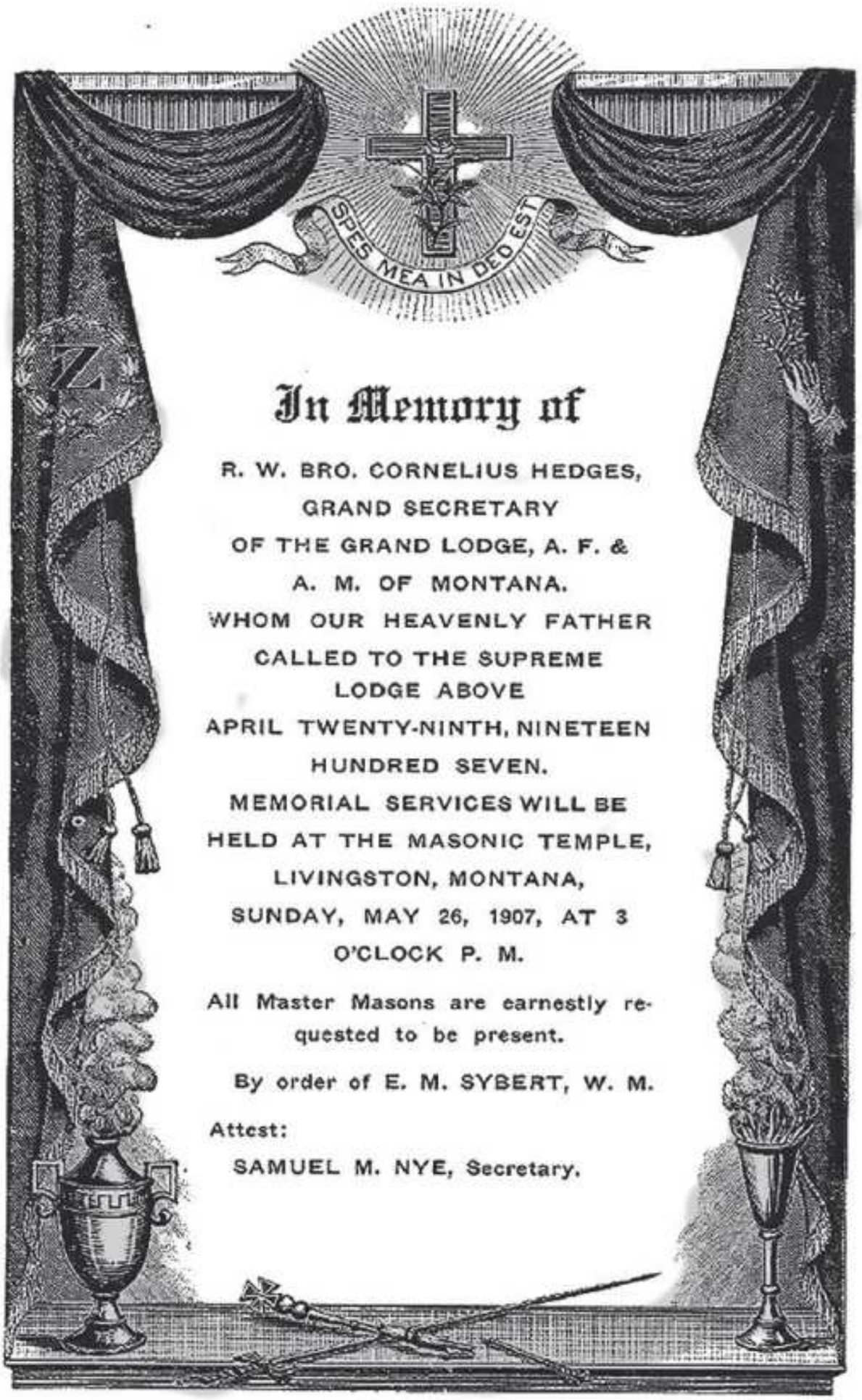


Figure 60. Memorial Notice.

MEMORIAL ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY

Past Grand Master

A. C. LOGAN

AT

Memorial Service

HELD FOR

Late Grand Secretary

CORNELIUS HEDGES

AT

Masonic Hall

BILLINGS

Figure 61. Memorial Address.

Memorial Address

BROTHERS AND SISTERS: We are assembled this Sabbath afternoon in the capacity of Masons in response to a summons issued by Grand Master McDonald to the Masons of Montana, asking them to assemble in their respective halls to hold a memorial service to commemorate with appropriate ceremonies the virtues, life and influence of our deceased brother, Cornelius Hedges, late Grand Secretary.

Your presence in the hall, consecrated to Masonry, is evidence of how dearly you love and how deeply you mourn his death.

To me, because of my intimate acquaintance and Masonic relations in life with deceased, has been assigned the task of reviewing his Masonic career, and in attempting to deliver this eulogy, I am deeply sensible of my inability to do justice to the time and occasion. I, therefore, beg your charitable consideration and patience, during the brief moments allotted me.

Brethren, this is an assemblage of Masons extraordinary and unusual. Never in the history of Montana has the Craft been called upon to memorialize the death and review the life of one so illustrious and generally beloved, and I doubt whether any among the thousands today participating in these ceremonies will be called upon during their life to so honor another.

Brother Hedges had few, if any equals, no peers, and sad to record few imitators. He determined early in life to devote his energies and talents to the uplifting of mankind, rather than to the sordid pursuits of wealth and fame.

Born in eighteen hundred and thirty-one, on old New England soil, a scion of sturdy Puritan stock, from whom he inherited traits and characteristics that later, developed by hardships and privations, manifested themselves in that sturdiness of purpose and personality that peculiarly fitted him for the work he eventually espoused.

Forty-nine years ago, in Independence Lodge No. eighty-seven, Independence, Iowa, he laid the corner stone on which to build his future temporal and spiritual Masonic habitat.

A close student and zealous Mason, he learned early that no institution was ever founded on better principles or more solid foundation.

Applying these principles to the erection of that Temple aided by the knowledge gleaned by research and study of the symbolisms and emblems of the order, he successfully builded a Temple, completing and dedicating it to the Craft in early manhood, which has been the admiration of the decades following, and long before he had reached the zenith of his power and influence he was recognized as the bright and morning star, the patron saint of Masonry, whose glory never waned and whose escutcheon was never tarnished by doubt, dimmed by suspicion or corroded by jealousies.

His was the glory of the midday sun, belonging to no section, limited by no jurisdiction, but like the universality of Masonry spreading and diffusing Masonic light and knowledge throughout the length and breadth of the land. He raised the standard of Masonry at home, and in later years, through the medium of his foreign correspondence, carried it to every civilized part of the world.

Soon after becoming a Mason his poetic and imaginative nature demanded a broader and more active field of action, and being led by fate or prophesy, we find him exploring the unknown vastness of the West, locating in Montana, at Virginia City, where he associated himself with that little band of tried and trusted Masons which became a nucleus around which morality and Masonry hovered for protection.

No influence was so potent for good in bringing order out of chaos as Masonry, and during those early days Cornelius Hedges was one of the great, masterful captains and pilots that steered the ship of Craft and State over the tempestuous seas of crime and disorder pervading the State in the early sixties.

Emerging from the scenes of the stirring incidents of pioneer days, he resumed his life work, devoting his time and energies to promulgating Masonic principles, and expounding Masonic law, and soon became the recognized leader and authority on Masonic jurisprudence and ritualism, his counsel being eagerly sought and his teachings followed.

In the early sixties he moved to Helena, where he continued his labors, and severing his connection with the Mother Lodge in the East in eighteen hundred and sixty-five, he affiliated with and helped form the first Masonic Lodge in Helena.

It was mainly through his efforts that the Grand Lodge of Montana was formed in eighteen hundred and sixty-six, at Virginia City, at the organization of which he was one of the delegates and leading spirits. His was the hand that drew the designs upon the trestle-board. He was the overseer and master builder, whose zeal and assiduity never faltered during the forty years that elapsed before his death. During this time the Grand Lodge of Montana became pre-eminent as a bulwark and tower of strength among the Grand Lodges of the world.

As the institution of Ancient Craft Masonry was symbolically supported by the three grand pillars, Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, and which were said to be represented by our three Ancient Grand Masters, so was the Grand Lodge of Montana ably supported by that grand

champion of Modern Masonry, Cornelius Hedges, who in himself represented all three of these pillars, for by his wisdom and knowledge he contrived, by his strength he supported, and by the beauty of his life and character he adorned.

A wise Providence has permitted him to live out his alotted time, and now his work is finished, his column broken, and his brethren mourn. The honor so justly his due can never be fully paid him.

This solemn gathering of brothers and friends testifies to the love and honor we bore him. Funeral and memorial services are primarily intended as lectures to the living, and the life of Cornelius Hedges is a fitting text and example for our imitation and emulation, and may the words uttered this day, in commendation of his virtues and pure life, sink deep into our hearts and bear fruit. Let us each resolve that this great and good man, so far as we are each concerned, shall not have lived in vain, and that when we separate this afternoon to again mingle with the world, we will dedicate a portion of our lives to the uplifting of our fellow men, and thus become worthy heirs of the heritage he has left us.

I can conceive of no fitter monument to perpetuate his memory than the record of his life, which is engraved upon the tablets of our memory. We can ask for no richer heritage to posterity than the example he has left, and the ideals he created.

Finally, my brethren, in the language of the poet, memorializing another illustrious in Masonic history. "Let us emulate his pure and blameless life, his inflexible integrity to his trust, and his unfeigned piety to his God, which has no doubt enabled him to ascend that theological ladder which Jacob in his vision saw ascending from earth to Heaven by means of the three principal rounds, Faith, Hope and Charity."

May we who survive him "so live that when our summons comes to join the innumerable caravan" our end may be like his, and may we obtain ready admission to that celestial lodge above where the Supreme Grand Master forever presides, and where we, like our brother, shall be at rest from our labors.

Figure 62. Cornelius Hedges Family photo.

Figure 63. Cornelius Hedges and Son's.

Chapter 13
Major Contributions

During the lifetime of thought, study, and action guided by the basic virtues of charity and brotherly love, Cornelius Hedges contributed much to the cultural growth of Montana and the nation.

The most significant of his contributions are those which today are represented in living monuments to Judge Hedges. And these contributions have lived because Hedges gave unselfishly to aid each with a healthy growth.

From the suggestion that Yellowstone be set aside as a National Park in 1870,[563] in concentrated effort with others, Hedges saw Yellowstone National Park founded. And from it in turn, has grown a National Park System preserving our nation's scenic and historic heritage – a fitting memorial to Hedges' unselfishness.

Likewise, the Helena Public Library, which stands ready and willing to impart its knowledge to the inquisitive minds of Helena, is yet another living memorial to this man.

As Territorial Superintendent of Public Instruction, Hedges in his unceasing benevolence stimulated among the citizens of our state the concern to build and maintain a good system of public schools. That system of public schools, even with its periodic problems, is another monument to him.

The Grand Lodge of Montana which he helped shape has maintained a visible and prominent place in Montana for thousands of its members who contribute to their communities and the state is another memorial to Most Worshipful Brother Hedges.

The Masonic Home, which had the benefit of Judges Hedges charitable efforts from their inception, round out the list of major, permanent monuments to this outstanding Montana pioneer. And superseding Masonic Home, which had the benefit of Judges Hedges charitable efforts from their inception, round out the list of major, permanent all of his individual contributions, Cornelius Hedges rendered the eternal proof that the social, cultural, intellectual, and educational interests could and would receive more than ample development in Montana.

Cornelius Hedges is known in Montana as the "Father of Education." It is fitting that both the University of Montana and Montana State University should memorialize him.

A residence hall at Montana State University located in Bozeman is named after him. The twin high rises on campus are North and South Hedges. They were built in 1964 and named after the "father of education in Montana" Cornelius Hedges. There are also several elementary schools in Montana named after him.

The University of Montana, School of Journalism located in Missoula has been honoring Montana journalists and the state's newspaper men and women who have made an outstanding contribution to the profession with the "Hall of Fame". The Montana Newspaper Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Montana Newspaper Association and the School of Journalism.

Cornelius Hedges was inducted into the Hall of Fame on May 9, 1965.

Cornelius Hedges, described by a 19th century historian as: "one of the ripest scholars and newspapermen" in Montana Territory. He brought to the newly organized territory three college degrees - two from Yale and a law degree from Harvard - a talent for writing and a deep desire to become part of the unfolding history of the northwestern frontier.

In December of 1889, three prominent Attorneys Cornelius Hedges, Wilbur Fisk Sanders and John B. Clayberg demonstrated their pioneering spirit again and an understanding of equality. The three Attorneys assembled in Helena to conduct the Board of Bar Examiners to examine Ella Knowles for the Montana Bar.

Judge Hedge's diary entry sums up the feeling of the examiners: Cornelius Hedges wrote:

> "Examined Miss Knowles for admission to the Bar and was surprised to find her so well read. She beat all that I have ever examined."[564]

Ella Knowles became the first woman lawyer in Montana, the first women to run for a major political office as state Attorney General, the first women to serve as Assistant State Attorney General and represent a State before the State Supreme Court. She opened her own law office in 1891.

In 1896 she was elected President of the Montana Women Suffrage Association and later that year she was selected to attend the Populist Party National Convention.

Ella Knowes married Henri Haskell to whom she lost the election as State Attorney General, she became Assistant Attorney General to Haskell and represented the State in public land issues. Ella later divorced Haskell and continued to practice Law in Butte for the next fourteen years, becoming an expert on mining and corporate law, she also lectured extensively on Woman's Rights.

Name Is Recommended

New MSC Men's Dormitory To Honor Helena Resident

The new high-rise dormitory for men at Montana State college will be named in honor of Judge Cornelius Hedges, pioneer in Montana education, according to a recommendation made to the Board of Regents today by President Leon H. Johnson.

The Hedges dormitory, 10 stories tall, is now under construction on the college campus.

Dr. Johnson told the University Committee of the Board, which accepted the recommendation and will refer it to the full board, that much study has gone into the selection of a name.

Hedges, he said, deserves the title of "father of the Montana public school system," more than anyone else.

The board today approved several change orders in construction of the dormitory, such as installation of air conditioning, since it has been found that funds available will cover the extra costs.

Hedges was a native of Massachusetts, a graduate of Yale Univeristy and of Harvard Las School. He practiced law and editer a newspaper at Independence, Ia., before walking across the plains to Virginia City in 1865.

Early Helena Resident

After mining at Virginia City he came to Helena in 1865 and set up a law office. In Helena he was U.S. Attorney and U.S. Commissioner.

He was a member of the expedition in 1870 which explored Yellowstone Park and gave birth to the national park idea.

Hedges was Territorial superintendent of schools from 1872 to 1878 and from 1883 to 1885. He established annual teachers' institutes, urged better management of school lands, and was a member of the state textbook commission. He was a founding member and second president of the Territorial Teachers' Association.

From 1872 to 1891 he wrote editorials for the Helena Herald, one of the predecessor papers to the Independent Record. From 1876 to 1888 he was the reporter of decisions of the Montana Supreme Court, his work still held to be a model of excellence.

Probate Judge

From 1875 to 1880 he was a probate judge in Lewis and Clark county. He was the first city attorney of Helena, 1881-1882, and was a member of the 1884 Constitutional Convention, serving as chairman of the education committee. He was first state senator from Lewis and Clark County after the creation of the state.

He was a charter member of the Society of Montana Pioneers, helped organize the Grand Lodge of Masons and was Grand Master, Grand Historian and Grand Secretary.

He helped to found the Helena Public Library, the Presbyterian Church, the Helena YMCA, and the Montana Historical Society. He died in Helena in 1907, a few weeks after the laying of the cornerstone at the Montana Masonic Home, which was chiefly his project.

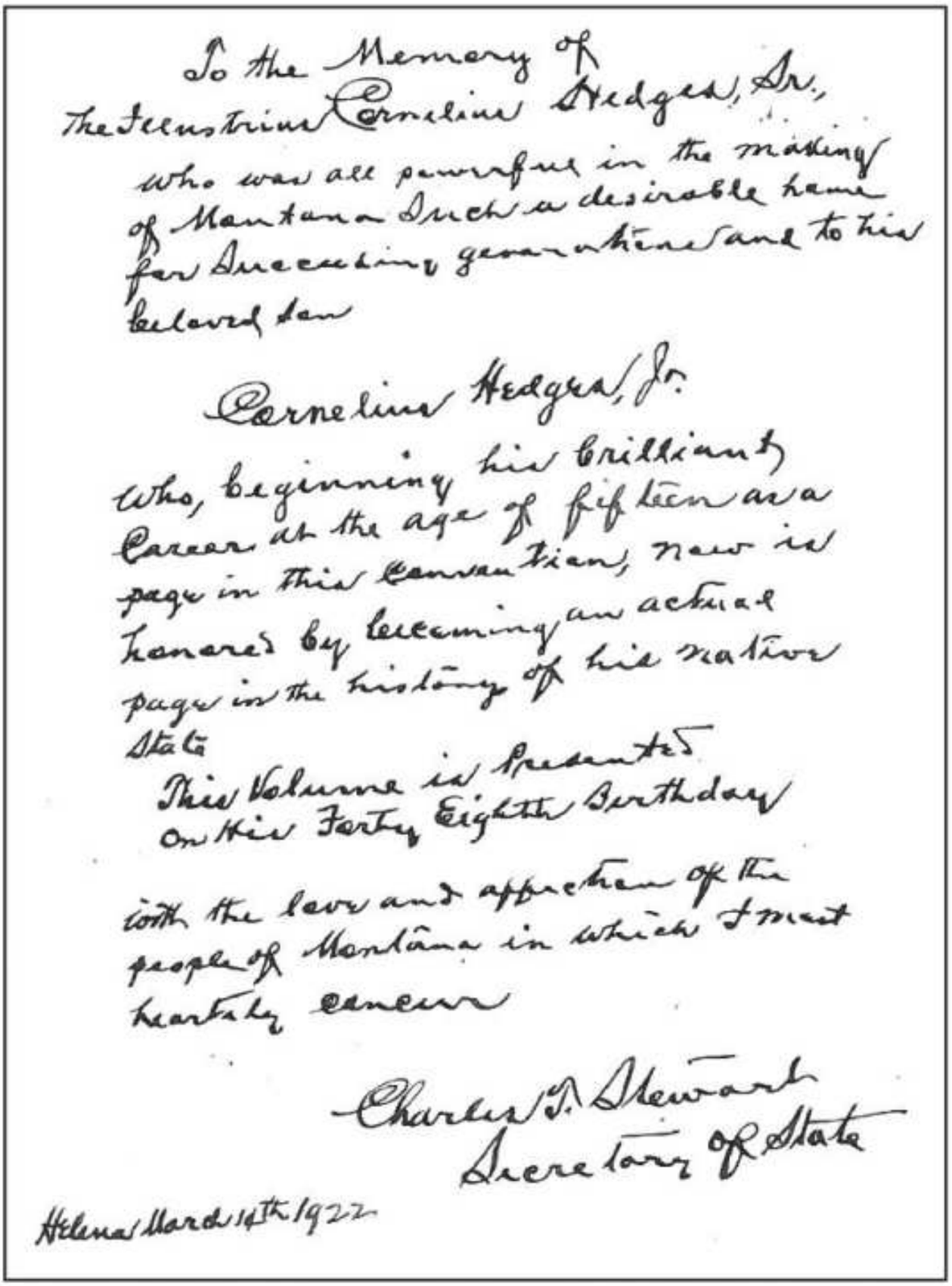
Cornelius Hedges

Sunday, August 27, 1989

om Tribune files i 25 years ago

The late Cornelius Hedges, pioneer Helena newspaper man, lawyer and territorial official, was elected as the tenth member of the Montana Newspaper Hall of Fame. Hedges was appointed territorial school superintendent in 1872 and took a successful stand against a law stipulating separate schools for Negroes. He was associate editor of the Helena Herald from 1872-91. He requested money from the Legislature to begin the University of Montana in 1882 and three years later helped organize the Territorial Press Association. A Republican, he was the first state senator elected from Lewis and Clark County. His career included helping found the Helena Public Library and earning the title "Father of Helena Freemasonry."

Figure 64. Article on the naming of Hedges Dorm.



In the Memory of
The Illustrious Cornelius Hedges, Jr.,
who was all powerful in the making
of Montana Such a desirable home
for Succeeding generations and to his
beloved son

Cornelius Hedges, Jr.

who, beginning his Brilliant
Career at the age of fifteen as a
page in this Convention, now is
honored by becoming an actual
page in the history of his native
State

This Volume is Presented
On His Forty Eighth Birthday

with the love and appreciation of the
people of Montana in which I most
heartily concur

Charles D. Stewart
Secretary of State

Helena March 14th 1922

Figure 65. Inscribed inside a copy of a book presented to Cornelius Hedges Jr. from Charles Stewart, Montana Secretary of State, 1922.

A copy of the book "Proceedings and Debates of the Constitutional Convention, 1990, Montana." Published in 1922 was presented by Charles Stewart, Secretary of State (Montana) to Cornelius Hedges, Jr.. This book is in the Grand Lodge of Montana Library.

The inscription, in part reads

"To the Memory of
the Illustrious Cornelius Hedges, Sr.,
who was all powerful in the making
of Montana such a desirable home
for succeeding generations and to his
beloved son …"

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Figure 66. Section from Rocky Mountain Magazine, Vol 1, No 1, September 1900.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MAGAZINE

VOL. I. SEPTEMBER, 1900. No. 1.

SALUTATORY.

IN presenting to the public the first number of the Rocky Mountain Magazine, the publishers desire to say a word as to the purpose and field of the new periodical. Perhaps the name itself sufficiently defines the field which the magazine will endeavor to cover. It is the intention in its pages to represent by story, sketch and picture, the various phases of Rocky Mountain life. Beyond an occasional bear story, or Indian tale, the Rockies are almost ignored in the magazines of the East. Yet we believe that no section of the American continent can compare in romantic interest with the mountain lands of the West. The development of the camp, hurriedly pitched in the gulch by the discoverers of gold, into the city of metropolitan appearance and ambitions, makes the new Aeneid of the West. The faithful record of those pioneers days surpasses in thrilling interest the most daring tale of fiction. Fortunately, the story of "the arms and the men," who laid the foundations of this empire of the Rockies, can still be learned from the lips of the pioneers themselves. Accordingly, it will be one of the special efforts of this magazine to gather into permanent and literary form, this store of unprinted reminiscence, which were it allowed to perish would be an irreparable loss. Each month there will be presented an article by some of the old-timers, recalling the exciting days of the discoveries in Alder, Confederate, or Last Chance gulches, or the campaigns against the Indians, or some of the memorable exploring expeditions.

It would be a mistake to suppose, however, that the life of the present day in these mountain communities is devoid of interest. The prospector, the miner, the rancher, the cow-boy and the sheep-herder afford most interesting and characteristic types to the observing student of society. It is our purpose to present these to the reader, by sketches from the pens of those who have the advantage of close acquaintance with them. Also, by offering prizes for stories dealing with mountain life, we shall encourage the expression of latent literary talent and stimulate the production of a class of Western fiction of real merit.

We shall not neglect to call to our aid the service of pencil and camera in describing the picturesque spots of the mountains. The car-window tourist knows nothing of the real beauties of the scenery of the Rockies. Indeed the larger number of those who have lived for years within sight of the mountains are unaware of the noble grandeur of canyon, lake, waterfall and glacier, which can only be discovered by those who leave rail and wagon road, and tread the solitary mysteries of the trail. The views of Rosebud lake which are presented in this number, will be a revelation to many who have thought they knew Montana thoroughly. We shall hope to bring these innumerable beautiful spots to the attention of the summer tourist by publishing illustrated accounts of camping expeditions in various sections of the mountains.

It was at first our intention to call

EARLY MASONRY IN MONTANA

Cornelius Hedges.

J. J. HULL

IT is often and justly remarked of Masonry that it is the handmaid of religion, requiring as it does of all who cross its threshold a belief in God, recognizing the Scriptures as the Great Light in Masonry, keeping an open Bible always upon its altar, and constantly enforcing by precept and example, all the recognized Christian virtues.

It is not as commonly recognized and mentioned, but is equally true that Masonry is the body-guard of social virtues and "the power behind the throne" of law and order and civil government.

Such it has proved itself in many crises of history, especially of our Anglo-Saxon race and in this country. When society has been rent from top to bottom as in the days of our revolution, when nearly every community was divided into camps of patriots and tories; and again in our civil war there was a division of the states, and to some extent in every state into camps of unionists and secessionists, and there was fear and danger not only from open enemies but still more from traitors and spies; at such times there is felt the need of a tie stronger than professed friendship and apparent interest and conviction, an anchor that will hold when the winds are high and the waves have giant might. Masonry has given proof of being such a tie, not only when storms of danger are brewing but even in the stress of bloody conflict.

There is much in the early history of Montana before civil government was established or had acquired strength to be respected, that, if it could be told, would illustiate this principle. Unlike other states settled before or after the civil war, the war-times during which Montana was settled brought together some of the worst elements of both warring sections of the country, deserters from both camps, seeking a cover in the wilderness beyond the reach of the civil or military arm of government, where they could shoot off their mouths or guns with comparative impunity.

It would be rank injustice to assert that a majority or a large portion of the early settlers of Montana were desperadoes, seeking a field for unrestricted crime. Rumors of the discovery of rich and extensive gold mines at any time, in any part of the world, will attract the attention of adventurous persons whose visions of great wealth to be suddenly acquired, only gain increased attractiveness by reason of distance and intervening difficulties and hardships. Such were the rumors from the gold discoveries at Bannack, soon followed by better substantiated

reports of richer and more extensive discoveries in Alder Gulch.

The national government not only favored but aided this rush to the new gold fields, and Capt. James Fisk under government auspices led several trains by the northern route from Minnesota, made up of most substantial citizens, during the years from 1862-5, into what is now Montana.

The Sioux Indians were giving the government much trouble and were stirring other tribes to take advantage of the civil war to avenge real and fancied wrongs and gratify their natural craving for blood and rapine. The great war of the sections disclosed the weakness of the tie that bound the young states of the Pacific coast to the rest of the Union, by reason of the vast intervening wilderness of mountain and desert, more difficult to cross than to make the voyage by sea around Cape Horn, the route by which congressmen drew mileage. The Mormons, settled at Salt Lake, no less than the Indian tribes caused anxiety to the national government.

It was therefore clearly and in every way desirable to the government to have the great wilderness separating the east from the west, broken up, explored and if possible settled, and the chain made complete from ocean to ocean.

The gold seekers pioneered the way for the transcontinental railroad, which but shortly before was regarded as an impossibility.

So it was not only those from the border states who had been broken up by the war, but many of the best men of the north who joined the rush to the gold fields of Idaho. But it must be admitted that the Union element in this emigration was in a great minority. In nearly every camp there could be heard more cheers for Jeff Davis than for Lincoln and the Union. Even after Montana had been organized as a territory in May, 1864, at the first election for a delegate to congress the party winning by a large majority was pledged to the immediate recognition of the Southern Confederacy and the "lily flag" of "peace at any price" was displayed at their meetings and in processions. Northern "copperheads" vied with southern secessionists in decrying the national government, opposing its administration and insulting the flag.

In the early organizing history of no single state in the Union, were such rough discordant elements brought together as in the case of Montana, and to render the situation still worse almost the entire population was gathered in a few camps where the sentiment of the majority represented the whole.

There was no recognized circulating medium but gold dust. Greenbacks were at a discount, when received at all their only use was for the merchants to send east to purchase goods. There was no Sunday as distinguished from other days except by increased gambling and dissipation. The very ease with which fortunes were made in the mines encouraged recklessness in squandering them and every sort of dissipation and crime.

In such a devil's hot-bed were scattered a few seeds of Masonry. Past G. Master, N. P. Langford, so well and favorably known by all the early settlers of Montana, in an address delivered before the Grand Lodge of Montana, Oct. 7, 1867, gives the earliest record and reliable evidence of the planting of Masonry in what is now Montana, but in 1862 when Bro. Langford came, was part of Idaho.

In the train that came from Minnesota that year were active Masons and he mentions that on that way, at one camping place with two brothers whose acquaintance he had made, he ascended an elevation and with their assistance went through informally the ceremony of opening a Masonic lodge.

From the same address we learn the occasion that first brought together the Masons then scattered through and around the mines in Bannack. It was the death of Bro. William H. Bell of St.

Louis, Nov. 12, 1862. It was the first natural death that had occurred in camp. As he had expressed the wish to be buried with Masonic services if possible, some who knew him to be a Mason in good standing, circulated notice through the camp requesting a meeting at the cabin of C. J. Miller on Yankee Flat. To the surprise of all, there was a response from more than the cabin could hold and adjournment was had to a still larger one where a genuine examination was held and most of the night spent in becoming acquainted with each other's record. Bro. Langford conducted the funeral services the next day and says that no less than seventy-five dropped the evergreen sprig on the brother's grave.

Out of this event sprung a movement to secure the formation of a lodge, in which Bro. Langford was foremost. Application was made to Nebraska as being most accessible.

In the printed proceedings of Nebraska, of date June 16, 1863, Gr. Master Armstrong says his only official act had been the granting of a dispensation to form a lodge at Bannack city, Idaho Territory, which bore date April 27, 1863, in which Bro. Langford was named as the first Worshipful Master, James Dyke, Senior Warden, and John W. Morrison, Junior Warden. No return of the dispensation having been received by June following the Nebraska record says that the Gr. Lodge voted to renew the dispensation.

In the record of the same Gr. Lodge of the following year, June 23, 1864, Gr. Master Daniel H. Wheeler in his address, mentions having renewed the dispensation in June 24, 1863, with the same officers, and adds, that he had heard that the lodge had convened and was working. But Bro. Langford says before the dispensation was received, the new mines discovered at Alder Gulch had so scattered the petitioners for a lodge that they never were congregated or the lodge organized to work.

The Nebraska record of 1864 says that no report had been received and the Gr. Master was requested to issue a new dispensation. Bro. Langford in his address referred to the fact of having the dispensation in his possession and his purpose to deposit it in the archives of the Gr. Lodge of Montana.

The present Bannack lodge, Number 16, was not organized until 1870 when the writer was Gr. Master and its charter was granted Oct. 3, 1871.

Though the first attempt to organize a lodge in Montana proved a failure, the attempt bore rich fruit. The members thus brought together around the lonely grave of Bro. Bell, became not only in Bannack, but later in Virginia City, and still later in Helena, the nucleus around which rallied the friends of law and order who with a strong hand ended the reign of crime and violence, and instead, securely established justice, peace and safety.

On Nov. 17, 1863, a dispensation was granted to Bros. Mark A. Moore as W. M., Samuel W. Stanley, S. W., and Levi J. Russell, J. W., and thirteen others to hold a lodge named Idaho, at Nevada City, Idaho Territory, by Gr. Master Wheeler of Nebraska. Under this dispensation a lodge was organized and one candidate, the late Jerre G. Smith of Boulder received all the degrees.

We find from the Nebraska record of 1865, that on June 22, of that year a charter was granted said lodge as Number 10, naming besides those in the dispensation, Bros. Robert Hereford, Joseph G. Steele, John F. Cowan, Geo. W. Cleveland, T. H. Clewell, W. H. Patton, John M. Wood, Dan. Elliot, Freeman H. Shaw, Julius Hewes, William R. Wheeler, J. L. Damon and Cornelius Griswold. The receipt of $65 is acknowledged, of which $25 was to pay for the charter and the balance to pay for a Masonic chart, lexicon and to print their by-laws. The Gr. Secretary was instructed to notify the lodge to make returns and pay dues. At the same time the record speaks of the return of the dispensation of Bannack

lodge, without any request for a charter.

We have been informed by some of the members of Idaho lodge that their charter and other things sent for were never received. It is supposed that the coach, with charter, etc., was captured by Indians, and the charter went to some Indian lodge. This was the end of Idaho lodge No. 10, the second attempt to establish a lodge in the territory now Montana.

The third attempt was more successful. At the annual convention of the Gr. Lodge of Kansas held at Topeka Dec. 20, 1864, Grand Master Jacob Saquin reports having granted to Paris S. Pfouts and a requisite number of Masons a dispensation to open and form a lodge at Virginia City, Montana Territory; and on the same date the Gr. Lodge of Nebraska voted it a charter as Virginia City lodge No. 43, with P. S. Pfouts, W. M., J. M. Fox, S. W., Henry Mittnact, J. W., John J. Hull, Senior Deacon, James Kiskadden Junior Deacon, J. F. Sullivan Treasurer, and Alex. Davis Secretary.

Among the fifty-eight members were Geo. W. Stapleton, P. Rodney Pocock, W. F. Sanders, R. T. Kennon, N. J. Davis, M. D. Leadbeater, Ira B. Maupin, Louis Behm, O. A. Sedman, M. L. Strasburger, Elijah Dunphy and John Potter. The lodge reported having initiated twenty-nine, passed and raised twenty-two, affiliated twenty-three, dismissed two and expelled one. The lodge made no report in 1865 and in 1866 the Gr. Secretary reported still no returns, but $32.50 paid in advance on the dues of 1865, and further that the lodge had become a constituent of the Grand Lodge of Montana organized Jan. 24, 1866.

So here we have the first permanent lodge in Montana that stands Number One on our roll.

In the spring of 1865 at Helena occurred the death of Brother Pocock, a member of Virginia City lodge. The occasion brought together many Masons in the city and vicinity. Brother Mark A. Moore conducted the funeral services and a burial place was started on what are now the High School grounds. Having thus been brought together, occasional informal meetings were held and it was finally decided to join in a petition for a lodge. Virginia City lodge recommended our petition.

It so happened that about the same time there was a movement on foot in Virginia City to organize a second lodge and one of the prime movers was Brother L. W. Frary who had recently come from Colorado where in 1864 he was W. M. of Golden City lodge Number 1. Being well acquainted with all the grand officers of that jurisdiction, we were persuaded that it would be easier and quicker to secure authority from that quarter.

In the Colorado proceedings of 1865 Gr. Master A. J. Van Deren in his address, Nov. 6, reported having granted a dispensation for a lodge at Helena, Edgerton Co., Montana. The first meeting under dispensation granted July 10, 1865, was held in a room over Perkins and Hughes' auction store on the east side of upper Main street. It was only a half-story, with no ceiling and only "snakes" for a covering and a saw-dust carpet. We had four petitions the first meeting and only conferred the first and second degrees on two candidates during the six weeks we had the dispensation. We were urged by the officers of the Virginia City lodges to return our dispensation and ask for a charter which we did about the first of October.

Meanwhile the second lodge had been organized at Virginia City with Bros. H. L. Hosmer, L. W. Frary and William Gray as principal officers, under a dispensation also from Colorado, issued by the Dept. Gr. Master of the Jurisdiction as early as April 4, 1865, three months before that of Helena lodge.

The cost for dispensation in each case was $40 and $20 additional subsequently for charters.

At the annual communication of the Gr. Lodge of Colorado, Nov. 7, 1865, on

motion of Brother Henry M. Teller, chairman of the committee on the returns of lodges U. D. charters were granted to Montana lodge No. 9, and Helena lodge No. 10, Colorado register.

In the case of Helena lodge the committee found that for want of time only two degrees had been conferred and it was necessary to suspend article 14 of the by-laws to allow the grant of a charter.

In the returns made to the Gr. Lodge of Colorado from Montana, we find besides the names of the three principal officers before named, those of N. T. Butler, Treas., J. R. Gilbert, Sec., J. Dimsdale, S. D., J. W. Todd, J. D., R. E. Cook, Tyler. There were nine members besides, including J. R. Boyce, Hugh Duncan, Luther C. Lee and J. S. Pendarvis. Thos. L. Groshon was returned as a Fellow Craft and Samuel Word as an entered apprentice. In Helena lodge the first returns show the following officers and members: Cornelius Hedges, W. M., Joel Wilson, S. W., Louis Behm, J. W., Charles C. Farmer, Sec., J. C. Hutchinson, Treas., Hugh McFee, S. D., R. P. Sealy, J. D., Robert Hereford, Tyler; Bros. M. A. Moore, G. M. Payne, John Moffatt, Robt. Lawrence, O. B. Howe, S. J. Perkins and O. T. Hare were additional members with J. G. Sanders and Adoniram Fall as Fellow Craft and Zerah French an entered apprentice.

In December a new election occurred in each of the three lodges. In Virginia City lodge John J. Hull was elected W. M., W. F. Sanders, S. W., and Lewis Trapp, J. W. In Montana lodge L. W. Frary was elected W. M., L. C. Lee, S. W., and Hugh Duncan J. W. In Helena lodge only the wardens were changed; R. P. Sealy became S. W. and Carlton W. Mather became J. W.

The three principal officers of each lodge met at Virginia City, Jan. 24, 1866, and organized the Grand Lodge of Montana, adopted a constitution and by-laws, using those of Colorado as a model. John J. Hull was chosen Grand Master, L. W. Frary Deputy Grand Master and Cornelius Hedges Senior Grand Warden, R. P. Sealy J. Gr. Warden, L. C. Lee Gr. Treasurer, and W. F. Sanders Gr. Sec.

The membership of the three lodges at that time was only one hundred and two, in No. 1, fifty-four, in No. 2 sixteen, in No. 3, thirty-two.

Thus endeth the first chapter.

THE HELENA DAILY HERALD: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1881.

DIRECTORY

Of Federal and Territorial Officers of Montana.

DELEGATE IN CONGRESS:

Hon. MARTIN MAGINNIS, Helena.

Office.	Name.	Residence.
Governor	BENJ. F. POTTS	Helena.
Secretary	JAS. H. MILLS	Deer Lodge
Chief Justice	D. S. WADE	Helena
Associate Justices	E. J. CONGER	Virginia City
	W. J. GALBRAITH	Deer L'dge
U.S. District Att'y	J. L. DRYDEN	Helena
U.S. Marshal	ALEX. C. BOTKIN	"
Surveyor General	R. H. MASON	Helena
Register Land Office	JAS. H. MOE	"
Receiver Land Office	F. P. STERLING	"
Collector Internal Revenue	T. P. FULLER	"
Collector Customs	T. A. CUMMINGS	"

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND CLERKS.

First District	R. P. VIVION, Bozeman.
Second District	ALEX. H. MAYHEW, Deer Lodge.
Third District	J. A. JOHNSTON, Helena.
Clerk 1st Dist. Court	T. MUFFLY, Virginia City.
Clerk 2d Dist. Court	G. W. IRVINE, 2d, Deer Lodge
Clerk 3d Dist Court	A. H. BEATTIE, Helena.

BOZEMAN LAND DISTRICT.

Regir, ste	DAVIS WILLSON, Bozeman.
Receiver	J. V. BOGERT, "

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE.

Assayer	RUSSEL B. HARRISON, Helena.
Melter	M. A. MEYENDORFF, "

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONERS.

JAMES M. ARNOUX, Benton.
ISAAC R. ALDEN, Helena.
JOSEPH J. WILLIAMS, Helena.
THEOPHILUS MUFFLY, Virginia City.
WM. P. BURCHER, Sun River.
GEORGE F. COWAN, Radersburg.
JOHN POTTER, Hamilton.
GEORGE W. IRVINE, 2d, Deer Lodge.
ORVILLE B. O'BANNON, Deer Lodge.
FRANK H. WOODY, Missoula.
A. D. McPHERSON, Bozeman.

TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

Auditor	JOSEPH P. WOOLMAN, Helena
Treasurer	D. H. WESTON, "
Warden of Penitent'y	W. W. BOTKIN, Deer Lodge
Sup't. Public Schools	W. EGBERT SMITH, Butte
Supreme Court Reporter	C. HEDGES, Helena
Clerk Supreme Court	ISAAC R. ALDEN, "

Figure 67. Helena Daily Herald, 1881.

Chapter 14
The Measure of His Friends

"If a man can be known as nothing else, then he may be known by his companions." The following section contains an abridged list of the friends and associates of Cornelius Hedges.

Nathaniel Pitt Langford, explorer, businessman, bureaucrat, author, vigilante and historian. From Saint Paul, Minnesota who played an important role in the early years of the Montana gold fields, territorial government and the creation of Yellowstone National Park, After a national park was established, he became its first superintendent. Langford became a Master Mason on 12/19/1856 in Pacific Lodge No. 10 (MN) he affiliated with Virginia City No. 1 and Helena No. 3, he served as served as Grand Historian in 1866 and Grand Master of Montana in 1869.

Wilbur Fisk Sanders, arrived at Bannack, September 17th, 1863. He was a Lawyer by profession. Republican candidate for Congress, 1864-67-80 and '86. Delegate to Republican National Conventions, 1868-72-76 and '84. President Historical Society of Montana, 1865-90. Member House of Representatives, Eighth (extra) Session, 1873; Regular Session, 1874; Ninth Session, 1876; Tenth Session, 1877; Eleventh and Extra Sessions, 1879, Territorial Legislative Assembly. Division Counsel Northern Pacific Railroad Company, 1880-9. United States Senator, 1890-3. President Board of Trustees Montana Wesleyan University, 1889-1900. Sanders became a Master Mason on 11/8/1959 in Ohio, he affiliated with Virginia City No. 1, and served as Grand Master A. F. & A. M., 1868

Conrad Kohrs, cattle rancher and politician He became a U.S. citizen in 1857. He arrived in the gold camps of Montana Territory in 1862. He built a fortune from owning gold camp butcher shops and selling beef to miners. In 1866, created a ranching empire by purchasing a ranch near Deer Lodge, at its peak, he owned 50,000 head of cattle, grazing on 10 million acres and shipping 10,000 head of cattle annually to the Chicago stock yards. He earned the nickname, "Montana's Cattle King". He became involved in politics, first on the local and later on the state level He was a member of the Territorial Assembly of 1885 and, in 1889, he was elected a member of the original Montana State Constitutional Convention. He also served as President of the Montana Stockgrower's Association. Kohrs was also a member of Deer Masonic Lodge No. 14. He died on July 23, 1920 on the home ranch at Deer Lodge.

Thomas James Walsh, an attorney, he moved Helena, in 1890. Walsh worked on injury cases involving railroad accidents. He served in the United States Senate from 1913 until 1933.

William Wesley Van Orsdel, "Brother Van" was born near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on March 20th 1848. Arrived in north central Montanan in 1872, he became one of the first Methodist circuit riders in the State of Montana. Brother Van was trusted and loved by all of the Native American tribes in Montana, he was given the name "Great Heart". He is immortalized by Charlie Russell in a painting he called "Brother Van Shooting Buffalo". Brother Van would go on to become one of the most recognizable and best loved men in Montana history. During his 47 years as a circuit rider and administrator for the North Montana Missions and the Montana Methodist conference, he founded more than one hundred churches, a university, a half a dozen hospitals, a children's home and over fifty Methodist parsonages. His charismatic style and faith drew to him people from every walk of life from gunslingers to governors.

Granville Stuart, In 1857 he arrived in Montana with Captain Grant at the present-day location of the Grant-Kohrs Ranch. He discovered gold at Gold Creek the following year. He is often credited as the first man to discover gold in Montana. In 1862, Granville moved to Bannack, where he set up a butcher shop. Granville helped to organize the Montana Historical Society in 1865, he was the first secretary and later president. Continuing his service to the state, Granville became one of 13 members of the Territorial Council in 1871. He was a member of the Upper House of the Seventh Session of the Territorial Legislature, which met at Virginia City from December 4, 1871, to January 12, 1872. In 1880, Granville entered into the cattle business with J. Davis and Samuel Hauser. Their brand was the famous DHS. In 1884, when horse thieves took a toll on residents in the area he organized the Stuart Stranglers and led a successful vigilante raid into the Missouri River Breaks. That same year, Granville was elected the first president of the Montana Stockgrowers. In 1891, Granville was appointed State Land Agent and personally selected some 600,000 acres of land which the federal government had given to the State of Montana for the purpose of providing revenue for schools. Granville was appointed Ambassador to the Republic of Uruguay and Paraguay in South America in 1894, a position he held for five years. In 1916, he was commissioned by the state to write a history of Montana. Stuart became a Master Mason on in 1866 in Virginia City Lodge No. 1 he later affiliated with Deer Masonic Lodge No. 14, he served as Junior Grand Deacon.

Daniel A. G. Flowerree, departed from Missouri, traveled, across the plains by stage; arrived at Virginia City, march 16th, 1864. Occupation, stock raiser.

Joseph Kemp Toole, at age 18 arrived by steamboat at Fort Benton, Montana in the spring of 1869. He traveled by stage to Helena, continued studying the law, was admitted to the bar in 1871 and entered into partnership with his brother, Edwin Warren Toole. At the age of 21 he was elected district attorney of the Third Judicial District and served from 1872-1876. Toole served as a member and president of the Council of the 12th Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Montana from 1881-1883 representing Lewis and Clark County. He was elected a member of the constitutional convention of 1884. During Toole's term as delegate to the 49th Congress and 50th Congress of the United States from March, 1885 through March, 1889, he spoke often in favor of obtaining statehood for Montana. Toole declined a 3rd term in Congress and became a member of the constitutional convention of 1889, in which year he was also elected the state's first Governor. After serving one term as governor, he resumed the practice of law. He was reelected governor in 1901 and again in 1905, the last time being nominated against his wishes. He retired April 1, 1908 on account of ill health. Toole became a Master Mason on 11/9/1878 in Helena Lodge No. 3 he served as Worshipful Master in 1882 and Grand Master of Montana in 1889.

Marcus Daly, He came to the Montana Territory in 1876. He purchased the Anaconda silver mine and tested the copper. Then, with the backing of George Hearst and others, he quietly bought up neighboring mines and formed a mining company. He built a smelter at Anaconda and connected it by rail with Butte. He was so successful that Anaconda became almost a household word in the United States. Daly purchased coal mines to fuel his furnaces, bought forests to supply his timber, and built power plants to supply the mines. He also established a number of banks. Daly also established a newspaper, the Anaconda Standard.

Martin Maginnis, in 1864 he was commissioned major of the 11th Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, transferred to the army of the Cumberland, serving under Gen. Thomas until mustered out in 1865. The following year he came to Montana and edited and published the Helena Gazette, a political paper, through which means he was elected to the 43rd congress in 1872, remaining in this office until 1885. Maginnis was a member of Montana Lodge No. 2.

John Toole Kinna, born in New York. Place of departure for Montana, Denver, Colorado; route traveled, across the plains; arrived at Virginia City in 1864. Occupation, merchant. First mayor of Helena, 1880-1. Kinna was a member of Helena Lodge No. 3 he became a Master Mason in 1880.

William Chumasero, born in England in 1818. Departed from Atchison, KS; route traveled, across the plains by stage; arrived at Virginia City, May 3, 1864. Profession, lawyer.

George Shiras, Jr., was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States who was nominated to the Court by President Benjamin Harrison. He began law school at Yale Law School, he finished his training by reading law at a law office, then practiced law in Dubuque, Iowa from 1855 to 1858, and in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from 1858 to 1892.

William Andrews Clark, Sr, politician and entrepreneur, involved with mining, banking, and railroads. Clark made his way to Montana to find his fortune in the gold rush. He settled in at Bannack, and began placer mining. Clark invested his earnings started driving mules back and forth between Salt Lake City and the boomtowns of Montana to transport eggs and other basic supplies. He soon changed careers and became a banker in Deer Lodge. He repossessed mining properties when owners defaulted on their loans, placing him in the mining industry. He made a fortune with small smelters, electric power companies, newspapers, railroads and other businesses, becoming known as one of three "Copper Kings" of Butte. In 1907 he became a United States Senator. Clark died at the age of 86 in his mansion at 952 Fifth Avenue in New York City, one of the 50 richest Americans ever. Clark became a Master Mason in 1866 in Virginia City No. 1. and later Morning Star No. 5 and Deer Lodge No. 14 and served as Grand Master.

Frederick Augustus Heinze, Traveling to Butte, Montana in 1889, Heinze observed vast opportunities in the copper business he formed the United Copper Company, gaining control of a number of banks and attempting to organize a Copper Trust. Heinze remained active in a number of railway and mining projects.

Thomas "Tommy" Cruse, came to Helena in 1867. He owned and operated the Drumlummon Mine at Marysville eventually made him wealthy. Cruse sold the mine in 1882 to the London Company Associated in England for nearly one and one-half million dollars. Cruse contributed a third of the cost of building the St. Helena Cathedral. He also bought and carried the bonds that built Montana's State Capitol. He formed the Thomas Cruse Savings Bank in Helena in 1887 and expanded his investment to include mining, cattle, sheep ranching and oil.

Timothy Wilcox, from Connecticut, In 1830, departed for Montana, traveled with Cornelius Hedges and Henry Clark across the plains via Bridger Cut Off; arrived at Virginia City, July 9th, 1864. Occupation, ranchman and miner. Residence, Helena.

J. E. Rickards, In 1882, he came to Montana, making his home at Butte. He was chosen a member of the Butte City council in 1883, and elected member Territorial Senate in 1887. He became Lieutenant Governor.

William Horace Clagett, was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1858, He moved to Nevada in 1861 where he commenced practicing law, and was a member of the Nevada Territorial House of Representatives in 1862 and 1863, was a member of the Nevada Assembly in 1864 and 1865. Later he practiced law in Helena, and Deer Lodge. He was elected a Republican from the Montana Territory to the United States House of Representatives in 1870, serving from 1871 to 1873. On December 18, 1871, Clagett introduced the Act of Dedication bill into the House that ultimately led to the creation of Yellowstone National Park. Afterwards leaving Congress, Clagett resumed practicing law in Deer Lodge, Denver, Deadwood, Portland, Coeur d'Alene, and Spokane. He was president of the Idaho constitutional convention in 1889.

Benjamin Franklin Potts, served as a general in the Union Army during the Civil War. He commanded a brigade of infantry in the Western Theater. In May 1859, he passed his bar exam in Ohio, and established a successful practice. He changed political parties as a moderate Republican, he was elected to the Ohio State Senate in 1867. Three years later, he accepted an appointment from President Ulysses S. Grant, as the governor of the Montana Territory. Potts served until 1883. As governor, he was heavily involved in Indian affairs, as well as working to get several new frontier towns chartered. He later served in the territorial legislature.

Isaac Wayne MacVeagh, a lawyer, politician, diplomat and the 36th Attorney General of the United States. He attended Yale University, and graduated 10th in his class in 1853. He was admitted to the bar in 1856 and was District Attorney of Chester County, Pennsylvania. He led militia forces organized to battle back Confederate forces in 1862 and 1863 and served in the Union army during the Civil War as an infantry captain and as a major in the cavalry. MacVeagh was U.S. Ambassador to The Ottoman Empire in 1870 through 1871, and was a member of the state constitutional convention of 1872 and 1873. In 1875.

Benjamin Franklin Butler, a lawyer and politician who represented Massachusetts in the United States House of Representatives and later served as the 33rd Governor of Massachusetts, served as a Union General in the Civil War.

John Hollins Ming, from Virginia. Went to California in 1849. Departed Denver for Montana, traveled, across the plains via Fort Halleck, Green River, Bitter Creek, Bridger Pass, and Soda Springs; arrived at Virginia City in fall of 1863. Occupation, merchant and cattle raiser.. Territorial auditor, 1866-7. Ming became as Master Mason in 1868 in Virginia City No. 1, he later affiliated with Helena No. 3.

James H. Moe, 1875-9 Register U S Land Office.

Henry Harmon Clark, from Massachusetts, went to the California gold fields in 1850, In 1853, Henry returned to Massachusetts, moved to Independence, Iowa, where he engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1864, Clark traveled overland to Virginia City, Montana Territory, with Cornelius Hedges and Timothy Wilcox. Hedges and Clark worked for wages in the mines and later became partners in the operation of a placer mining claim they had purchased. The partners moved to Helena's Last Chance Gulch in 1865. After working for wages for a period of time, Clark began farming in the Prickly Pear Valley near Helena. After farming for eight years, Henry Clark bought the Prickly Pear House, located in what is now the town of East Helena, and operated it as a hotel, road house, and tavern. He continued to operate the farm on a rental basis. Clark and a Mr. Riggs platted the townsite of East Helena in 1888. Clark served as a county commissioner, a school trustee, and East Helena's first postmaster.

John Toole Kinna, born in New York. Place of departure for Montana, Denver, Colorado; route traveled, across the plains; arrived at Virginia City in 1864. Occupation, merchant. First mayor of Helena, 1880-1. Kinna was a member of Helena Lodge No. 3 he became a Master Mason in 1880.

Malcolm Clarke, departed from Indiana for Montana, traveled, up the Missouri River. Arrived at Little Prickly Pear Valley in 1864. Occupation, farmer. Murdered by Indians, August 23rd, 1869.

Hugh Kirkendall, in 1835 departure for Montana from Leavenworth, Kansas traveled across the plains, with government expedition under Colonel Rollins, exploring headwaters of the Yellowstone River via the Bozeman Route, came up the Missouri River to Fort Union in 1858. Occupation, railroad contractor and stock raiser.

Anton M. Holter, from Norway came to the United States in 1854. Departed for Montana from Iowa, traveled across the plains via Denver and the Platte River; arrived at Virginia City, December 1st, 1863. Occupation, merchant. Member Territorial Council, Eleventh and Extra Sessions, 1879, and Member House of Representatives, First Session, 1889-90; Second Session, 1891, State Legislative Assembly. President Society of Montana Pioneers, 1889-90. Treasurer, 1898. Holter became a Master Mason on 12/17/1867 in Helena No. 3.

Samuel C. Gilpatrick, From Maine. Departed Wisconsin traveled up the Missouri River; arrived at Virginia City in 1864. Occupation, merchant.

James King, from Canada, came to the United States in 1851. Departed Illinois, traveled up the Missouri River; arrived at to Fort Benton in September, 1862. Occupation, merchant and miner.

Henry Martin Parchen, born in Prussia, came to the United States in 1848. Departed for Montana from Denver traveled, across the plains by stage to Salt Lake City, arrived at Virginia City, July 2, 1864. Occupation, merchant-drug store, also involved with the Helena Gas Company, the Electric Light and Street Railway Company, and numerous mines, smelters, ranches, and real estate. Member House of Representatives, Twelfth Session, 1881, Territorial Legislative Assembly. Treasurer Society of Montana Pioneers, 1890-1. Commissioner, Lewis and Clarke County. Parchen became a Master Mason on 8/23/1867 in Helena No. 3, he served as Worshipful Master in 1869 and served as the fifth Grand Treasurer for the Grand Lodge of Montana from 1871-1909.

Theodore H. Kleinschmidt, born at Petershagen, Province of Minden, Prussia, came to the United States in 1843. Departed Denver for Montana, route traveled, across the plains via Bridger Pass, Laramie Plains, and Soda Springs arrived Virginia City, May 12th, 1864. Occupation, banker. Treasurer Society of Montana Pioneers. Kleinschmidt became a Master Mason in 1868 in Morning Star No. 5 and served as Worshipful Master in 1870.

Anton E. Miller, departed from Colorado traveled, across the plains; arrived in Montana in July, 1863. Occupation, miner and hotel keeper.

Nickolas Kessler, born at Befoot, Canton, Echternach, Grand Duchy Luxemburg, came to the United States in 1854. Departed from Montgomery, Colorado, traveled, across the plains via Fort Bridger and Bitter Creek; arrived at Bannack, September 22nd, 1863. Occupation, brewer. Member House of Representatives, Tenth Session, 1877, Territorial Legislative Assembly. President Society of Montana Pioneers, 1897-8.

Lewis H. Hershfield, arrived at Virginia City, July 3d, 1864. Occupation, banker. Member Constitutional Convention, 1889, representing Fourteenth District, Lewis and Clarke County. In 1882, with his brother, he organized the Merchants National bank, with a capital stock of $150,000. In 1880, established a bank at Benton, and in 1883 another at White Sulphur Springs.

Lorenzo Branch Lyman, from New York, departed from Waukesha, Wisconsin, traveled, via Platte River, Sweetwater River, South Pass, and Lander Cut Off; arrived at Alder Gulch in September, 1864. Occupation, farmer.

Henry Klein, from Austria, came to the United States in 1858. Departed San Francisco traveled, overland; arrived at Helena in 1865. Occupation, merchant. Klein became as Master Mason in 1868 in Morning Star Lodge No. 5.

John T. Murphy, from Missouri. Departed Colorado traveled, across the plains; arrived at Virginia City, July 12th, 1864. Occupation, merchant, banker, and stockman.

Tilghman H. Clewell, from Allentown, PA, Went to Colorado in 1860. Departed Central City, CO across the plains via Cherokee trail and Fort Bridger; arrived at Bannack, April 24th, 1863. Occupation, merchant. Member House of Representatives, Ninth Session, 1876, Territorial Legislative Assembly. Postmaster of Helena. 1891-5. Clewell became a Master Mason in 1869 in Morning Star No. 5.

Warren C. Gillette, from New York. Departed Illinois, traveled, up the Missouri River to Fort Union, overland; arrived at Montana City in September, 1862. Occupation, freighter, merchant, and sheepman. Member of Council, He was a member of the 1870 Washburn–Langford–Doane Expedition. Member of the Eleventh and Extra Sessions, 1879; Thirteenth Session, 1883; Sixteenth Session, 1889, Territorial Legislative Assembly. Member Constitutional Convention, 1889, Twelfth District, Lewis and Clarke County.

James M. Smith, from North Carolina, departed from Tennessee; traveled across the plains arrived at Alder Gulch, July 1st, 1864. Occupation, farmer.

James Whitlatch, from Pennsylvania, departed Colorado traveled across the plains via Nevada and Idaho; arrived at Helena, September 17th, 1864. Occupation, miner. Made Mineral Entry No. 1, October 15th, 1867, for 200 feet on the Park Lode in Edgerton County. Whitlatch was a member of Helena Lodge No. 3.

Charles Rumley, from New York, departed Illinois traveled up the Missouri River arrived at Fort Benton, June 17th, 1862. Occupation, Jeweler. Mr. Rumley was elected an active member of the Historical Society of Montana in 1873, served as their librarian from 1875 to 1885. Assayer in charge United States Assay Office at Helena.

John Potter, from Maine, departed Minnesota traveled across the plains via Northern Route, Red River of the North, Fort Abercrombie, and Mouse and Milk Rivers and arrived at Fort Benton, August 27th, 1862. Occupation, merchant. First postmaster of Helena, 1865-70. Potter became a Master Mason in 1868 in Summit Lode No. 10.

James L. Fisk, from New York. Departed from Fort Ridgeley, Minnesota traveled, across the plains via Northern Route, Forts Abercrombie and Union, Milk and Marias Rivers and arrived near Fort Benton, September 5th, 1862. Captain Fisk was in charge of government expeditions, for the protection of emigrants, via the Northern Overland Route.

Ausalem J. Davidson, departed Missouri traveled across the plains via Denver, Soda Springs, and Idaho arrived at Virginia City, November 25th, 1863. Occupation, merchant. Member House of Representatives, Third Session, 1893, State Legislative Assembly.

Andrew J. Fisk, from New York, Departed from Fort Ridgeley, Minnesota in 1864 traveled, across the plains via Northern Route, crossing Missouri River near where Bismarck now is, arrived near where Glendive now is. Occupation, publisher, and journalist. Postmaster at Helena. Fisk became a Master Mason on 7/12/1871 in Morning Star No. 5 and served as Worshipful Master in 1885.

Robert Lawrence, An Attorney and first councilman from Madison County in the Bannack legislature and the President of the first Territorial Legislative Assembly. And later was Cornelius Hedges associate in law practice for several years. Lawrence became a Master Mason in 1866 in Helena Lodge No. 3.

Russell B. Harrison, the son of Benjamin Harrison, 23rd President of the United States, He graduated 1877 from Lafayette College, Easton, PA, where he specialized in mining and engineering. Harrison moved to Helena, Montana; where he ran the U.S. Assay Office from 1878 to 1885. In 1890 he acquired ownership of the Helena Daily Journal. He was also secretary of the Montana Stock Growers Association.

George Clinton Swallow, Prof. George Clinton Swallow was one of the notable leaders in the early history of American geology he graduated from Bowdoin College in 1843. Immediately on graduation from the Academy Of Natural Science of St. Louis he was appointed lecturer in botany at Bowdoin. In 1850 he moved to Missouri appointed as the chair of chemistry and geology in the State University. In 1853 Professor Swallow took charge of the State Geological Survey, which he conducted for seven years. In 1865, he was appointed State Geologist of Kansas, Professor Swallow worked there for two years. In 1870, returning to Missouri, he was given the chair of agriculture and geology in the State University. Later he was made dean of the College of Agriculture. Dr. Swallow moved to Montana, where he had much to do with the development of mining interests and served as Inspector of Mines, and was an editor for the Helena Daily Independent newspaper. Swallow became a Master Mason in 1886 in Helena Lodge No. 3.

Rev. F. A. Riggin, came to Montana in 1873, and served Virginia City, three years, the circuit being divided spent one year on the Beaver Head and Jefferson valley work, and Fish Creek and Butte, for three years and was appointed presiding elder in 1876, when 27 years old, and superintendent of missions in 1880, having been in charge of the work of the Methodist Episcopal church, in Montana.

William Muth, from West Virginia. In 1873, Muth came to Helena, Montana Territory. During the 1870s and early 1880s he was interested in several mercantile establishments in Helena, Marysville, and Belmont, including Conrad & Muth and Bach, Cory & Co. For a few years he also ran the Helena-Marysville stage. In 1886 Muth established a Helena real estate office in partnership with James P. Porter. Porter, Muth & Cox established several subsidiary enterprises, including the Helena Real Estate Co. and the Hotel Park Syndicate. Muth also served in both the territorial and state legislatures. He also was territorial bank examiner, Lewis and Clark County commissioner and under-sheriff, and Helena city councilman.

Rev. A. M. Hough, from New York, he received his education at the New York Conference Seminary in Schoharie County. He joined the New York Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1851. In 1864 Mr. Hough moved to Montana Territory as Superintendent of Missions, remaining there four years, and established the Methodist Episcopal Church in that Territory.

Samuel McLean, US Congressman. He attended Lafayette College in Easton and became a lawyer in 1849. He was Carbon County District Attorney from 1855 to 1860. In 1860 he was appointed Attorney General of Jefferson Territory (later called Colorado). He moved to Bannack, Montana Territory in 1862. In 1864 McLean was elected to be one of Montana's non-voting Delegates in the US House, serving one partial term in 1865 and one full term from 1865 to 1867. He became President of McLean Silver Mining Company in 1870.

Lyman E. Munson, appointed Associate Justice during the first term of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Montana held in Virginia City on May 17, 1865. Author of, "Montana, its story and biography: a history of aboriginal and territorial Montana and three decades of statehood".

Lewis M. Burson, in September, 1843, was admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania. In June, 1849, he sailed from New York around Cape Horn to California and arrived in San Francisco. While in California he served as District Attorney and represented Humbold County in the Legislature in 1860. In 1866 he went to Helena, Montana Territory. And later was Cornelius Hedges associate in law practice for a few years.

John Jay Hull, came to Montana in 1863, he served two terms as Territorial Treasurer under Gov. Sidney Edgerton. He served as a colonel in the Montana Volunteers of 1867. During the 1860s he invested in numerous mining claims in Madison County and was one of the founders of the Upper Missouri Mining Company. Hull became a Master Mason in 1852 (PN) he affiliated with Virginia City No. 1 where he served as Worshipful Master and became Montana's first Grand Master.

Daniel Chase Corbin, arrived in Montana in 1865. He was active in freighting, and ventures such as banking and mining. Joined in organizing the Helena Mining and Reduction Company. In 1886 Corbin built his first railway connecting the mines to the Northern Pacific. Legal considerations led him to run the line east from Spokane rather than west from Montana. During the next decade Corbin built a series of lines connecting Southeastern British Columbia with the railways passing through Spokane. Daniel Chase Corbin played a major role in the growth and prosperity of Spokane, the economic and geographic center of the Inland Northwest.

F. C. Deimling, Postmaster, Notary Public, member Territorial legislature. Deimling became a Master Mason in 1866 in Virginia City No. 1.

B. Piatt Carpenter, from New York. 1837. He graduated from Union college in 1857, and in 1858 was admitted to the bar. In the same year he was elected district attorney of Dutchess County, and in 1864 was appointed Internal Revenue Assessor for the 12th (now 16th) Congressional District, holding the office until 1869. He was elected a member of the New York state Constitutional Convention, and in 1872 of the Republican State Convention. In 1875 he was elected state senator, and in 1877, declining reelection, was chosen county judge. He was commissioned governor of Montana in 1884, succeeding Gov. Crosby, and preceding Gov. Hauser.

William A, Chessman, arrived Montana in 1865. He went first to the gold diggings at Alder Gulch (Virginia City), then migrated to Last Chance Gulch (Helena). he was prominent in early mining operations, and in 1875 built a bedrock flume which was used for reworking old ground and tailings in Last Chance Gulch. He organized and became president of the Helena Consolidated Water Company in 1889. He was vice-president and one of the original backers of the Helena Electric Street Railway Company, head of the Bald Butte Mining Company, and had interests in cattle ranching. Chessman became a Master Mason on 8/10/1874 in Helena Lodge No. 3 he served as Worshipful Master in 1879, 1884, 1885 and 1886.

Henry Elling, opened a store in Virginia City with Julian Knight. Elling later moved to Helena where he started another store. After 1873 he was predominantly a banker. He established the Banking House of Henry Elling, a private bank. He also helped organize banks in a number of other communities. In 1899 Elling reorganized his Virginia City bank as the Elling State Bank. He received his degrees in Virginia City Lodge No. 1, in 1867. He served as Lodge Treasurer and Worshipful Master. He was elected as Grand Treasurer in 1869 and again in 1870.

Solomon "Sol" Star, Solomon, came to Montana in 1865 where he opened a store in Virginia City which he operated until 1872 when he was appointed by President Grant to be Receiver of the Land Office at Helena. While in Helena, he met Seth Bullock and the two started up a hardware store, the two were business partners in both the Montana Territory and Dakota Territory. While living in Montana, Star also distinguished himself in public service as a Territorial Auditor and Personal Secretary to the Governor. Star became a Master Mason in Virginia City Lodge 43 (bacame Virginia City No. 1 with the formation of the Grand Lodge of Montana.) Star transferred his membership to Helena where he served as the first Worshipful Master of King Solomon's No. 9 in 1867, and again in 1868, 1869, 1870 and again in 1873. During 1867 he served as Grand Treasurer. He was elected Grand Secretary serving in 1868 and 1869. He served as Deputy Grand Master in 1871. In 1873 he was elected as Grand Master of Masons in Montana.

Thomas Charles Power, in 1867 arrived at Fort Benton where he opened a general mercantile firm. Power moved to Helena and became active in the capital's economic, political and social life. He maintained several commercial firms, built and operated the American National Bank, and speculated in real estate and regional mining companies. He founded or invested in over ninety-five companies. He served as a delegate to the 1884 Constitutional Convention, he was selected by the divided First State Legislative Assembly as one of four senators, two from each party, to fill Montana's two seats in the nation's upper house. Power and the other Republican chosen, Wilbur Fisk Sanders.

Benjamin F. Stickney, Arrived in the Montana Territory in 1863. He built a freighting business and then returned to ranching land near the Missouri River just east of Craig, Montana. Later he engaged in sheep raising, purchasing 2,498 acres of additional land and leasing some. A member of the 1870 Washburn Party of Yellowstone explorers, serving as the chief of commissary.. In 1872, Stickney obtained an interest in the Craig ferry, and after 1875 he operated it alone. He also opened a store in Craig in 1886 and ran it for 10 years.

Seth Bullock, In 1867, Bullock became a resident of Helena, Montana. He was elected to the Territorial Senate, serving in 1871 and 1872. In 1873, he was elected sheriff of Lewis and Clark County, Montana. He was a business partner with Sol Star both in the Montana Territory and Dakota Territory. Bullock was a member of King Solomon's Lodge No.9, Helena MT.

David B. Carpenter, the Homestead Act of 1862 provided free land to settlers who could claim and "prove-up" 160 acres of federal land. The first homestead claim under the act in Montana was made by David Carpenter near Helena in 1868.

Paris S. Pfouts, a civic leader, he was instrumental in the layout of the townsite of Virginia City, and its first mayor, and president of the Vigilantes. Pfouts became as Master Mason in 1854 in St Joseph No. 78, later he served as the first Worshipful Master in Denver, he affiliated with Virginia City No. 1 and was elected first Master of the Virginia City Masonic Lodge. Pfouts, a loyal Mason, built a second floor on his store and gave it to the Virginia City Lodge for a meeting room. The first meeting in this Hall took place June 10, 1865. On January 24, 1866 the Grand Lodge of Montana was formed while meeting in this room.

Benjamin H. Tatem, General Manager of the Columbia Mining Company. Tatem became a member of Helena Lodge No. 3 in 1883.

Leander W. Frary, came to Virginia City with the gold rush to try his luck. He and his wife Alice owned interests in a number of lode claims. Frary, a prominent citizen. Frary became a Master Mason in 1853 in Fort Stephenson No. 225 (Ohio) and affiliated with Montana Lodge No. 2 and King Solomon No. 9, he was among the founders of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Virginia City in 1866 and served as Grand Master in 1867. He went back to his profession in the 1870s, practicing dentistry in Helena.

Richard Lockey, came to Helena, MT in 1868; studied law and operated a store and bakery. In 1881, opened a real estate, insurance and abstract of title business. At one time was one of the largest real estate owners in Helena, the ground for the State Capital was donated from one of his holdings. Organized and served as director of the Helena National Bank for 21 years, as well as being president of several companies. Richard Lockey served as our Sixth Grand Treasurer from 1910 to 1923, 14 years. Lockey became a Master Mason on 10/31/1867 in Helena Lodge No. 3., he served as Worshipful Master in 1876 and Grand Treasurer from 1910-1923.

John Forbis, a Butte mining attorney and Territorial legislator. His firm was constantly employed in handling important litigation and was prominent in what is known as the "Heinze-Amalgamated" litigation. Forbis became as Master Mason on 5/31/1896 in Silverbow No 48.

Henry Cowden, arrived in Montana by pack train in 1866 from California. He placer mined around the Helena area and also made several trips back east. Cowden became as Master Mason in 1873 in Morning Star No. 5 he served as Worshipful Master in 1882. For many years he was the Tyler (doorkeeper) of Lodges in Helena. He was also involved in a lime quarry about 1910.

John W. Eddy, General Manager, Overland Consolidated Gold Mining Company.

Oscar A. Sedman, miner, rancher, member of the Territorial Legislature. Sedman became a Master Mason in 1866 and was a member of Virginia City 1 and Nevada City No. 4.

John Moffitt, came to the United States in 1851. Place of departure for Montana, Topeka, Kansas; route traveled, across the plains via Bridger Route, Fort Laramie, Tongue, Big Horn, and Yellowstone Rivers; arrived at Virginia City, July 10th, 1864. Occupation, miner and deputy collector of internal revenue. Moffitt was a member of Helena Lodge No. 3 and served as Secretary in 1867.

Luther C. Lee, during the Civil War he served as a Captain in the Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, leaving the service in the fall of 1864. He arrived in Virginia City in 1864 and continued work as a jeweler. Brother Lee was a long time member of the city council. In September of 1868 he was appointed as Deputy U.S. Marshal for the 1st Judicial District, Montana Territory. He was a member of Nevada City Lodge No. 1, Montana No. 2 and later Morning Star No. 5 and served one year as the first Grand Treasurer.

James R. Boyce, during the Civil War he served under General Price in the Quartermaster's Department of the Confederate service. He was a partner in Tootle, Leach & Co., a dry goods–men's and women's clothing mostly, moved to Helena and renamed the firm J. R. Boyce & Co. Boyce was a member of Morning Star No. 5 and served as Worshipful Master in 1868, he was present at the organization of the Montana grand lodge and became Grand Master in 1872. He allied with the Vigilantes.

Julian M. Knight, arrived in Virginia City in 1866, Knight formed the Elling, Knight and Company opened a hardware store in the Masonic Temple. He, and received the degrees of Masonry in Montana Lodge No. 10 now Montana No. 2, and was raised as a Master Mason on April 13, 1867. He served as Secretary of the Lodge, 1875 to 1879, and Treasurer from 1903 to 1910. Brother Knight served as the Grand Treasurer in 1868. He later served as Grand Master in 1876.

Henry Finnis Edgar, came to Montana from St. Paul, Minnesota; across the plains via Northern Route; arrived at Fort Benton, September 20th, 1859. He was a miner and farmer. He was a member of the first group to discover gold at Alder Gulch. Later in life he ranched in Plains.

Charles Arthur Broadwater, arrived in Bannack in 1862. Occupation, banker and merchant. One of the proprietors of the Diamond R. Freight line. Broadwater became a Master Mason in 1866 in Helena Lodge No. 3.

Walter Cooper, in 1863 he moved to Montana where he engaged in various mining, shipping, and hunting enterprises. In 1868 he moved to Bozeman and established a Sharps rifle and manufacturing and sporting goods business. He also invested in several logging and railroad operations. Cooper was active in the incorporation of Bozeman and was a member of the first city council and a member of the Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, a member of the state legislature and, heavily involved in the establishment of the Montana Agricultural College. Cooper became a Master Mason in 1873 in Gallatin Lodge No. 6 and served as Worshipful Master in 1877.

James Rathbone Weston, arrived in Virginia City in 1863. He received his degrees before coming to Montana. Weston was a member of Diamond City No. 7 serving as Worshipful Master in 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869 and 1871. He dimitted to Valley Lodge No. 21 and served as Worshipful Master in 1876 and in 1884 as well as serving as Treasurer of the Lodge in 1887 and served as Grand Master of Masons in Montana. He was a merchant by trade and served in the territorial legislature. The first corner stone ceremony in the territory was presided over by MWGM Weston .

Hezekiah Lord Hosmer, In 1836, He was the editor of The Toledo Blade. From 1848 to 1855, he was a journalist. From 1836 to 1860, he practiced law. In 1858, he wrote "The Early History of Maumee Valley". In 1855, he wrote, "Adela, The Octoroon" which was later published in 1860. In 1861, he applied for the position of Librarian of Congress. From 1864 to 1868, he was appointed by Abraham Lincoln the first Chief Justice of the Montana Territory. He was postmaster of Virginia City from 1869 until 1872. In the 1875 city directory, his law office is at 434 California Street In 1887, he wrote "Bacon and Shakespeare in the Sonnets" while he lived in San Francisco. In 1889, he was the bookkeeper of The California State Mining Bureau. Hezekiah Hosmer II died October 1893 in San Francisco, California. His funeral was at the Golden Gate Commandery Nov. 5, 1893. He was a member of and Worshipful Master Wood County Lodge and Rubecon Lodge at Toledo and was the High Priest of Fort Meiggs Chapter R.A.M. In 1866 he served as the first Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Montana. In 1872, he moved to San Francisco. He was elected Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of California.

Edwin Warren Toole, came to Virginia City, Montana Territory in 1863. He later moved to Helena, a Lawyer by profession, he was Clerk of the District Court, and very successful with investments in mining and real estate. He was a candidate for Congress in 1871. His is the brother of Gov. Joseph K. Toole.

W. B. Hundley, a member of the Territorial Legislature and of the Montana Historical Society.

Edward Horsky, Helena City Attorney.

Sidney Edgerton, politician, lawyer, judge and teacher from Ohio. Edgerton was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1858. During the Civil War, Edgerton served in the Union Army as colonel and also served as a U.S. Congressman. In 1863, Abraham Lincoln appointed him the first Chief Justice of the Idaho Territorial Court. Edgerton lobbied for the creation of separate territories. Out of the Idaho Territory, in 1864, Abraham Lincoln appointed Edgerton as the first Territorial Governor of Montana. Brother Edgerton was a member of Akron Lodge No. 83.

Henry D. Washburn, graduated from the New York State and National Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1853. He practice of law in Newport, Indiana., and served as the county auditor from 1854–1861. During the Civil War, serving as lieutenant colonel of the Eighteenth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry; promoted to colonel of the regiment on July 15, 1862; brevetted as a brigadier general of volunteers on December 15, 1864, and then as a major general on July 26, 1865. He mustered out August 26, 1865. Washburn resumed to his law practice and to politics. He was a member of Congress from February 23, 1866, to March 3, 1869. He was appointed surveyor general of Montana in 1869. In 1870 he headed the Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition to explore what would become Yellowstone National Park.

Gustavus Cheyney Doane, fought in the Civil War as a first lieutenant with the Mississippi Marine Brigade. After the war Doane lived in Yazoo City, Mississippi, where he was engaged in a mercantile business and served as the mayor of Yazoo City. Doane participated in every major Indian battle in Montana Territory. In 1870 he headed the Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition to explore what would become Yellowstone National Park, leading three other expeditions into the Yellowstone area. In 1884 Doane received his final promotion, to the rank of captain, and was transferred with his battalion to the Presidio in San Francisco. He served in Arizona Territory during the final pursuit and capture of Geronimo.

Truman C. Everts, appointed by President Abraham Lincoln, Everts served as the Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Montana Territory, a position he held between July 15, 1864 and February 16, 1870. Everts was part of the 1870 Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition exploring the area which later became Yellowstone National Park. He became lost for 37 days during the 1870 expedition, and a year later became more widely known after writing his experiences during the expedition. He was offered a superintendent position with the newly formed Yellowstone park, but he declined since it did not include a salary.

Walter Trumbull, the son of Senator Lyman Trumbull. Walter Trumbull was a writer for the Helena Rocky Mountain Gazette and the Overland Monthly. Trumball attended the U.S. Naval Academy but he resigned his appointment at the conclusion of the Civil War. In 1870 he was employed under Truman C. Everts as an assistant assessor of internal revenue for Montana Territory. He was a member of the 1870 Washburn–Langford–Doane Expedition that explored the area that would eventually become Yellowstone National Park. In 1879 Trumbull went to Zanzibar as assistant consul. Later Trumbull moved to Albuquerque, NM, where he was admitted to the bar there, but found the practice of law too strenuous and engaged instead in the mercantile business until 1889, when he had to abandon all business activities because of his health.

Samuel Thomas Hauser, worked as a civil engineer, working for various railroad companies. He traveled west, arriving at Fort Benton in June. In 1862, he had settled in Bannack. Along with N. P. Langford, he organized a bank, S. T. Hauser and Company, in Virginia City in 1865. He organized the First National Bank of Helena the following year, and opened Banks in Butte, Fort Benton, and Missoula. He was a member of the 1870 Washburn–Langford–Doane Expedition, active in efforts to preserve the Yellowstone area, and his efforts helped see the creation of the Yellowstone National Park. Hauser also became involved in various mining companies. He joined with A. J. Davis and Granville Stuart to form the DHS Cattle Company, which became the Pioneer Cattle Company in 1883. In1884, he served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. In July 1885, President Grover Cleveland appointed him as the governor of the Territory of Montana, but he resigned from the post after 18months. Brother Samuel T. Hauser was a member of Helena LodgeNo.3.

Green Clay Smith, graduated from University, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1852. From 1861 to 1863 Smith was commissioned as a colonel of the Fourth Regiment of the Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry. He later advanced to brigadier general of volunteers. In 1862, Smith was elected to the thirty-eighth congress. Smith resigned from Congress in July 1866 when President Andrew Johnson appointed him Territorial Governor of Montana, which he served as from 1866 to 1869. After he resigned, he moved to Washington, D.C. where he was ordained to the Baptist ministry, the National prohibition Party nominated Smith for President of the United States, receiving 9,737 popular votes in the election. Smith was interred in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. Brother Smith was a member of Richmond Lodge No. 25 where he had served as Grand Orator. In 1867 he affiliated with Virginia City No. 1.

Edward Wones Knight, arrived in Helena in 1873, he served as vice-president of the First National Bank in Helena, he was also an attorney. He married Theodosia Hauser the daughter of Samuel T. Hauser. In 1882 he served as Chairman of the School Board and challenged the constitutionally of a Helena law requiring separate schools for black children, resulting in the residents of Helena voting to integrate their schools. Knight was the second Mayor of Helena. He helped to organize and served as President of the first electric light company; he also helped organize the Board of Trade. He served as one of the Commissioners of Lewis and Clark County in 1893 and chairman of the board. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Knight was Master Mason prior to coming to Montana and was a member of Helena No. 3

Shirley C. Ashby, joined the Confederacy at the age of 17 and fought in the Civil War from 1862 to 1865. In 1866 he attended a commercial college in St. Louis and after graduation worked as a steamboat clerk until he moved to Montana Territory in 1867, traveling to Fort Benton on the steamboat Nile, and was employed by I. G. Baker & Bros. of Fort Benton to help in their Indian trade. In 1870 he moved to Helena, he served as Lewis and Clark County Assessor for five years, was successful in real-estate and insurance, and the agricultural implement business, S. C. Ashby & Co. He became a stockholder in the Helena National Bank in 1890 and was elected president in 1892. He was named State Adjutant General in 1903.

Edwin L. Norris, born in Kentucky, arrived in Montana in 1888 and studied law. He was admitted to the bar in 1889, and established his legal career, serving as the city attorney of Dillon for five years. Norris first entered politics as a member of the Montana State Senate, a position he held from 1896 to 1900. He also served as Senate president in 1899, and was the Lieutenant Governor of Montana from 1905 to 1908. On April 1, 1908, Governor Joseph K. Toole resigned from office, and Norris assumed the duties of Governor. Later that same year, he was elected the fifth Governor of Montana. During his tenure, coal mine employee compensation benefits were lobbied for; health laws were sanctioned; the impartial nomination of judges was endorsed; and reform measures were initiated in the life insurance industry. After completing his term, Norris left office on January 1, 1913, and retired from public service.

Jacob Ward Smith, In 1866 moved to Montana Territory, a member of the 1870 Washburn party of Yellowstone explorers. In 1872, he moved to San Francisco at the insistence of his wife, and reestablished himself as a broker. Within a decade he was a millionaire.

James M. Hamilton, third President of Montana State College in Bozeman, later served as Dean of Men.

In Support of a Brother and Friend

Figure 68. Miners, with W. A. Clark.

One of these three gold miners *(photo 1863)*, would by the end of the century, own banks, railroads, timber, newspapers, sugar, coffee, oil, gold, silver, and the most profitable copper mines in the world, and serve as a US Senator and Grand Master of Masons in Montana. William Andrews Clark on the right.[565] "There was no lack of opportunities", he said, "for those who were on alert for making money."

William Andrews Clark was born in a log cabin in Pennsylvania in 1839. He moved to Iowa, where he taught school; while teaching, studied law at the Iowa Wesleyan University at Mount Pleasant. Clark enlisted during the Civil War but it's unclear on which side he served. Clark moved to Colorado and later to Montana, where he formed a mining company. He found success in copper, and Clark invested his earnings into other business ventures to build a mining empire which grew to include the mills and smelters to process the minerals he extracted from his own mines. Almost completely self-sufficient, Clark became tremendously wealthy, and one of the most powerful men in Montana. Between 1884 and 1888, Clark constructed a 34-room, Tiffany-decorated home on West Granite Street, incorporating the most modern inventions available, in Butte, Montana. This home is now the Copper King Mansion bed-and-breakfast and museum. When Montana achieved statehood, Clark was determined to win the newly created office of U.S. Senator. Running as a Democrat, Clark campaigned head to head against Republican candidate and rival copper baron Marcus Daly. Each magnate tried to outdo the other in an attempt to win the office, bribing politicians and purchasing newspapers to manipulate public opinion and write scandalous, negative stories about the other. But on December 4, 1899 Clark won the seat as Montana's U.S. Senator. Unfortunately for Clark, many of those in Washington D.C. also were caught up in the struggle between Clark and Daly, and a resolution was issued to officially reject his nomination. To avoid the stain of a formal rebuke, Clark resigned his post on May 15, 1900, before the Senate could adopt the

resolution. Undeterred, in 1901, Clark ran for the office again. This time, his bid was both legitimate and successful. He resumed his copper mining, banking, and railroad interests it took him perhaps 10 years to build Montana's largest fortune and not much longer to build one of America's largest business empires. Clark also owned the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad and the Oregon Short Line Railroad. What put Las Vegas on the map was an auction on May 15, 1905. The San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad owned by William A. Clark who auctioned off 110 acres in the present-day downtown area. That allowed a town to grow in the area around the railroad station. At first, Las Vegas grew as a mine staging and supply point. Las Vegas became incorporated as a city in 1911, located in Clark County in recognition of the rail line he owned and built that extended through the Las Vegas Valley, and the 1905 land auction that is considered the birth of Las Vegas. Clarksdale, Arizona was founded by William A. Clark, the owner of one of Jerome, Arizona's largest copper mines. Clarksdale was founded in 1912 and was the first planned community in the State of Arizona. Clarksdale was owned by the United Verde Copper Company.

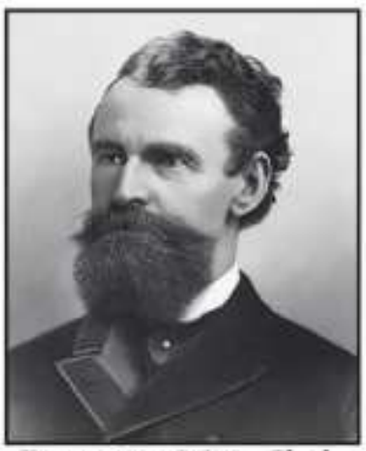

Figure 69 . W. A. Clark.

Clark had an annual income of $12 million and owned homes in Los Angeles, Washington DC and Butte Montana. At the age of 86 William A. Clark died in his bedroom on March 25, 1925, one of the 50 richest men in America with a net worth of around $200 million dollars.

Cornelius Hedges wrote the following of William A. Clark:

"In 1877, Bro. William A. Clark was elected 13th Grand Master of Montana. He was not as well known then as now, since he has become the wealthiest man in the country and United States Senator. The Fourteenth Annual Conclave was held at Virginia City, Grand Master William A. Clark presided. This Brother is pretty well known now since he became famous for his phenomenal wealth and his long, heated controversy with Marcus Daly for a seat in the United States Senate. We have known him well and sometimes intimately, almost from his first coming to Montana. He was an active, exemplary Mason, a sagacious, successful business man who made his money as honestly as any man could. He was first a merchant and early established himself in banking at Deer Lodge. He became interested in the Butte mines by having advanced money to

develop and work. The owners unable to pay, he had to take the property. He then made a careful study of working mines and made a success of it. In all his adventures in buying and working mines he has depended on his own judgment after personal inspection. It was his rare sagacity in judging of the value of mines that brought him success and wealth. No mining promoter could deceive him as to the value of a mine. He ascertained the value for himself and he bought mines to work and not to sell. It is said that no one can see into the ground to tell the value of a mine but Brother Clark came as near as any man ever did in disproving this statement. He was honorable in all his dealings, liberal and considerate in his treatment of employees, accurate in his judgment of men, but however much he trusted others, he was master of every detail of his business and trusted chiefly to his own judgment. Some men can manage small affairs well but utterly fail in larger ones, but Brother Clark grew with his business and understood it from the ground-floor up. But all his successes and accumulations came after he was Grand Master. Some of our brethren think that out of his superfluous wealth he should endow us with a Masonic Home. That the subject has been in his mind, we know, but in this as in all other matters he thinks we are not ripe and ready for one, that it would be an unprofitable burden upon us to maintain it, in fact that all in present need of a Home can be better provided for without one. That we shall have a Home as soon as it is really needed and Brother Clark will be a generous patron and benefactor towards it, we have never doubted. His judgment as to where, when, and how, as in other things, may be relied upon. His Masonic administration was able and successful."[566]

The following letter was Senator Clark's response to correspondence from Cornelius Hedges during the controversy of Clark's' 1899 Senate election.

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C. March 14th, 1900.

Mr. Cornelius Hedges,

Grand Secretary,

Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir Knight & Brother:--

I have your very kind favor of the 18th inst., and note contents. I will be very glad to endeavor to furnish you anything that you might like in the way of documents, if it is possible to procure them.

I note that some of the Daly witness are straggling back, with soiled plumage. I quite agree with you that there never was seen a congregation of such villainous scoundrels on the witness stand in the history of this country as were sent out by the Daly gang to endeavor, by perjury and subornation of perjury, to break down my standing, but it will not avail them much. I do not think there will be any vacancy, and that Gov. Smith, who paraded here as an apostle of purity, will have an opportunity to appoint himself, or any one else. I saw a little tracing the other day of the registration of this gentleman in New York at the Holland House as "A. D. Smith & Wife, Room 401". Such a man is a disgrace to any community or any State.

I note that if I can procure anything relating to our new possessions it will be of great interest to the library.

Yours sincerely,

W. A. Clark

Figure 70. Letter from Sen. W. A. Clark to Cornelius Hedges.

Appendix

1. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A. W. Bowen Co., 1901)

2. Wyllys A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions to the Historic Society of Montana, Vol. VII., pp.181-182.

3. Ibid., P.182

4. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co.,1901), p.1

5. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 1851

6. Ibid, November 15, 1851

7. Ibid, November 7, 1851

8. Ibid, November 5, 1851

9. Wyllys A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions to the Historic Society of Montana, Vol. VII., p. 182.

10. Ibid

11. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907

12. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, 61.

13. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 7, 1878

14. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co.1901), p.2.

15. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, P.11.

16. C.W. Pomeroy, History of the Order of the Eastern Star of Montana,1922, pp. 7-9.

17. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1899, p. 77.

18. Wyllys A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions to the Historic Society of Montana, Vol. VII., p. 182.

19. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co.,1901), p.2.

20. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 61.

21. Wyllys A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions to the Historic Society of Montana, Vol. VII., p. 182. and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 27, 1881, this entry records a return visit to Berlin, Connecticut.

22. Wyllys A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions to the Historic Society of Montana, Vol. VII., p. 183, and Journals of February & March 1863.

23. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 8, 1863, and entries for April 4,6, 10, 14 and May 1, 4-6, 8-9, 1863, for additional efforts to make the house and yard homey and enjoyable.

24. Cornelius Hedges, Jr., to M.M. Miller, October 2, 1907, correspondence of the Grand Secretary. Letter Box 1907. Grand Lodge Archives.

25. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 17, 1863.

26. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 4 1863,for an example, he stacked wheat and oats for Dr. Bryant and took his pay in wood.

27. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 21, 1863.

28. Ibid, March 21, April 13, 16 and 22, 1863.

29. Ibid, April 23, 1863.

30. Ibid, May 19, 1863.

31. Ibid, June 11, September 23, and October 10,1863.

32. Ibid, July 29, 1863.

33. Ibid, February 13, 1864.

34. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges. This is an undated, handwritten, autobiographical MS with no page numbers, in the possession of the Montana Historical Society.

35. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, front pages of 1864.

36. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 20, 1864.

37. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, p. 277.

38. The account of Hedges westward trek is taken from his journals, April 20 to July 13, 1864.

39. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 14, 1864. The Lodge he attended was either Virginia City #43, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Kansas or Montana #9, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

40. Cornelius Hedges, "Early Masonry in Montana", Rocky Mountain Magazine, Vo.lume I, No. 1, (1900), p.14.

41. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges.

42. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 16 to August 31, 1864.

43. Ibid, July 20 and 22, 1864.

44. Ibid, July 28 and August 2, 1864.

45. Ibid, July 20 and 21 and August 1, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11, 1864.

46. Ibid, August 20, 23 & 24, 1864.

47. Ibid, September 1-3, 1864.

48. Ibid, September 9, 13-14, 1864.

49. Ibid, September 17 & 21, and October 1-2, 1864.

50. Ibid, October 19 & 20, and November 9, 1864.

51. Ibid, October 22, 1964.

52. Ibid, October 24, 1864.

53. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 22, 1864.

54. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 12-18, 1864. 55Ibid, December 22-15, 1864.

55. Ibid, December 22-25, 1864

56. Ibid, January 16, 1891. This entry is in the form of an anniversary reminiscence… he remarked "How changed!"

57. Independence Conservative (Iowa), November 9, 1866

58. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 321.

59. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907

60. Cornelius Hedges, "Historical Address", p. 111.

61. Documentary support is a MS Certificate of Claim issued to Cornelius Hedges by H.H. Harding, County Recorder, Edgerton (now Lewis & Clark) County, Territory of Montana on June 10,1865. Montana Historical Society.

62. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, pp. 14-15.

63. Manuscript "Reminiscences of Early Days In Helena" by Cornelius Hedges, copy held by the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana.

64. Source: Cornelius Hedges Papers, 1831–1907. Manuscript Collection 33 [box 1 folder 33]. Montana Historical Society Research Center.

65. Presentation by Hezekiah L. Hosmer, Chief Justice of the Montana Territory to the Travellers' Club in 1870.

66. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1866, pp. 3-21.

67. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1887, p. 12.

68. The Montana Radiator, (Helena), June 9, 1866

69. Independence Conservative (Iowa), November 9, 1866.

70. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges

71. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges

72. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 4-9, 1867.

73. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 10 to May 25, 1867.

74. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 14,17,22 & 24 and May 9, 1867.

75. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 26 and June 1, 1867.

76. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges

77. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 1, 1867.

78. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 1, 1867.

79. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 19 & July 22, 1867.

80. Helena Daily Herald, July 31, 1867

81. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 1, 1867.

82. Ibid., September 19, 1867.

83. Ibid., February 7 & 10 and March 31, 1868.

84. Ibid., June 10 & November 4, 1868.

85. Ibid., July 10, 1868.

86. Ibid., July 13-19 and 30, 1868.

87. Ibid., August 5, 1868 and January 20 & 23, 1869. For further information concerning the Good Templars.

88. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 20 & December 5, 1868 and December 18, 1869, and Tom Stout, Montana Its Story and Biography: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial and Montana and Three Decades of Statehood, 1921, p. 757.

89. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 188.

90. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907

91. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 19, 1869.

92. Ibid., July 24, and August 11, 1869.

93. Ibid., January 2, 1870.

94. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 33.

95. Nathaniel P. Langford, Diary of the Washburn Expedition to the Yellowstone and Firehole Rivers, In the Year 1870, published 1905, pp. 117-118.

96. Journal of Judge Cornelius Hedges: A Member of the Washburn Expedition of 1870, pp. 391-394.

97. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1870, pp. 192 and 199.

98. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1870, p. 216.

99. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1870, p. 233.

100. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 28, 1871.

101. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 320.

102. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 5, 1872.

103. Ibid., January 17,1872.

104. Ibid., January 14,1878, February 22, 1883 and March 18, 1885.

105. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, pp. 496-497.

106. Ibid., p. 495.

107. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 1 & 3, & November 5, 1872.

108. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 42.

109. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 24, 1872.

110. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1872, p. 246.

111. Ibid., p. 250.

112. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1898, pp. 24-25.

113. Ibid.

114. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 4, 1872, and March 16, 1891.

115. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 64.

116. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 11, 17 & 18, 1872.

117. Ibid., August 15,1872, and August 13, 1876.

118. Ibid., November 5, 1872.

119. Ibid., January 1, 1873.

120. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 372.

121. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 9, 1874.

122. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 14 & 15, 1872, and March 14, 1876 and 113Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 26.

123. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 15-30, & August 1, 1874.

124. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 15-30 & August 1, 1874.

125. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 3-4, 1874.

126. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co., 1901), p.2.

127. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 183 and Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co., 1901), p.2.

128. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 28, 1863.

129. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 28, April 2 & 30, July 8, 11 and 13, 1863.

130. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 20, 1864.

131. Ibid., October 24, 1864.

132. Ibid., July 27, August 3, September 2-3, 1867 and May 21, July 16 & 18, 1868.

133. The Madisonian (Virginia City, Montana), April 17, 1875

134. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 21-23, 1875.

135. Ibid., May 7, 1875.

136. Ibid., December 2 & 4, 1878.

137. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 183 and Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co., 1901), p.195.

138. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 8, 1875.

139. Ibid., May 25, 1876.

140. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 28, 1888, and W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 195.

141. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 1, 1875 and December 18, 1880.

142. Ibid., August 2-4, 1875.

143. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 6, 1887. The final pages of his 1876 journal contain a record of the marriages he performed as Probate Judge, with the names of witnesses, for 1876 and 1877. The final pages of his 1878 journal contain a similar record for 1878, and the final pages of the 1879 and 1880 journals contain similar records for 1879 and 1880 respectively, plus a record of fines charged in his court, listed by date, name, charge, and the amount of fine for each of the two years, 1879 and 1880.

144. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 89.

145. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 5, 1878.

146. Ibid., November 22 and 3, 1878.

147. Ibid., April 27, October 6, 1878; Nov 1-3 & 8, and December 18, 1880.

148. Ibid., February 11, 1876.

149. This address was later published in Volume II of Contributions to the Historical Society of Montana, pp. 107-118.

150. Ibid., June 14, 1876

151. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 20, 1878.

152. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 9, 13 & 16, 1878, are examples.

153. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 27, May 5 & 11 and June 19, 1883 are examples.

154. For a schedule of progress on the building and furnishing of the new home, See Campbell, op. cit. p. 76, and journals March 2, 14, & 18, April 24, May 31, June 14 & 17, July 20 & 26, August 5, 14, 16 & 29, September 18 & October 9, 15 & 22, 1878.

156. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 25 & 27, 1878.

157. Cornelius Hedges, Jr., to M. M. Miller, Oct 27, 1907, CGS, Letter Box 1907.

158. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 15-16 & 29, 1886.

159. Ibid., September 19 & 23, 1889.

160. The house reminded in Toby's possession for several years, it was sold in 1920's.

161. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 81.

162. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 161, and Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1885, p. 24.

163. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 27 & September 16-17, 1878.

164. Ibid., December 31, 1880.

165. Ibid., February 10, 11 & 16, and March 6-7, 1881.

166. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 97.

167. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 14, 1881 and Campbell, op. cit., p.99.

168. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 18-19, 1881.

169. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 10, 1881.

170. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 1, 1882.

171. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 6, 1863.

172. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 31, 1881, and Department of Interior Territorial Papers: Montana; Executive Proceedings and Official Correspondence, June 1, 1876 to June 24, 1887, Record Group 48, General Records of the Dept of Interior, National Archives (Ref Territorial Papers).

173. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 7 to September 1881.

174. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 20, 1881.

175. Ibid., December 31, 1882.

176. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 711.

177. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 21-22, 1883 and Campbell, op. cit., p. 125.

178. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 6-21, 1883.

179. Ibid., January 14 to February 9, 1884.

180. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, pp. 519-521.

181. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 28, 1885 and August 24, 1888, and the Montana Daily Record, April 29, 1907.

182. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 10, 1885 and Campbell, op. cit., p.175.

183. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1885, p. 153.

184. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 9, 1886.

185. Ibid., February 1, 1886 and October 20, 1886.

186. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 3, 1887 and Campbell, op. cit., p.187.

187. Brief Sketch of the Life of Wyllys A. Hedges.

188. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 17, 1888.

189. Ibid., January 4 & 10, 1888.

190. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, pp. 536-537, and p. 233 & 235.

191. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 15, 1889.

192. Ibid., July 4, 1889.

193. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 6, 1889, and Senate Journal of the Second Session of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Montana, p. 47 The session ran from January 5 to March 5, 1891. (Senate Journal, 2nd Session).

194. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 22 and 23, 1889.

195. Ibid., July 31, 1889.

196. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 234.

197. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 17, 1889.

198. Ibid., October 1-13, 1889.

199. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 8, 1889.

200. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1889, p. 95 of Appendix C.

201. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 23 to December 19, 1889, and Hamilton, op. cit., pp. 568-573.

202. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 30 and 31, 1889, and January 1 and 2, 1890 and Hamilton, op. cit. pp. 574-575.

203. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 15, 1890.

204. Ibid., February 8 & 10, 1890.

205. Ibid., February 18, 1890.

206. Hamilton, op. cit. pp. 576.

207. Senate Journal, 2nd Session, p.7.

208. Ibid., p.55.

209. Ibid., pp. 77-78.

210. Ibid., p.3.

211. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 191.

212. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 1, 1890.

213. Transactions, Contributions, II, p. 43.

214. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 31 to August 21, 1891, and Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1891, p. 107 of Appendix A.

215. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1892, p. 1 and 131 of Appendix A.

216. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1895, p. 1 and 135 of Appendix A.

217. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1893, p. 2 of Appendix A.

218. See Pomeroy, et. al., op. cit., pp 11-12; Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1893, p. 45-46; Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 62

219. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co., 1901), p.2.

220. Cornelius Hedges, "Special Communication of the Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, to lay the Cornerstone of the State Capitol building, IV, p. 35.

221. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1866 1872, (Helena, 1876), pp.210-211.

222. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 196.

223. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, pp. 183-184.

224. Masonic History of the Northwest, Hodson, John Milton; William H. Upton, Jonas W. Brown, Cornelius Hedges; Published by History Publishing Company, San Francisco (1902).

225. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 13, 1876. Also his satisfaction over the legal execution of Wheatly was expressed. He noted that his editorial to the Herald that was entitled "Public Execution."

226. This statement is attributed to Mr. Oscar O. Mueller by William Turrentine Jackson, using a letter from Mr. O.O. Mueller, dated June 1, 1938, as source; W.T. Jackson, "Early Exploration and Founding of Yellowstone National Park" (unpublished) University of Texas, 1940, p. 143.

227. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 16, 1876.

228. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1866-1872, (Helena, 1876), pp.210-211.

229. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 196.

230. Nathaniel P. Langford, Diary of the Washburn Expedition to the Yellowstone and Firehole Rivers, In the Year 1870, published 1905, p. 6.

231. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907

232. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 6-7, 1887.

233. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1897, p. 59.

234. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, P.22.

235. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1902, p.1. Report on Fraternal Correspondence.

236. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1879, p.115 -116.

237. Ibid., p.115.

238. Ibid., p.116.

239. Ibid., p.115.

240. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1883, p.123.

241. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 20, 24 and 27, and March 5, 15 and 31, 1888.

242. Cornelius Hedges to Mrs. J.W. Hathaway of Seattle, WA, Helena, MT, December 5, 1906, CGS.

243. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana Communication, p.173.

244. Oscar O. Mueller to William Turrentine Jackson, Lewistown, MT, June 22, 1938, excerpt quoted in William Turrentine Jackson, "Early Exploration and Founding of Yellowstone National Park" (unpublished) University of Texas, 1940, p. 158.

245. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 18, 1882.

246. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 15, 1887.

247. The Helena Daily Herald, November 9, 1870.

248. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, P.22.

249. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p.63.

250. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 6, 1884.

251. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1889, p.2. of Report on Fraternal Correspondence.

252. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1902, p.2-3. of Report on Fraternal Correspondence.

253. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p.64.

254. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 11, 1863, & September 24, 1863 and Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1905, p.126 of Report on Fraternal Correspondence.

255. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 13, 1873. In this instance his family had been visiting in New England for almost a year.

256. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 5 and May 18, 1863, and October 9, 1881.

257. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 2, 1880.

258. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907

259. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 27, 1881.

260. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 13, 1889.

261. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 1, 1869, and May 2, 1868.

262. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 25, 1869.

263. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 1-3, 1864.

264. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 19 and September 19, 1868.

265. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 23, 1873.

266. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 4, 1880.

267. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 4, 1876.

268. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 734. and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 20, 23 and 27, and October 9-10, 1878.

269. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 22-23, 1885.

270. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 5 & 11 and June 7 & 9, 1886.

271. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 6, October 17 & 20, 1886.

272. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 9, 1887.

273. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 22, 1888.

274. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 24, 1889.

275. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 21 & November 21, 1890.

276. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 12, 1891.

277. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 16 and 25, 1869.

278. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 2 and December 24-25,1890.

279. Correspondence concerning the disposal of the Bald Butte Mining Company stock in Letter Box 1907, CGS.

280. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 7, 1882.

281. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, pp. 156

282. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 3, 1863, March 29, 1873 and October 2, 7 & 13, 1880.

283. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 29, 1881.

284. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 1 & 22, 1882.

285. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 16, 1883.

286. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 30 and September 2, 1886.

287. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 3-4, 1887.

288. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, 1888 Journal from Memorandum page.

289. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, 1890 Journal from Memorandum page.

290. Joaquin Miller, An Illustrated History of the State of Montana, (Chicago: Lewis Publishing, Co., 1894), p. 62.

291. Robert G. Rymer, Montana, the land and the People, (Chicago and New York, Lewis Publishing Co., 1930), p. 337.

292. Ibid.

293. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 195.

294. The Helena Independent, April 30, 1907

295. Two of the better accounts are W. Turrentine Jackson, "The Washburn Doane Expedition of 1870", "Montana: The Magazine of Western History, Vol VII, No. 3 (July 1957), pp. 36-51; and Merrill D. Beal, The Story of Man in Yellowstone, Chapter VIII, "Final Discovery in 1869 and 1870", pp. 116-135.

296. Journal of Judge Cornelius Hedges: A Member of the Washburn Expedition of 1870, p. 370.

297. Journal of Judge Cornelius Hedges: A Member of the Washburn Expedition of 1870, pp. 371-374.

298. Journal of Judge Cornelius Hedges: A Member of the Washburn Expedition of 1870, pp. 375-391.

299. Journal of Judge Cornelius Hedges: A Member of the Washburn Expedition of 1870, p. 377-378.

300. Nathaniel P. Langford, Diary of the Washburn Expedition to the Yellowstone and Firehole Rivers, In the Year 1870, published 1905, pp. 117.

301. Journal of Judge Cornelius Hedges: A Member of the Washburn Expedition of 1870, p. 391.

302. Journal of Judge Cornelius Hedges: A Member of the Washburn Expedition of 1870, p. 372.

303. Nathaniel P. Langford, Diary of the Washburn Expedition to the Yellowstone and Firehole Rivers, In the Year 1870, published 1905, pp. 118.

304. N.P. Langford, "Preface to the Folsom-Cook Expedition of the Upper Yellowstone in the Year 1869,"Contributions, V, p. 351.

305. Helena Daily Herald, November 9, 1870.

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308. Beal, Merrill D., The Story of Man In Yellowstone, (Salt Lake City, Wheelwright Lithographing Co., 1960), p. 142.

309. Cornelius Hedges, Art Work of Montana, Published in twelve parts, (Chicago W.H. Parish Publishing Co., 1896), p. 10.

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314. N.P. Langford to Cornelius Hedges, St. Paul, Minnesota, November 24, 1905, National Park origin, Manuscript collection, Montana Historical Society. and The National Parks Shaping the System, 1985, National Park Service, pp. 10-12.

315. Nathaniel P. Langford, Diary of the Washburn Expedition to the Yellowstone and Firehole Rivers, published 1905, pp. xxiii. N.P. Langford, "Preface to the Folsom-Cook Expedition of the Upper Yellowstone in the Year 1869, "Contributions, V, p. 352.,Aubrey L. Haines, History of Yellowstone National Park; Gen. Washburn's surveyor general's report; and T. C. Evert's Thirty-seven Days of Peril from November of the second volume of

Scribner's Monthly Magazine, and Lieutenant Doane's report, Senate Ex. Doc. 51, Forty-first Congress, third session.

316. Cornelius Hedges, "Historical Address", p. 111.

317. The Madisonian (Virginia City, Montana), February 6, 1875.

318. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 13, 1863.

319. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 4, 1869.

320. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 7, 17 & 18, 1872.

321. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, p. 493.

322. All of these men had served as Superintendent of Public Instruction between 1865 and 1870; see Hamilton, op. cit., pp. 491-492.

323. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 183 and Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co., 1901), p.188.

324. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 18, 1873.

325. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 29, 1874; See Hamilton, op.cit., pp. 311-312, p. 528, and p. 539 for information on W.H. Rogers and J. E. Callaway.

326. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 3, 1872.

327. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 30 & May 1, 1872.

328. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 29, 1872.

329. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 9 -19, 1872.

330. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 9-25, 1872.

331. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 6-20, 1873.

332. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 11-18, 1873.

333. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 11, 18 & 26, 1872.

334. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 15-16, 1872.

335. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 22-27, 1873.

336. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 25-26, 1875.

337. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 26, 1875.

338. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 16, 1873 & February 9,1875.

339. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 12 & 21, 1875.

340. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 5, 1875.

341. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 26-29 & November 4, 1875.

342. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 17-26, 1874.

343. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 28-31, 1874 & January 1,1875.

344. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 30, 1875 and The Madisonian (Virginia City, Montana), April 17, 1875.

345. The Madisonian (Virginia City, Montana), April 24, 1875.

346 .Ibid.

347. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 15-18, 1875.

348. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 28-29, Nov. 26-27 & Dec 29-30, 1875.

349. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, p. 316 and p. 496.

350. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 21-22, 1876.

351. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 12-20 & December 10-21,1877.

352. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 14, 1878.

353. The Madisonian (Virginia City, Montana), January 19, 1878.

354. The Bozeman Times, January 24, 1878.

355. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 12-15, 1878.

356. Robert G. Rymer, Montana, the land & the People, (Chicago & New York, Lewis Publishing Co., 1930), p. 544 and Tom Stout, Montana Its Story & Biography: A History of Aboriginal &Territorial and Montana and Three Decades of Statehood, 1921, p. 495-496.

357. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 26, 1878.

358. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, pp. 156.

359. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 30, September 4 & 11, 1879, and December 10, 1879.

360. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, p. 316 and p. 497.

361. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 19-22 & March 31, 1883.

362. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, p. 316 and pp. 497-198.

363. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 5-6, 1883.

364. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 17 to August 5, 1883.

365. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 30-31 & September 1, 1883.

366. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 10-27, 1883.

367. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 28-31 & November 1, 1883.

368. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 18-23, 1883.

369. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 25-28, July 8-12, September 16-27, October 3-4 & 8-20, December 17-25 & 29-31, 1884.

370. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 370.

371. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 3-18, 1885.

372. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 21-22, 1885 & October 5-6, & 11-12, 1885.

373. James M. Hamilton, From Wilderness to Statehood: A History of Montana, 1805-1900, p. 316 and pp. 405-406.

374. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, pp. 108-109.

375. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 21, 1888.

376. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 13, 1888 & August 19, 1889.

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379. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 21, 1868.

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382. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 3-4 & April 4, 1870.

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384. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p.187.

385. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 7, 1872; Tom Stout, Montana Its Story and Biography: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial and Montana and
Three Decades of Statehood, 1921, p. 758 and P. 760.

386. Tom Stout, Montana Its Story and Biography: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial and Montana and Three Decades of Statehood, 1921, p. 758.

387. Tom Stout, Montana Its Story and Biography: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial and Montana and Three Decades of Statehood, 1921, p. 758 and p. 760.

388. Cornelius Hedges, "Historical Address", p. 115.

389. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 26, 1885 and Tom Stout, Montana Its Story and Biography: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial and Montana and Three Decades of Statehood, 1921.

390. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 7-8 & 14, 1886.

391. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, pp. 187.

392. Tom Stout, Montana Its Story and Biography: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial and Montana and Three Decades of Statehood, 1921,p. 760.

393. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907

394. Cornelius Hedges, Jr., to M.M. Miller, October 27, 1907, correspondence of the Grand Secretary. Letter Box 1907.

395. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 15, 1888.

396. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 6,9-10, 1879, June 7, 1881, and May 12, 1883.

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399. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 24, 1868.

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401. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 1 & May 26, 1875.

402. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 10, 1888.

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405. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co., 1901), pp.1-2.

406. Progressive Men of the State of Montana (Chicago, A.W. Bowen Co., 1901), pp.1-2.

407. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 18, 1879.

408. Charles Rumley –, Cornelius Hedges- In Memorium, "Contributions, III, pp 21-26; Cornelius Hedges, "William F. Wheeler – In Memorium," Contributions, III, pp.27-32; Cornelius Hedges, "Henry S. Wheeler, : Contributions, IV, pp. 21-22.

409. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 27, 1872.

410. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 12, 1887.

411. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana,1886, pp. 139 -140; Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1902, pp. 135-136; Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1906, pp.1-2, of Report on Fraternal Correspondence. Examples of.

412. Hedges' Journal of the Expedition had just been published in Volume V of the Contributions to the Historical Society of Montana, pp. 370-294, and Langford was preparing his journal for publication later that year.

413. N.P. Langford to Cornelius Hedges, St. Paul, Minnesota, February 26, 1905. From the manuscripts collection of Montana Historical Society.

414. Hedges, "Early Masonry in Montana,", p. 13.

415. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 808.

416. Cornelius Hedges, Art Work of Montana, Published in twelve parts, (Chicago W.H. Parish Publishing Co., 1896), p. 1-2.

417. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 21, April 13 & 16 and 22, 1863.

418. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 23, 1863.

419. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 19, 1863.

420. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 3 & 11, 1863.

421. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 23 & October 10, 1863.

422. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 4, 1872.

423. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 30, 1869, November 23-24 & December 15, 1871; and January 31, March 27, & May 1, 1872.

424. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 328.

425. W.A. Hedges, "Cornelius Hedges," Contributions, VII, p. 192.

426. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 16, 1891.

427. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 25, October 13-14, 1875; September 4 & 12, 1876; September 11 & October 1, 1887; Januar 21, 1878; October 14, 1881; and January 2, 1885.

428. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 7, 29-30, 1872; March 20 & July 21-22, 25 & 27, 1876; July 5, 1882, and May 8 to June 21,1886.

429. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 19, 1887.

430. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, June 7, 1876.

431. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 28, 1877.

432. Michael A. Leeson, History of Montana (Warner, Beers and Company, 1885), p. 345, and Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 10-11, 1885 and June 28, 1889.

433. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1893, pp. 21-22.

434. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 70. The members of the committee were H.S. Hepner, J.S. Hammond and George W. Clay.

435. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 61.

436. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 63. The members of the committee were E.C. Day, Theodore Brantly and Joseph J. Hindson.

437. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 216.

438. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 17, 1864.

439. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, pp. 61 -62.

440. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 14, 1864.

441. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 62. and William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, pp. 14-15.

442. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, pp. 3-4.

443. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 18, 1869 & December 20, 1873.

444. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 40 and p. 60.

445. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 17.

446. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 21.

447. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 96.

448. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 136.

449. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 192 and p. 199.

450. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 222.

451. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 252.

452. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884,p. 233.

453. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, p. 249.

454. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 42; Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1872, p. 246.

455. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1872, p. 250.

456. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1897, p. 25.

457. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 62.

458. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1875, p. 30.

459. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1890, pp, 19 -20 and 26-27.

460. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1897, p. 24.

461. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1902, p. 57.

462. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 18-19, 1864 and Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 62.

463. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 62.

464. Ibid.

465. Ibid.

466. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, April 27, 1868.

467. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 1 & 3, 1867.

468. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 7, 1868 & December 13,1869.

469. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 16 and 25, 1869.

470. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, January 21, 1873 & December 17, 1878.

471. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 100.

472. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 8 & 14, 1888 and William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 209 and Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 62.

473. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 210.

474. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 15, 1881.

475. Names of class are from the caption of their class photograph taken on May 20, 1881. (Page 144)

476. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 16-20, 1881.

477. William C. Campbell, From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, 1951, p. 186.

478. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 63.

479. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 23-25, 1883.

480. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August. 16-18, 1885.

481. Dr. Claud F. Young, Grand Secretary General, AASR to Thomas E White, Washington D.C., July 19, 1963.

482. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 20, 1868.

483. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 10, 1871.

484. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, February 13, 1872.

485. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, P.12.

486. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 26, 1880 & January 10, 1881.

487. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, P.13.

489. C.W. Pomeroy, History of the Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1922, pp. 7-9.

490. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 11, 1890.

491. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, pp.18-19.

492. C.W. Pomeroy, History of the Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1922, p. 11.

493. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, pp.39-40.

494. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, p.42.

495. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 13,15,16, 20, 22, 23, 1888.

496. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, May 24, 1888.

497. Pacific Northwest Shrine Association Convention Souvenir Program, Billing, Montana, June 6-8, 1963.

498. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 30, 1890.

499. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, pp. 63 -64.

500. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 30, 1890. November 1, 1889.

501. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1891, pp. 108 -109.

502. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, p.28.

503. Mertie M. Brattin, Golden Jubilee History, Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Montana, 1941, p.29.

504. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1905, p. 35.

505. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1906, pp. 126 -127.

506. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, pp. 4-6.

507. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1891, pp. 64.

508. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1891, pp. 68.

509. At the time of his death in1907, the Grand Lodge of Montana recognized 44 states, District of Columbia, Territories of Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Indian Territory, Puerto Rico, all provinces of Canada except Saskatchewan, New Zealand, five Grand Lodges in Australia, Brazil, Peru, Costa Rica, Greece and Egypt.

510. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1887, p. 12.

511. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1897, p. 59.

512. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 19, 1887.

513. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1878, p. 123.

514. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1878, p. 117-118.

515. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1877, p. 150

516. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1876, pp. 173-174.

517. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1880, pp. 118-119.

518. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1887, pp. 101-102.

519. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1880, pp. 119-120.

520. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1894, p. 167.

521. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1874, p. 138.

522. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1876, p. 175.

523. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1884, pp. 128 -129.

524. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1882, pp. 126-127.

525. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, October 25, 1863 & November 8, 1863.

526. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, September 2, 1863 & November 7, 1872.

527. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 3, 1876.

528. Cornelius Hedges, "Early Reminiscences", Contributions, VI, p. 350. This was an address delivered by Hedges at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the First Presbyterian Church, Helena, on June 20, 1897.

529. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, November 14, 1883.

530. Cornelius Hedges, "Early Reminiscences", Contributions, VI, p. 350.

531. Cornelius Hedges, "Early Reminiscences", Contributions, VI, p. 351.

532. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, July 9-10, 1868 and Cornelius Hedges, "Early Reminiscences", Contributions, VI, p. 352.

533. Cornelius Hedges, "Early Reminiscences", Contributions, VI, p. 352.

534. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 15, 1872.

535. Cornelius Hedges, "Early Reminiscences", Contributions, VI, p. 354.

536. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 22, 1875.

537. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, August 13, 1876.

538. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, December 18, 1887.

539. Journals of Cornelius Hedges, March 30 to April 5, 1877.

540. The Pioneer Work Of The Presbyterian Church In Montana, Robert Ernest Cowan, Edited By Rev. George Edwards, Stated Clerk Of The Synod Of Montana.

541. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1901, p. 35.

542. Ibid., p.8.

543. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1901, p. 121, Report on Fraternal Correspondence, and Proceedings of 1902, p. 135, Report on Fraternal Correspondence.

544. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1902, p. 135, Report on Fraternal Correspondence.

545. Charles H. Gould to Cornelius Hedges, Jr. December 20, 1902, Lincoln, Nebraska, CGS.

546. E.T. Carr to Cornelius Hedges, Jr., December 12, 1902, and December 13, 1902, Levenworth, Kansas, CGS.

547. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1903, pp. 135 -136.

548. Cornelius Hedges, Jr., to M.M. Miller, October 27, 907, CGS, Letter Box 1907.

549. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 4-5.

550. Ibid., pp.63-64.

551. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 126, Report on Fraternal Correspondence.

552. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907

553. Ibid.

554. The entire text of the funeral sermon was printed in the May 1, 1907, issue of the Montana Daily Record (Helena).

555. The Helena Independent, April 29, 1907.

556. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 7.

557. Montana Daily Record (Helena), April 29, 1907.

558. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 8.

559. Letters from multi Grand Lodges, CGS, Letter Box 1907.

560. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p.25.

561. MS Copy of the Memorial Address delivered by P.G.M. Edward C. Day in Livingston, Montana, May 26, 1907. CGS, Letter Box 1907.

562. Proceedings Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Montana, 1907, p. 21.

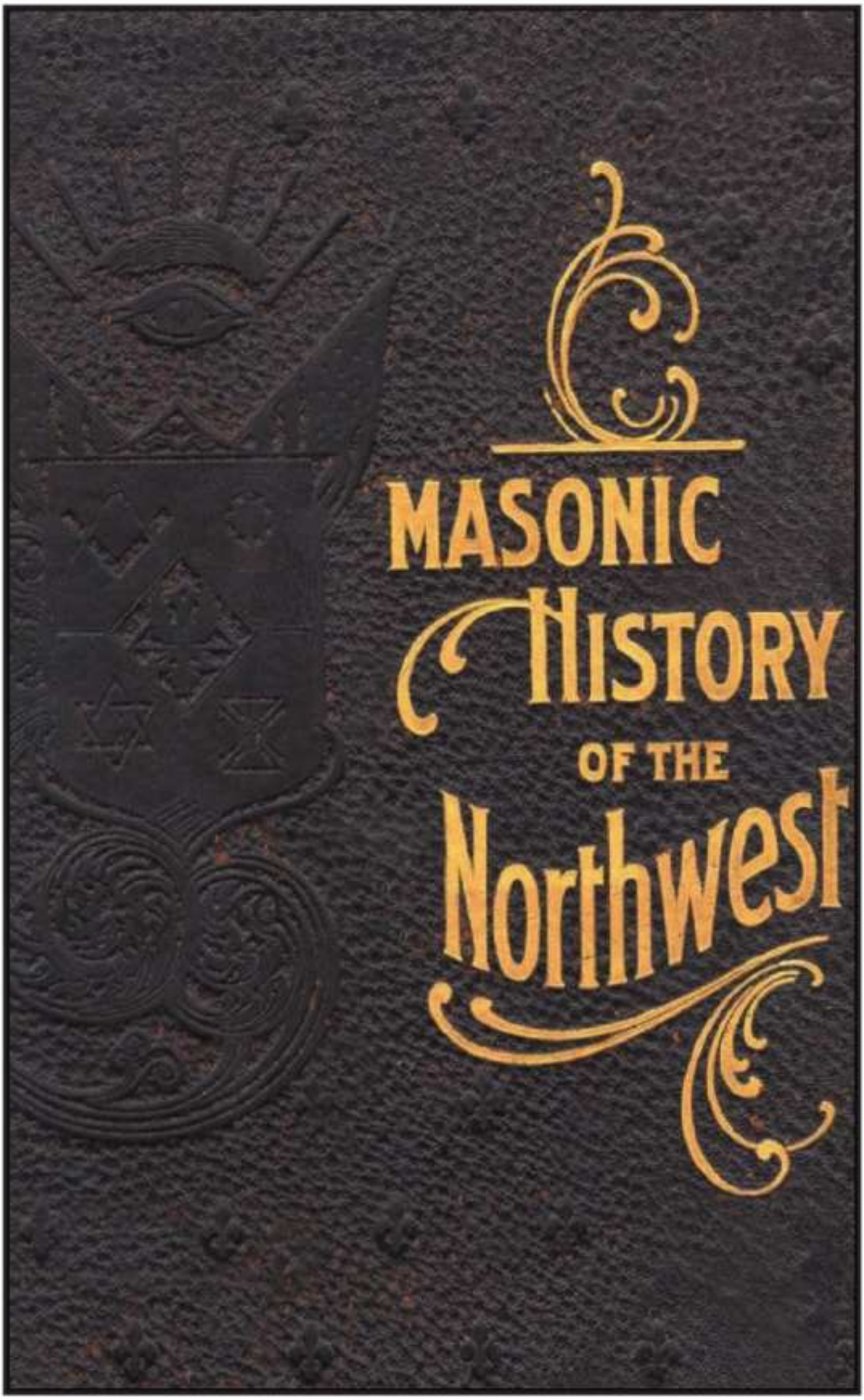
563. Empire of Shadows, The Epic Story of Yellowstone, 2012, George Black.

564. Encyclopedia of the Great Plains, edited by David J. Wishart.

565. The entire text of the funeral sermon was printed in the May 1, 1907, issue of the Montana Daily Record (Helena).

566. Empty Mansions: The Mysterious Life of Huguette Clark and the Spending of a Great American Fortune, 2014, by Bill Dedman and Paul Clark Newell Jr.

567. Masonic History of the Northwest, Hodson, John Milton; William H. Upton, Jonas W. Brown, Cornelius Hedges; Published by History Publishing Company, San Francisco (1902).



Masonic History of the Northwest.[567]

Freemasonry in the State of Montana

Cornelius Hedges, P. G. M. & Grand Secretary

What is now Montana, or at least that portion east of the main range of the Rocky Mountains, was part of the Louisiana Purchase and was traversed from east to west by the Lewis and Clarke expedition in 1805, which gave the names to the three forks that form the Missouri River. That portion west of the main range came to us from Oregon, through Washington and Idaho. The area occupied as the State was at various dates included in several Territories beginning with Louisiana, then Missouri, etc. It was last a part of Idaho down to May 26, 1864, when it became a separate Territory with the name that it still held on its admission as a State November 8, 1889.

For sixty years Montana remained unsettled, and wholly unoccupied except by a few fur traders along the Missouri River and some Indian Agencies. The central portion was not even permanently occupied by Indians, but was common hunting and fighting grounds between the Sioux and Crows on the east, the Blackfeet on the north, and the Flatheads and Pend Oreilles on the west.

It was the great range for buffalo (bison) which roamed here in herds of countless thousands, hunted for their hides and tongues. For some years after Helena had become the metropolis, herds of buffalo visited the valley of Sun River, a hundred miles north, and were hunted by parties from this city.

If inquiry is made why Montana with such a wealth of resources in mines, pasturage, and agricultural possibilities should have remained comparatively unknown and entirely unsettled, the causes are not far to seek. There was plenty of better lands in the Mississippi Valley to provide homes for settlers. The few trappers and traders who knew anything of this country were interested to keep out settlement which would destroy their hunting and trapping. Its first appearance was not attractive, wide plains covered with sage-brush and prickly-pear, scantily supplied with streams of water and rain, a veritable desert at certain seasons, and inhospitably cold at others, its soil and water impregnated with alkali. After Oregon began to be settled and surveys for a railroad across the continent were being made under Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War of President Pierce, some of our most intelligent public men in Congress affirmed that continent were being made under Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War of President Pierce, some of our most intelligent public men

in Congress affirmed that this whole country was utterly worthless and unfit for settlement by white men. The evidence to the contrary produced by the Isaac I. Stevens survey in the '50's fell upon prejudiced ears or was purposely suppressed. But after the government had given millions in bonds and other millions in acres of land to secure the construction of two transcontinental roads, Mr. James J. Hill built the Great Northern over the northwestern route in less time, with less difficulty and without any subsidy.

It was the discovery of gold in California that led to the settlement of that State and while the miners were taking out the millions that gave the nation strength to endure and survive the Civil War, the most expensive if not the bloodiest that the world had ever seen, others tested the soil and climate for agriculture and fruit-growing and found resources for permanent settlement and a steady flow of wealth richer than the mines in their most productive days.

So it was the discovery of gold in Montana that led to settlement. Gold was found on the west side of the mountains as early as 1852 and worked to some extent, but the discovery on Rattlesnake Creek, near Bannack, in 1862, and on Alder Gulch in Madison County in 1863, set the country again on fire as in the wildest days of California excitement. The most desirable of those who would have joined in such a stampede were serving in contending armies, but there were still others who desired to escape service and the gold discoveries brought them a desirable way of escape. The gamblers and criminal class generally sought such a natural field for their operations, beyond the eye of the law and the reign of justice. So it was that in the early years of the settlement of Montana a large majority of those who came were Southern sympathizers and against the national government. In the earliest elections this class always carried the day. The criminal class naturally allied itself with the stronger party and by the alliance succeeded in getting many of their kind into office. But with others who came, was an entirely different class of the best men of the north, encouraged thereto by the government which was having trouble with Indians who seized the opportunity to give loose reins to their smothered hostility and their natural tastes for murder and pillage. Besides, during the war, there was much talk of separating the country on the Pacific Coast from the rest of the Union, either joining the Confederacy or setting up a Government independent of both North and South. The government at Washington, before the war closed, deemed it of such importance to bind the extreme West to the East by stronger ties that it voted vast subsidies for building a trans-continental railroad, though its debt was so vast, that many thought it impossible ever to be paid.

In pursuit of this policy as early as 1862, Captain James L. Fisk was encouraged to organize and conduct trains of emigrants from Minnesota to' the Idaho mines. The first train consisted of 130 men, with a few women, of the Lest class of citizens, and for each successive year he conducted increasing trains of like material which soon exerted a decided influence upon the chaotic elements that early controlled the mining section. In that first Fisk expedition was Nathaniel P. Langford, subsequently our fourth Grand Master, who had been Worshipful Master of a Lodge in St. Paul and during the journey across the plains, he found others who were Masons and on one occasion, in imitation of our ancient brethren, Langford with two others went to the top of a high mountain and went through the ceremony of opening a Lodge.

There were Masons among those who the same year (1862) came by other routes, some by the Missouri River, others overland from both east and west. The principal point towards which all immigration tended in that year was the Bannack mines, and here occurred an event that first brought Masons together and made them acquainted with each other and aware of their strength. Brother William H. Bell, of St. Louis, died November 12, 1862, the first natural death in camp, and in his last moments expressed the desire of a Masonic burial if possible. Notices were circulated as widely as possible and the cabin of Brother C. J. Miller, on Yankee Flat, designated as the meeting-place. To every one's surprise, so many answered the call that the cabin could not hold them. They adjourned to a still larger cabin next day and still more attended. The leadership was conceded to Brother Langford who seemed most familiar with the work. After a general examination of those claiming to be Masons, Brother Langford conducted the funeral services and there were seventy-five who dropped the sprig of acacia in the Brother's grave. Out of this event soon sprang a movement to organize a Lodge and a petition was sent to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, as most accessible. Grand Master George Armstrong in his address to Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction, June 16, 1863, speaks of having issued a dispensation, of date April 27, 1863, for a Lodge at Bannack City, Idaho, with Brother N. P. Langford first W. M., James Dyke, S. W., and John W. Morrison, J. W. This dispensation was received after a long time, for mails were very slow and subject to many delays, and by the time it came to hand there had been discovered the richer and more extensive mines of Alder Gulch, June 2, 1863, and every petitioner had joined in the stampede and did not return. Not even an attempt was made to organize under it. Years afterwards Brother Langford stated that he still had the dispensation in his

possession. The authority is somewhat conflicting, for Grand Master Wheeler, of Nebraska, in his address of the following year says that he had learned from Brother Langford that the Lodge had convened and was at work. Langford surely knew best.

Grand Master Wheeler, of Nebraska, in his address of 1864, speaks of having granted a dispensation, Nov. 17, 1863, to brothers Mark A. Moore, Samuel W. Stanley, Levi J. Russell, and thirteen others to open a Lodge at Nevada City (on Alder Gulch below Virginia City) to be called Idaho Lodge. This was recommended by Plattsmouth Lodge, No. 6, of Nebraska. Under this dispensation the Lodge was organized and one candidate, Jerry G. Smith, late of Boulder, Montana, received all the degrees. From the Nebraska Proceedings of 1865 it appears that a charter was granted to this last Lodge as Idaho, No. 10. The charter was lost in transmission and never was received or heard of. Perhaps it adorned some Indian Lodge.

Brother Moore, who was Master of Idaho Lodge, was in Helena in the spring of 1865 and officiated at the funeral of Brother Rodney Peacock, a member of Virginia City Lodge, organized under charter from Kansas. This funeral occurred March 7, 1865, and the occasion brought together the Masons in and around Helena and initiated the movement to organize a Lodge in Helena. Rodney Street was first named in 1868, just four years after gold was discovered in the gulch. (Rodney Street in Helena took its name from Rodney Peacock, a doctor who was described as "the first man to draw his last breath in Helena.) Nevada City soon declined and so ended the second attempt to organize a Lodge in Montana, then Idaho. Apparently these were failures, but not wholly so, for it brought together those who were Masons and made them acquainted with each other, and in the stormy events pending and ensuing, it furnished the nucleus around which rallied the "law and order" elements.

We will not say that all the vigilantes were Masons, but we would not go far astray to say that all Masons were vigilantes. And the knowledge of this fact disseminated among the roughs and road-agents gave them a wholesome dread of seeking victims among those whose death they knew would be avenged. The story of the struggle between these elements has been eloquently told by Brother Langford in his book, "Vigilante Days and Ways," and does not belong to Masonic history especially. We hardly think the annals of history afford a more conspicuous example of the revelry of crime than existed in Montana from 1862 to 1866. There were no courts or officers of law, wealth was flowing from

the mines in profusion, men passing constantly from one camp to another exposed to assassination and robbery, gambling and drinking were universal and escape for the criminal was easy. We have seen how hard it was to plant Masonry here conforming to all the requirements of Masonic law and usage. We will now come to the attempts that were successful and speedily resulted in a Grand Lodge of our own.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, held at Topeka, December 20, 1864, Grand Master Jacob Saqui reports having granted to Paris S. Pfouts and a requisite number of Masons, a dispensation to open and form a Lodge at Virginia City, Montana. Virginia City is located midway of Alder Gulch, which for a length of twenty-five miles was all rich placer mining ground, probably the richest gulch ever discovered, having produced $75,000,000 and is not yet exhausted. Virginia City soon became the center of population and trade. The brethren there must have been prompt in returning their dispensation, for at this Communication, December, 1864, a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of Kansas to Virginia City Lodge, No. 43, naming as principal officers, P. S. Pfouts, W. M., J. S. Fox, S. W., Henry Mittnacht, J. W. Brother John J. Hull, who was our first Grand Master, was the Senior Deacon, and among the charter members were Brother W. F. Sanders, our third Grand Master, John Potter, who was three times Deputy Grand Master, R. T. Kennon, Junior Grand Warden in 1875, and several other prominent and well-known Brothers, at least five of whom are still living. That it was an active Lodge while under dispensation is shown by the fact that 22 were raised and 23 admitted and its members numbered 58. During 1864 I was mining in the gulch above Virginia and visited Virginia City Lodge only once and was admitted upon examination. I found the Lodge meeting in the second story of a log building, and upon my inquiring of some resident where the Masonic hall was, I was pointed to a building where the light was shining through cracks between the logs.

The second Lodge was also organized in Virginia City in 1865, under dispensation from Colorado, signed by the Deputy Grand Master of that jurisdiction, April 4, 1865, in which the three first officers named were Brothers H. L. Hosmer, then Chief Justice, L. W. Frary, S. W. (our second Grand Master who had come from Colorado the year before, where he was W. M. of Golden City Lodge, No. 1), and William Gray, J. W. In January, 1865, I had removed from Alder Gulch to Helena, where the Last Chance mines had been discovered in September previous and were proving rich and extensive.

When I left Alder Gulch I fully expected to return and work the claim in Highland District, which I had bought the fall before and only partly worked before winter set in and all claims were laid over till the spring following.

At Helena the winter was very mild and work was in full progress in all the gulches and house building was going on at a wonderful rate. Here I found many friends with whom I had crossed the plains the year before. Being the only lawyer in camp and acquainted with the civil officers, just appointed, I was soon engaged in business that paid better than mining and was much easier, though I had done fairly well at that. I had left my family in the states and had no idea of staying more than two years in the mines or of engaging in other business than mining. I had but one law book, and that was for some time the only one in camp. It was a brief and unintentional monopoly that I enjoyed.

Though the winter had been exceptionally mild, the spring was stormy. The matter of providing shelter had been much neglected, and those who had any at all were lucky. Brother Peacock, lately come from Virginia City, had just started in the livery business when prostrated by mountain fever. The Masons who knew of it did everything possible for his care and comfort, little at the best, and he soon died. It was at his funeral that the Masons of Helena were first brought together. In spite of the most disagreeable weather of the season, in sleet and mud there assembled a larger concourse of Masons than any one supposed to be in camp. Brother Mark A. Moore, W. M., of Idaho Lodge, Nevada City, conducted the services as best he could. As this was the first death we had to select a burying place, and we chose the spot where the Central and High School buildings now stand. The Masons having been once brought together continued to meet informally and in increasing numbers.

The purpose of organizing a Lodge in Helena was zealously urged by our brethren in Virginia City in order that with the two in that place, we might be in condition to organize a Grand Lodge. I was well posted in the lectures and ritual of Masonry in Independence, Iowa, before leaving Iowa, and there were other Masons in the train with whom we spent many an hour while traveling, rehearsing the ritual, so that when we unfolded our stock of information it proved that mine was most complete. And the further fact that I seemed most permanently located settled the matter, and against my inclination, the brethren insisted that I should be Worshipful Master. It was a short matter to get a petition signed, and with the

advice and assistance of our Virginia City friends we applied for a dispensation from Colorado, which three months before had granted a dispensation to Montana Lodge, the second one at Virginia City.

In the Colorado Proceedings of 1865 Grand Master A. J. Van Deren in his address reports having granted a dispensation to Helena Lodge in Edgerton (now Lewis and Clark) County, Montana. We held our first meeting under dispensation July 10, 1865. Four petitions were received the first evening and we could have had twenty-five if we had been willing to receive them, for it was the time when we were having the death struggle with the gamblers and road-agents and every good citizen who wasn't a Mason wanted to become one, for the conflict had progressed far enough to demonstrate that the Masons were the head and front and back-bone of the law and order party and were a terror to the roughs. We were at some trouble to find a suitable place for meeting. There was not a two-story building in the infant city, and only one that had an unfinished half-story. That was on upper Main Street, over an auction store, one of the proprietors, S. J. Perkins, being a Mason. We put up a stairway to get an outside entrance, laid a floor and covered it with a deep layer of saw-dust, in lieu of a double floor or carpets. Lumber was expensive, 25 cents a foot in gold, and greenbacks at a discount of 50 to 75 per cent. The roof was covered with "shakes" in lieu of shingles, and the constellations were visible through many an opening. Uncle Johnny Morrison, who was Brother Langford's Junior Warden at Bannack, made our furniture, which of course was rather rude, and our tin jewels were in strong contrast with the wealth in gold that was daily coming from our mines.

Taking out a month before which we could act upon the petitions, there was about six weeks in which to do work, and during that time we shared our room with another organization which were establishing law and order by raising candidates in a hundred strong, not all Masons, by any means, had marched a few times into a room full of gamblers with cocked pistols and taken out some victim whose criminal career had been investigated and led him over to the pine tree and there left him in suspense, there was a sudden change that came over these outlaws. After about seven had been hung in about as many days, there was a general exodus and effort to get out of the country. About two hundred left in one day, by any kind of conveyance that could be procured, and those who could not procure any other means of transportation went afoot and did not tarry till they were beyond the boundaries of Montana. It was wonderful what a transformation came over the face of society. The more decent gamblers were on their good behavior,

and miners could show their bags of gold dust without fear of being robbed or murdered. It was powerful and effective medicine, but it wrought a permanent cure. So complete had been the treatment that only occasionally since has it been necessary to resort to it to show that the organization was still alive and ready for business.

Meanwhile the Lodge was actively drilling and getting ready for work. Every officer had to be drilled in the duties of his station. And when work began I frequently changed from the Master's station to do floor work. I have conferred as many as seven degrees in a single night and worked till 2 o'clock in the morning. After working only about six weeks and having carried two candidates through the Second Degree, we were urged by our Virginia City friends to return the dispensation and apply for a charter, so as to be sure to reach Denver before the Annual Communication in November.

When the Grand Lodge of Colorado met on the 7th of November, 1865, the returns and petitions of the two Montana Lodges were referred to a committee on returns of Lodges under dispensation, of which Brother Henry M. Teller was chairman, who recommended that charters be granted. He was aware of our anxiety to organize a Grand Lodge of our own, and though a regulation provided that no charter be granted till the new Lodge had conferred all three degrees, upon his motion that regulation was suspended in the case of Helena Lodge, and we received our charter. Montana Lodge was No. 9, and Helena City Lodge, as it was called, was No. 10, on the Colorado registry. My wardens in the charter were Brothers Joel Wilson, S. W., and Louis Behm, J. W., with Charles C Farmer, Secretary, J. C. Hutchinson, Treasurer. Bro. Hugh McFee was Senior Deacon and R. P. Sealy Junior Deacon, and Robert Hereford, Tyler. Among the members were Brothers Mark A. Moore, who had been W. M. of Idaho Lodge, G. M. Payne, who did not remain long in the territory, Robert Lawrence, first councilman from Madison County in the Bannack legislature and for several years my associate in law practice, who died about twenty years ago, John Moffitt, for many years Assistant Post-Master, who died only last fall, Brothers O. B. Howe, S. J. Perkins and O. T. Hare. These were all substantial citizens, some merchants, others miners, mechanics, hotel-keepers, and one lawyer besides myself. In December occurred an election for officers of the Lodge. I was re-elected, but both wardens were changed. R. P. Sealy became Senior Warden and C. W. Mather Junior Warden. J. G. Sanders, the first on whom I conferred all the degrees, became Junior Deacon and for Tyler we had Brother C. J. Miller, in whose cabin in the

Bannack camp was held the first gathering of Masons in Montana at Brother Bell's funeral.

In our first return made after the Grand Lodge of Montana was organized, Helena Lodge had 32 members with six entered apprentices. Montana Lodge had 16 members and four entered Apprentices, while Virginia City Lodge returned 49 members, three Fellow Crafts and seven entered apprentices. Ninety-seven members in the three Lodges. There had been changes in the officers of the Virginia City Lodges at the first election under charter. In No. 1 Brother John J. Hull had become W. M., W. F. Sanders, S. W., and Louis Trapp, J. W. In No. 2 Brother Leander W. Frary had become W. M., Luther C. Lee, S. W., and Hugh Duncan, J. W.

I had now been W. M. of Helena Lodge, first by appointment in the dispensation, next by appointment in the charter from Colorado, and then by Lodge election all within four months. Work was waiting when the charter arrived, and it poured in faster than we could dispose of it with long sessions and frequent specials. The possession of charters was the signal for work in another direction.

We were urged by letters from the Virginia City brethren to fix the earliest possible date to meet them and organize a Grand Lodge.

January 24, 1866, was agreed upon and with my wardens we went through deep snows and cold weather in an open sleigh, 125 miles in 24 hours. We were warmly received and the best of everything provided for our comfort and entertainment. It proved that there was a warm contest between the two Worshipful Masters of the Lodges in Virginia City for the Grand Mastership. There were only nine constituent members, three from each Lodge. If my wardens acted with me, we could have elected either, but I did not want the position myself and did not try to influence my wardens, and they were won over to support Bro. Hull. I preferred Bro. Frary because I knew that it was through his efforts and influence that we got our charter so early and easily. Another and still stronger reason was that I did not like the business in which Bro. Hull was engaged running a club house. To me Masonry was a serious matter and its chief representative should be an example for good men to follow. There was some delay over the right to admit three or four Past Masters of other jurisdictions who had become members of the Virginia City Lodges. But without a constitution defining membership in Grand Lodges it could not be an open question. We subsequently made these Past Masters honorary members with the right to speak, but not to vote.

A resolution by Bro. Frary that we proceed forthwith to organize ourselves into a Grand Lodge in accordance with recognized usage was adopted. Bro. Hull as W. M. of the oldest Lodge was President of the convention. The resolution by Bro. Frary having been unanimously adopted, the officers of the three Lodges proceeded to open a Grand Lodge, filling the several stations in order of precedence, and a committee was appointed to prepare and present a constitution. Two of the three Lodges having recently received charters from Colorado, we preferred to take the constitution of that Grand Lodge as the basis of action. With few changes it was reported as our own constitution and adopted. One of the Wardens of Montana Lodge, Bro. Hugh Duncan, and a clergyman and withal a high-strung Scotchman, who subsequently became Grand Master in 1883, had taken offense at the strife which was going on for the Grand Mastership, and had left on the second day with the avowed purpose of not attending any further. I was appointed chairman of a committee to request his attendance on the morning of the third day. As we thought alike on many things, it was not difficult to persuade him that the importance of having a jurisdiction of our own was paramount to all personal considerations. He came back and the first thing on the morning of the third day was the election of permanent officers. Both of my wardens had been secured in the interest of Bro. Hull, and he was elected Grand Master by a vote of five to four. Bro. Frary was conceded the Deputyship and I was chosen Senior Grand Warden and my Senior Warden, Bro. R. P. Sealy, was elected Junior Grand Warden. Bro. L. C. Lee, of Montana Lodge, was made Grand Treasurer and W. F. Sanders,Grand Secretary. After holding that office for three terms and writing the first Correspondence Report, he became our third Grand Master in 1868.Bro. James R. Boyce, Sr., a Past Master who became our seventh Grand Master in 1872, acted as installing officer and Bro. R. H. Robertson, who removed to Utah soon after and was second Grand Master of that jurisdiction, was Grand, Marshal. The first business after organization was to receive a petition from Nevada Lodge for a charter. Nevada was then a thriving mining town, only three miles below Virginia City on the same gulch. It had a Lodge previously and had been granted a charter from Nebraska, which was lost in transmission. The new Grand Lodge of Montana came to the rescue, granted a charter and installed the officers, so that before separating our Grand Lodge had four constituents. It seems like a reminder of an era long past that it was voted to make "greenbacks" receivable for all fees and dues prescribed by the constitution and by-laws and in the subordinate Lodges as well. New charters were granted to the three constituent Lodges according to precedence of former charters, and Helena

Lodge, which had been No. 10 under the jurisdiction of Colorado, became No. 3 under that of Montana. The evening of the third day was devoted to conferring the three degrees of Masonry upon Mr. C. M. Davis, by virtue of the prerogative powers expressly conferred by our constitution on the Grand Master.

Grand Master Hull was a fine ritualist and that gave him his popularity among the Masons of Virginia City. The work as taught by him and those who learned from him, was the standard until many years later the Webb work was adopted and still remains the only standard, and that ritual has been committed to cipher under the custodianship of the principal officers of Grand Lodge.

We started without any money in the treasury. We received eighty dollars for the degrees conferred and fifty dollars for a charter, which was used for Grand Secretary's supplies. Mileage and per diem were allowed on generous scale and the Grand Secretary was authorized to draw scrip therefore. It was some time before it was paid. Dues to Grand Lodge were fixed at three dollars for each member. Representatives were allowed twelve and a half cents per mile in scrip for travel — just what they paid in gold. It is now four cents per mile by rail and ten by stage. It was some years before we had any money in our treasury.

Our first Proceedings were printed in New York at considerable cost and delay. Only two hundred and fifty copies were printed and they are full of mistakes, especially in names of members. We could get no Proceedings from other jurisdictions except by paying letter postage from St. Joseph, Missouri. Before we could send down the money to prepay the letter rate of postage the Proceedings would be lost or destroyed. After having been in session since first convening, in all six days, we closed on the 29th of January (1866) with an address by Bro. T. J. Dimsdale, our Grand Orator. This brother was a man of considerable literary ability, who wrote a brief history of the "Vigilantes of Montana." He died a few days before the opening of the Second Annual Communication, which had been fixed to be held October 1st, 1866. At that time I was on my way to the states to renew my acquaintance with my family from whom I had been separated for two and a half years, uncertain whether I could induce them to return with me to such a wild country as Montana still was. Brother N. P. Langford had become a resident of Helena and connected himself with Helena Lodge. In his very competent hands I felt that the interests of the Lodge would well be cared for.

In Grand Lodge I knew that I forfeited my right to advancement and in fact did not desire it, for my future was altogether too uncertain. I did, however, return with my family in the spring of 1867, and Helena has been my residence ever since. My place in Lodge and Grand Lodge had been well supplied by Bro. Langford. Bro. Hull had been re-elected Grand Master, as his first term had been only a part of a year. The only changes in the list of elective Grand Officers was in the two Wardens. Bro. John Potter of Helena was elected Senior Grand Warden and F. C. Cornell of Virginia City, Junior Grand Warden. Three new Lodges had been organized, a second one in Helena, Morning Star, No. 5; one at Diamond City, then the metropolis of Confederate Gulch, a very rich and prosperous mining camp about forty miles northeast from Helena, as No. 7; and one at Bozeman, the county seat of Gallatin County, a great agricultural country one hundred miles east of Helena, as Gallatin Lodge, No. 6.

A new edition of the constitution corrected and revised by Bro. Langford was published at this time. Bro. Sanders reviewed the Proceedings of eight jurisdictions, all that had been received, and under Maine gave the memorable letter of George M. Dallas to a committee of the Pennsylvania legislature in 1836, refusing to appear and be sworn in an investigation of "The Evils of Freemasonry." Oregon for 1866 was included in the Correspondence Review. The report, though brief, was a most worthy beginning of a series of reports in which Montana has never failed. Bro. J. R. Alden, now living in Oakland, California, was Grand Orator. The Communication continued four days and the proceedings were very harmonious and everything among the Lodges was prosperous and harmonious.

The Third Annual Communication was held also in Virginia City, and continued six days, with seven Lodges represented. The address was brief and everything represented as harmonious and prosperous. Four dispensations for new Lodges had been granted, one of which, Wasatch, was in Utah, and soon became a constituent of a Grand Lodge in that Jurisdiction. When chartered it became No. 8 on our register.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 9, was the third Lodge in Helena, showing the rapid growth of Masonry in this city. No. 10 was named Summit, from a prosperous camp at the head of Alder Gulch. It had some very zealous members, and flourished for a time while the mines were pouring out their treasures.

No. 11 was Flint Creek, at Philipsburg, one hundred and fifty-five miles west of Deer Lodge City. It still lives, but has shared the fluctuating fortunes of all mining camps. The mines about Philipsburg are quartz, silver bearing, and about ten years ago were fabulously rich. The place is now the county seat of Granite County, and has a future. Red Mountain Lodge, No. 12, was located in Highland Gulch, another mining camp of large expectations that soon faded. Bros. E. S. Stackpole and John Anderson, very active while this Lodge existed, were both subsequently elected Grand Master. By the addition of these Lodges the membership in the Jurisdiction increased to 370.

At this Communication, Bro. Langford delivered a very interesting address as Grand Historian, relating to the early introduction of Masonry into Montana. At the election, Bro. Leander W. Frary, still living at Pasadena, California, was chosen Grand Master, Bros. John Potter, Deputy Grand Master, J. R. Weston, Senior Grand George Austin of Gallatin Lodge, No. 6, Junior Grand Warden, Sol. Star, Grand Treasurer, and W. F. Sanders, Grand Secretary.

The Craft at Virginia City had erected a very substantial and creditable stone building in the second story of which was their lodge- room, where the new officers were installed. Following installation, Bro. and Governor Green Clay Smith gave an entertaining and instructive address. With resolutions of thanks to the retiring Grand Master a committee was appointed to procure and present him a suitable "honorarium" at the expense of Grand Lodge, but as there was nothing in the treasury but certificates of indebtedness, private subscription was resorted to. This custom continued for several years thereafter. Bro. Sanders presented a more extended report on Correspondence, covering fourteen Jurisdictions and extending the reputation of Montana in this department. Grand Lodge closed to meet in the same place a year later, and the constitution and by-laws, with amendments, were again published. The printing of the Proceedings was done in Montana and compared so poorly with previous issues that it was not repeated for several years.

The Fourth Annual Communication was held in Virginia City, October 5, 1868, and held only three days, Bro. L. W. Frary presiding. All of the twelve Lodges had made returns and paid dues and were represented. Only one new Lodge had been organized under dispensation, at Missoula, in the western part of the Territory, at the junction of Bitter Root and Hellgate rivers.

This Lodge was chartered, and Bro. Thomas M. Pomeroy was installed as Worshipful Master during the session. This brother became Grand Master in 1881, and died three days after the close of his term of office and was buried at Deer Lodge The administration of Bro. Frary was a prosperous, business one, during which all the Lodges gained strength and acquired more convenient halls. That at Virginia City, dedicated December 27, 1867, was for the time one of the most complete and creditable in the country. For more than thirty years it has been the home and life-preserver of the Craft of that city, a tie that prevented members from straying away and brought back those who wandered. The status of members petitioning for a new Lodge was settled by requiring that such petitioners should file their dimits with their petition and the powers of Lodges under dispensation was very much curtailed. A lengthy report upon physical qualification by two of the best informed Masons in the Territory Bros. Hosmer and Langford served only to show the inherent difficulty of any concise, complete rule. At the election of officers, Bro. W. F. Sanders, who for three years had been Grand Secretary and won much credit for his Correspondence Reports, was elected Grand Master, and Bro. Sol. Star, W. M. of King Solomon Lodge, succeeded him as Grand Secretary. Bro. J. M. Knight of Montana Lodge was chosen Grand Treasurer, and Bro. Langford entered the list as Senior Grand Warden. After having held four Annual Communications at Virginia City, almost the extreme southern limit of a very large territory, the next meeting was voted to be held in Helena. Besides a more extended Correspondence Report by the retiring Grand Secretary, there was a special collection made of what other correspondents said of us, much to our credit.

The Fifth Annual Communication was held in Helena, my home, and I was able and improved the opportunity to attend, after having passed three Communications following organization. Since then the Lodges had increased to thirteen and the membership to 545. It was still in the hands of those who aided the organization. Bro. Sanders, who had been Grand Secretary from the first, had now served one year as Grand Master. He was the foremost lawyer in the Territory, full of public and private business, but such was his sincere attachment for Masonry that he never refused its call to service. Through his Correspondence Reports and frequent visits to the East he made our Jurisdiction known and respected. The Proceedings of this Communication contain a steel-engraving of his appearance at that time It set the first example among the Grand Lodges of furnishing the picture of the retiring Grand Master. It was not a charge upon the treasury, for each Grand Master for many years paid the charge from his own pocket.

And so, too, the jewels presented to the Grand Masters as they retired from office were for many years no charge upon the treasury. Office was not held for its emoluments. Up to this time there had never been a dollar in our treasury that legitimately belonged there. Members attended at their own expense, paid in gold, and took scrip payable in greenbacks at some indefinite future. Some critics remarked the "boyish looks" of the man. It was more than a boy, who six years before, after the trial of George Ives, the first road agent hung in Virginia City, stood up before a motley throng, largely desperadoes of the worst type, and moved that the verdict of "guilty" be carried into immediate execution, and it was done. The chances of escape on a bloody battle-field were many to those that Colonel Sanders took in the contest to free Montana from the bloody tyranny of the road-agents. Again there was a full representation of all the Lodges and all had made returns and paid dues. It has been a rare thing in the entire history of our Grand Lodge that this has not been the case, though we have had some weak Lodges on account of the shifting fortunes of mining camps. Bro. Sanders's administration was a very conservative one, contrary to what many anticipated. Part of the time he was in the East. But the Masters of our Lodges weremore than ordinarily intelligent and independent, and few were the cases occurring that they could not settle at home. The possession of high prerogative powers was no temptation to use them as personal favors and for any but good and sufficient reasons. Unlike many new Grand Lodges, we never indulged to any great' extent in multiplying Grand Representatives.

Montana steadfastly refused to be involved in the controversy between the Grand Lodge of Nevada and Mount Moriah Lodge of Salt Lake, its offspring, which it was disciplining for accepting petitions from avowed Mormons.

At the election several changes occurred. Bro. Langford was chosen Grand Master, not less for eminent services than for eminent fitness. Bro. J. R. Weston of Diamond City was made Deputy Grand Master, and succeeded me as Grand Master. Bro. John T. Henderson of Virginia City Lodge was made Senior Grand Warden, and T. M. Pomeroy, Junior Grand Warden. Bro. Henry Telling of No. 1 succeeded Bro. J. M. Knight of No. 2 as Grand Treasurer, and Bro. Sol. Star, now of Deadwood, South Dakota, continued as Grand Secretary.

My only official position was on the Correspondence Committee, and that year I wrote my first report, purely as a work, of love and pride in the Jurisdiction I had aided in establishing, with not the remotest idea that I was breaking into a field that I was to range so largely in the future. Deer Lodge, No. 14, was granted a charter on my motion and against the report of the committee, coming as it did with a petition of thirty well-known Masons with most of whom I was personally and Masonically well acquainted. It never served Under Dispensation. It has given our Grand Lodge five Grand Masters, so that I never had occasion to regret the abnormal act.

The most memorable event of this Communication was the contest over fixing the place of the next Annual Communication. It occupied more time than any other matter. The contest was between Helena and Virginia City, and the friends of each were about equally divided. It shows how foolish and stubborn even good brethren may sometimes be over very small things. It was settled in favor of Virginia City for the next meeting and the year following at Helena. But to show the worthlessness of such compromises, when the next year came around Deer Lodge was chosen instead of Helena, without opposition.

The Sixth Annual Communication was held at Virginia City, October 31, 1870, and all the Lodges as usual were represented except Gallatin, No. 6, whose charter had been arrested. Grand Master Langford presided. He had recently returned from an expedition to the geyser region, so eventful in its discoveries and results. I had been his closest companion on that expedition, and quite an ovation awaited us. Bro. Langford had been out of the Jurisdiction for much of the year, but everything had gone on smoothly and prosperously, except in the case of Gallatin Lodge, where faction among the members had destroyed the usefulness and almost extinguished the life of the Lodge. Failing to reconcile the brethren, Bro. Langford arrested the charter and the battle was fought out in Grand Lodge.

Bro. Langford's address was one of rare excellence and eloquence in setting forth the fundamental principles and lofty moral aims of Masonry, illustrated by his example in daily life through many years. For many years after leaving Montana, Bro. Langford was engaged as Bank Examiner, traveling extensively through the West. Having a competency, he finally settled in St. Paul, where, with a sympathetic wife, but no children, he is devoting the declining years of life to literary work and congenial studies.

In two volumes entitled "Vigilante Days and Ways," he has embodied a thrilling narrative of early events in Montana and other Western States and Territories. Though for a long time disassociated with Masonic labors, we know that he still retains a warm interest in the Grand Lodge, for which he labored so long and well in its early formative history. His action in arresting the charter of Gallatin Lodge was approved by the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, which gave much time to a hearing of its members. The charter was restored in an excess of charity, and the Lodge still exists, but the virus of dissension has never been wholly eradicated, and it has never attained the strength and prosperity that its surroundings and opportunities justified. Only one new Lodge, Jefferson, No. 15, was organized during Bro. Langford's administration, which flourished well for a few years, but being left at one side by the Northern Pacific Railway, it succumbed to the fate that has befallen so many old Lodges in every part of the country.

When election came around, there were a number of surprises, but none greater than in my own case, for I had no thought of being made Grand Master. It came without seeking, and, of course, was doubly gratifying. Bro. Weston's advancement was postponed for a year. Bro. Pomeroy became Deputy Grand Master, Bro. John Anderson, Junior Grand Warden, and Bro. Hezekiah L. Hosmer, Grand Secretary. This latter brother was one of the most accomplished Masons that ever came within the range of our acquaintance. Before coming to Montana as our first Chief justice he had become prominent as a Mason, and had attained the rank of Deputy Grand Master in the Grand Lodge of Ohio. He had also gained some prominence in literature by a production entitled "The Octoroon." He was a charming writer and ritualist. Following two reports of my own he contributed two Correspondence Reports, which remain to us as a monument to his skill with the pen. He left us before the expiration of his second term as Grand Secretary, in 1872, and Grand Master appointed me as his successor, and here I am yet, just finishing my thirtieth year in office.

In San Francisco, whither he removed, Bro. Hosmer held some position in the Mint, and was Prelate of Golden Gate Commandery. His son was Grand Orator last year of the Grand Lodge of California.

The salary of the Grand Secretary was fixed at $300, which was to include his providing the Correspondence Report. Though we lived economically, had no regalia or temple to support, we had not yet risen to the high level of solvency.

Our only luxury was in trying to get out creditable publications, while to secure full attendance at our Annual Communications we maintained a high rate of mileage and per diem to the Lodge representatives. Our Lodges were always good in making returns and paying dues and attending Grand Lodge Communications.

The Seventh Annual Communication was held in Deer Lodge and for the first time on the Pacific Slope. Every Lodge in the Jurisdiction was represented. The address that I gave at that time (1871) would not change in any particular, with thirty odd years of subsequent experience. If I neglected anything it was the visitation of the Lodges, a very desirable thing if the Grand Master has means and leisure. But staging was then hard work and expensive, and I knew every Worshipful Master, and that they were competent and doing their duty. I granted dispensations for organizing two new Lodges, Bannack, later chartered as No. 16, at the first capital and the birthplace of Masonry in Montana.

The Lodge is still alive, though its growth has been slow. The second was Silver Star, which received charter as No. 17, situated at a place of the same name on the Jefferson River and on the stage road between Helena and Virginia City. It did not realize early anticipations in growth, and in 1897 merged its fortunes with Mystic Tie Lodge and assumed the name of the latter, retaining the number of the former, changing its location to Whitehall, a railroad station. The transactions of Grand Lodge were orderly and salutary, and four days were spent very pleasantly and profitably, the fraternity and all the good people of Deer Lodge contributing to the enjoyment.

At the election of officers for the New Year something happened that never had occurred before or since. Not a single one of the former elective Grand Officers, except the Grand Secretary, was among those chosen. Bro. J. R. Weston was elected Grand Master; Sol. Star, Deputy Grand Master; E. S. Stackpole, Senior Grand Warden; F. C. Deimling, Junior Grand Warden, H. M. Parchen, Grand Treasurer. Bro. Parchen has continued to hold is office ever since his first election in 1871, having performed his duties so satisfactorily that no one else has ever been suggested or desired. Besides being a first-class business man, he is an ardent and exemplary Mason. When he assumed office Grand Lodge was still in debt, but the condition soon changed and our financial standing has steadily improved. Montana has never lost a cent through any default of any officer.

Bro. Henry Allen, a Past Master of Helena Lodge, died during the year, and the tribute paid his memory showed that the esteem in which he was held was well deserved. The next Annual Communication was voted to be held in Helena without controversy. The Correspondence Report of Bro. Hosmer did credit to the writer and extended the fame of our Grand Lodge.

The Eighth Annual Communication was held in Helena, October 7, 1872, and met in the Odd Fellows' Hall, our former hall having been burned and our new one, corner of Main and Wall streets, being in course of construction. Grand Master Weston, who is still living at Townsend, Montana, presided. His administration was most creditable, and Masonry was fairly prosperous. All but one of the Lodges had made returns and paid dues. During the year the Grand Master had laid the corner-stone of the Masonic Temple in Helena, the first instance of the kind in the Territory.

It was on June 24th, 1872, and all the Masonic bodies of the city turned out in grand procession. Past Grand Master Sanders delivered an address of great eloquence appropriate to the occasion.

Bro. Weston made a personal visit to Bozeman and persuaded Gallatin Lodge to recommend a petition for a second Lodge at that place, and it was organized Under Dispensation with thirty members, as Bozeman, No. 18. This new remedy was not only partially a success, nor is the embers of discord growing out of the arrest of the charter of Gallatin Lodge yet entirely extinct, though a generation has passed. The mischievous custom of Lodge members appealing to the Grand Master for decisions when dissatisfied withthe rulings of the Worshipful Master received a sharp rebuke from the Grand Master.

Our Grand Lodge suffered a great loss during the year by the removal of Grand Secretary Hosmer to San Francisco. Bro. Weston appointed me to serve out the term. Bro. Hosmer had prepared the Correspondence and drawn the salary for the year, and I was very glad to do what was needed as a personal favor to him. When later I was elected to the station, I still had little thought of retaining the position for so long a term of years. The brethren have been so kind and considerate towards me that, though I have often resolved to resign, my resolution failed at the last moment. Twice they have raised my salary without solicitation or expectation. My relations with successive Grand Masters and with the increasing membership have been uniformly pleasant. And for my part, I have tried to serve them faith-fully, and deserve their confidence.

At this Communication I gave a historical address which is published as an appendix, giving many items of early Masonic experience when they were fresher in mind than at present. It is a great pity that so many appointed for this service subsequently failed to respond and contribute of their experiences that find no place in the official record. There was a renewal of the old strife in settling upon the place for holding the next Annual Communication. The Helena Craft were anxious for it, as they expected to be in their new hall. Bro. Weston was the first outside that small circle that were present at the organization to attain the Grand Mastership. There are yet three more successors of Bro. Weston that belong to the original number — Bros. Sol. Star, J. R. Boyce, Sr., and Hugh Duncan.

Hitherto our constitution and by-laws had been published with every issue of our Proceedings. This year, the eighth, it was first omitted. This frequent republication had a good effect in making our Masters familiar with the law and the changes that were made from year to year.

The Ninth Annual Communication was held in the new hall of the Helena Lodges, October 6, 1873, with Grand Master J. R. Boyce, Sr., presiding. Of the sixteen Lodges, all but one had made returns and paid dues. Red Mountain Lodge, No. 12, had succumbed to the adverse circumstances of a played-out mining camp and surrendered its charter. Summit, No. 10, was preparing to follow suit. The membership of the survivors was 633. Theaddress reports general harmony and prosperity. Visitation to Lodges had been more frequent than ever before. Two ugly cases of necessary discipline had interrupted the general peace and pleasure of the Grand Master's experience. One Worshipful Master was suspended for drunkenness. A protest against his installation on this ground was disregarded. In the other case a Senior Warden, charged with gambling, was acquitted by the Lodge, though the accused confessed himself guilty. The Grand Master set aside the verdict, ordered a new trial, and was personally present to see that a verdict was rendered in accordance with fact. These experiences caused the Grand Master in his address to dwell largely upon the necessity of raising the moral standard and upholding it consistently and resolutely. These cases of discipline called for several reports and much discussion, in which the prerogative powers of the Grand Master were pretty thoroughly canvassed.

The action of the Grand Master in both cases was approved, as justified by the circumstances, but an arrest of charter seemed a more suitable penalty where a Lodge decides the accused innocent when he confesses his guilt. It was also decided that appeals should be addressed to Grand Lodge rather than to the Grand Master. One new Lodge, Washington, No. 19, was organized at Gallatin City at the three forks of the Missouri, in the heart of a fine agricultural country. After a brave struggle of a few years, the establishment of a railroad station only a few miles distant gave it a finishing blow, and the first Worshipful Master, Bro. George D. Thomas, died very recently. Early in the session before any contention had time to generate it was voted to hold the next Annual Communication at Bozeman.

In my first general report to Grand Lodge I had to inform that body that not a single copy remained of our Proceedings of 1867, 1868, or 1869, and very few of some other years. Authority was given to increase the number of copies to be printed to 450. The reprinting of our first six annuals, that we recommended, did not come till 1876. I have never made a request of our Grand Lodge that was not granted. The new Masonic Hall in Helena was dedicated, and Bro. Sanders's address on the occasion is as interesting now as then.

The tenth annual communication of our Grand Lodge was held at Bozeman, the county seat of Gallatin County, about one hundred miles southeast from Helena. In coming to Montana in 1864 I had crossed the site of this city and not a sign of settlement or civilization was then visible. It is the center of one of the best agricultural sections of our State, and there our AgriculturalCollege is located. It took the name of one of the early pioneers and pathfinders of this region, a compeer of the more celebrated Bridger. The meeting took place October 5, 1874, and continued three days, during which time, according to my recollection, there was a considerable snowstorm. With snow overhead and mud underfoot, it was salubrious to keep indoors and seek the comforts of a good fire.

One of the reasons for meeting in Bozeman was to harmonize the differences that had long existed among the brethren of that place, which had once led to the arrest of its charter when there was but one Lodge, and finally to the establishment of a second Lodge. The effect was good. Bro. Sol. Star was Grand Master, and as a member of Virginia City Lodge, No. 1, had been in attendance at the organization of Grand Lodge, and had served two years as Grand Secretary.

He was the founder of King Solomon Lodge in Helena, with which he still retains membership, though for several years he has been a resident of Deadwood, South Dakota, where he has prospered and been honored by many public offices. He was a good ritualist, a good administrative and presiding officer.

He was companionable and very popular, both among craftsmen and all who knew him. His removal from the jurisdiction was universally regretted. There were no new Lodges organized this year, and the affairs of two, Summit, No. 10, and Red Mountain, No. 12, were wound up. In view of a revision of the constitution, several amendments dictated by experience were adopted, and the prerogative of the Grand Master in cases of Lodge trials was restored.

After a renewal of some of the old controversies between Helena and Virginia City over the next place of meeting, a compromise was adopted fixing upon Radersburg, then a prosperous town between Helena and Bozeman, where Jefferson, No. 15, was located.

The principal event of the year was the disastrous fire that occurred in Helena, January 9, 1874, destroying almost the entire business portion of the city and with it my office and all the records and property of the Grand Lodge. Upon the first alarm I rushed to the office and carried all the most valuable records, books and papers to First National Bank building, which was supposed to be fireproof, but such was the fury of the flames, driven by a fierce wind, that nothing in its course survived. All that I could recover was the Grand Lodge seal, which was repaired and is still in use. To me it was one of the saddest days and sights in my life, for, besides losing my office, law library, and several buildings, I mourned most of all the irremediable loss to Grand Lodge of all its archives, and every remaining copy of our early Proceedings. I was about as bad off as the fellow who had nothing but a bung-hole to start with towards making a barrel. With my associate on the committee for revising the constitution, we had nearly completed our work, but everything was in ashes and nothing left to begin work with.

Since the office came to my hands, I had spent much time and correspondence in gathering material for a Grand Lodge library. It was all in the common ruins. An appeal was issued to sister Grand Lodges to help repair our losses by sending their proceedings so far as they could spare.

I had a prompt and generous response from three - Bro. Parvin of Iowa, Bro. Baker of Rhode Island, and Bro. Taylor of Nevada. Others no doubt thought it served us right for not having insurance and fireproof vaults or brazen pillars in which to store our archives. But our Grand Lodge had never been out of debt, and we had to pay letter postage on every copy of Proceedings from east of the Missouri River. This was the situation when we met at Bozeman. Time reconciled us to our losses. Brothers at home were generous in their encouragement. Most of the fruit of our labors was such that they could not be destroyed. We had 662 members, loyal and true, self-reliant and courageous. So we squared the books and opened new accounts. We keep insured and have a fireproof vault. Since the office came to my hands, I had spent much time and correspondence in gathering material for a Grand Lodge library. It was all in the common ruins. An appeal was issued to sister Grand Lodges to help repair our losses by sending their proceedings so far as they could spare.

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October 1, 1875, the Grand Lodge laid the corner-stone of the United States Assay Office in Helena, Grand Master Stackpole presiding. Past Grand Master W. F. Sanders gave an eloquent address, and predicted much that has since come to pass. Americans want the best money in the world. Millions have passed through the office since the corner-stone was laid.

The eleventh annual communication, according to adjournment, was held at Radersburg, October 1875. Grand Master Stackpole while on his way to attend the annual conclave was called back home by the fatal sickness of his child, and Deputy Grand Master Harry R. Comley, now living in San Diego, California, presided throughout the sessions, and was elected as the tenth Grand Master.

Bro. Stackpole in the early years of our Grand Lodge was a very active and influential Mason, was one of the founders and officers of Red Mountain Lodge, and thereafter he continued his activity in Deer Lodge, No. 14. At this communication some changes were made in the constitution, especially in the matter of trials,

and provision was made for its printing with the Proceedings. The reprint of our early Proceedings, including all prior to 1873, omitting returns of Lodges and correspondence reports, was provided for. Five hundred copies were ordered and printed at a cost of $500, and were to be sold at $1 each. Nearly half are yet unsold. This is not only the case with reprints, but with Grand Lodge histories. For however loud the call and however grateful a few may be, the great body of Masons are languid in their interest. Though one new lodge was created, Sheridan, No. 20, the returns for the year show an actual loss in membership. Valley Lodge, No. 21, was granted a charter at this communication, but its returns were not included. We have never charged dues to Lodges U. D.

A sign that prosperity was beginning to decline is seen in the reduction of the minimum fee for the degrees which was changed from $75 to $60. Many of the lodges never made any change and still charge $75. Masonry never was cheap in Montana.

The Twelfth Annual Conclave was held in Helena commencing October 3rd, and for the first time was closed after two days session, by reason of the fact that the Committees on Appeals and Jurisprudence met one day in advance. There was as much business accomplished as usual and as well done. Brother Harry R. Comly presided and being a lawyer and accustomed to the transaction of public business, having been Speaker of the House in the Montana Legislature, he did much to facilitate business. Brother Comly for several years prior to his removal to California cultivated the Scottish rite, being the active thirty-third and representative of the Supreme Council. During his absence from the jurisdiction the Deputy Grand Master granted a dispensation for the first Lodge at Butte City, whose vast mining resources were just coming into prominence. It was chartered as Butte Lodge, No. 22, and has had a remarkable growth, being now the largest lodge in the state, and the only one with over 200 members. Grand Master's administration, address and decisions met with hearty approval. No very important legislation was had.

The Grand Secretary had the busiest time during the year in publishing a revised constitution and getting out the reprint of the Proceedings of the first seven annual communications. Our Proceedings were still printed in New York, and the reprint in Springfield, Illinois. The extra expense for printing and distributing Proceedings and reprints were more than double the usual amount, and we came out in debt to our Grand Treasurer, but only to the moderate amount of $48.76. It was a busy year for the Grand Secretary but the results were satisfactory.

Brother Julian M. Knight of Montana Lodge, No. 2, who had been Grand Treasurer, one of the oldest of resident Masons and universally esteemed both in and out of the Lodge, was elected Grand Master. In the selection of the next place of meeting which on my motion had been postponed till all other business had been completed, there was much of the early spirit of contention, amendments and roll-calls, but the result was in favor of Helena.

The Thirteenth Annual Conclave was held in Helena, October 2, 1877, with Grand Master Knight presiding, the constituency now being nineteen Lodges with a membership of 664, showing a gain of seventeen over the previous year. The address of the Grand Master was brief and modest, but full of good advice on many subjects, and coming from one who illustrated the principles and truths of Masonry in his daily life made a deep impression upon his hearers.

Of the notable events of the session, I will mention but two. The first was the claim of the Eureka Lodge, of California, against our Silver Star Lodge, No. 17. A member of the latter Lodge named Nixon fell sick in California and the Lodge advised Silver Star of the fact and asked advice, receiving in reply assurance that he was in good standing and asking it to render such assistance as was needed. Time passed without further correspondence, till Silver Star Lodge received an itemized account of expenses incurred amounting to $692.20 in gold. Silver Star Lodge had a membership of only seventeen and none of them were well-to-do and there was no money in the treasury. They simply wrote back that they were totally unable to pay. Eureka Lodge applied to the Grand Master of California and he wrote to our Grand Master to interpose to secure the payment. According to Eastern Masonic ethics, our Grand Lodge was not in any manner bound to assume the liability incurred without their knowledge or consent. But our Grand Lodge took a different view of its duty.

The Grand Lodge had a modest beginning of a charity fund bequeathed by a Masonic association at Blackfoot City, originally $137, which was reserved as the foundation for charity. This with accumulated interest amounted to $219.20. To that the Grand Lodge added $150 from the General Fund, and Silver Star Lodge was required to raise $200 by assessment of its membership. Thus $569.20 was raised and transmitted to Eureka Lodge, still leaving us short of paying the full amount by $133, but we assured Eureka Lodge that we would send the balance as soon as it could be collected by contributions from our other Lodges. The result was that Eureka Lodge was so well pleased with what we had done that the bill was returned receipted in full. That was our idea of Masonic duty and honor, to which we still adhere. But we adopted a resolution that hereafter no lodge should incur an obligation that it could not meet out of its own resources.

The other case we would mention is one of rare occurrence, that of a young man known to us as J. Sydney Osborn, very favorably known as a very capable business man of more than ordinary intelligence and exemplary habits. He applied to Virginia City Lodge and received the degrees and after-wards transferred his membership to Deer Lodge where he prospered in mercantile business. He had removed from Montana to Minnesota and being about to marry concluded that he must do so under proper lawful name, which was J. K. P. Miller. It seems that he started out before he was 21 in business for himself and through the fault of others became heavily involved. In despair he abandoned his property to his creditors and left for the "Wild West" and assumed the name of J. Sydney Osborn. It was the boyish freak of one who could see no better way to begin the world anew. After having prospered in business he went back East and settled in full with every creditor and resumed his proper name. He applied to Deer Lodge for a dimit under his own name of Miller, but the Lodge did not know how to act and referred the case to the Grand Master and he to Grand Lodge. Here it was referred to a committee which included two Past Grand Masters which presented a lengthy report taking a very serious view of the case as a gross fraud for which repentance could not atone, and presented a resolution that his name should be stricken from the rolls and no dimit granted. For some years Osborn had lived in Helena, and I had become very intimate with him, and he was my chief support in the work of founding a public library. I had formed a very high opinion of him. In fact, I was firm in the conviction that he was a man of rare excellence and I could not be content with the report, which was adopted without much opposition.

Besides making an impassioned speech against the report I went personally to my friends and urged a reversal of this verdict. A reconsideration was moved and on a vote of yeas and nays the committee was sustained by a vote of 44 to 34. The case was too far gone before I knew anything about it. But I always thought a great injustice was done.

Without opposition on the part of Helena, Virginia City was selected as the place of meeting and Bro. William A. Clark was elected Grand Master. He was not as well known then as now, since he has become the wealthiest man in the country and United States Senator.

The Fourteenth Annual Conclave was held at Virginia City, where the organization took place in 1866, October 1, 1878. Grand Master William A. Clark presided. This Brother is pretty well known now since he became famous for his phenomenal wealth and his long, heated controversy with Marcus Daly for a seat in the United States Senate. We have known him well and sometimes intimately, almost from his first coming to Montana. He was an active, exemplary Mason, a sagacious, successful business man who made his money as honestly as any man could. He was first a merchant and early established himself in banking at Deer Lodge. He became interested in the Butte mines by having advanced money to develop and work. The owners unable to pay, he had to take the property. He then made a careful study of working mines and made a success of it. In all his adventures in buying and working mines he has depended on his own judgment after personal inspection. It was his rare sagacity in judging of the value of mines that brought him success and wealth. No mining promoter could deceive him as to the value of a mine. He ascertained the value for himself and he bought mines to work and not to sell. It is said that no one can see into the ground to tell the value of a mine but Brother Clark came as near as any man ever did in disproving this statement. He was honorable in all his dealings, liberal and considerate in his treatment of employees, accurate in his judgment of men, but however much he trusted others, he was master of every detail of his business and trusted chiefly to his own judgment. Some men can manage small affairs well but utterly fail in larger ones, but Brother Clark grew with his business and understood it from the ground-floor up.But all his successes and accumulations came after he was Grand Master. Some of our brethren think that out of his superfluous wealth he should endow us with a Masonic Home. That the subject has been in his mind, we know, but in this as in all other matters he thinks we are not ripe and ready for one, that it would be an unprofitable burden upon us to maintain it, in fact

that all in present need of a Home can be better provided for without one. That we shall have a Home as soon as it is really needed and Brother Clark will be a generous patron and benefactor towards it, we have never doubted. His judgment as to where, when, and how, as in other things, may be relied upon. His Masonic administration was able and successful. There was no rapid growth. In fact for some years before and after his time we scarcely gained at all in membership. As our placer mines slackened their yield, the mining portion of our membership drifted away, many to Deadwood, Dakota, in fact to every known gold field in the world. It is our quartz mining, agriculture and stock-raising that has given us a more permanent population, while the advent and extension of railroads have fixed the location of towns.

The principal business of the session was the adoption of a code of by-laws for subordinate Lodges and amendments to the constitution in connection therewith. The communication lasted three days and was busy all the time. One matter that gave me great satisfaction was the reversal of the action of the previous communication in the case of Miller, alias Osborn. The Grand Master and Bro. Knowles were enlisted in his behalf and when the final vote was taken it was unanimous that he be restored to the records in his true name and granted a dimit.

Without my knowledge or any intimation to me, the Grand Lodge raised my salary from $300 to $500. I was the only one that protested that the Grand Lodge could ill afford the raise. This was the first year that our Treasurer could report a balance in thetreasury. When it came to the selection of the next place of meeting, the Grand Master anticipating a controversy had the rules of order read, but the motion designating Butte as such place of meeting was adopted unanimously. Bro. John Stedman of Morning Star Lodge was elected Grand Master and Grand Lodge was closed with the singing of Burns' Adieu, led by Bro. Duncan, and this custom was continued for many years.

The Fifteenth Annual Communication was held at Butte, commencing October 7, 1879, with Grand Master Stedman presiding, and the same number of Lodges on the roll and the membership increased about 50, and the revenue increased proportionately. Bro. Stedman was a native of Maine, had spent some years in British Columbia, and while living there had taken the blue lodge degrees. He never went higher, saying that all of the Masonry that he cared for was contained in three degrees. He was a machinist and a master workman. He was universally respected for his sturdy character and

very public spirited, once Mayor of Helena, always in attendance at his Lodge and very influential in its affairs. He died March 30, 1897, while at an outing with his wife, and so suddenly that he did not utter a parting word to her. The universal respect in which he was held was evidenced at his funeral. His address bristled with individuality. Some of his views being at variance with the prevailing sentiment of Grand Lodge at the time were subsequently adopted. His official acts were few and no noteworthy incidents marked the course of the year. Nor was the business of the session of a very important character or marked by any unusual incident.

There was a special report from the correspondence committee, outlining our relations with foreign jurisdictions. We had the year before dissolved relations with France and there were no countries in Europe with which we could heartily fraternize. Even with the British Grand Bodies we were at variance on the subject of exclusive territorial jurisdiction. These resolutions were discussed at length but were adopted without opposition and have continued to be the basis of our policy ever since. It was the custom in early years, when no other business was ready for action, for me to read from my correspondence report such portions as were called for and the whole when completed was ordered printed. Now we do better by having it printed in advance and copies put in the hands of all members. In spite of resolutions deprecating the custom of the local craft giving banquets etc., to members of Grand Lodge, there have been found ways of evading it and Grand Lodge has never been known to decline a ball, banquet or other entertainment. At one time it had grown to be a custom to expect a banquet at every raising at the expense of the candidate and this expense sometimes exceeded the cost of the degrees. The better opinion of the older members seeing the hardship in many cases prevailed to stamp this out and whenever the lodge wanted a banquet it had to assume the expense. Without controversy Bozeman was selected as the next place of meeting, and the date was fixed for the third Thursday in September. Judge Knowles was elected Grand Master. The attendance had been somewhat greater but the greater distance traveled increased the bill for mileage and three days attendance near $500 more than ever before.

The Sixteenth Annual Communication was held at Bozeman, commencing September 16, 1880. Grand Master Hiram Knowles was not present, being detained by his judicial duties. Bro.George W. Monroe as Deputy Grand Master presided in his absence and the Grand Master's address was read by the Grand Secretary.

Judge Knowles is of New England stock, first removed to Iowa and then to the Rocky Mountains. His first residence here and for many years was Deer Lodge but at present Missoula. During the greater part of his residence in Montana he has occupied a judicial position, first as Territorial District Judge and later and at present United States District Judge, for which position he is eminently qualified by taste, study and long experience. His independence of mind and stern integrity inspire universal respect. He is a family man, tender-hearted and true, and among his friends of which he has hosts, very companionable. His judicial habit and spirit is apparent in his address and his treatment of every matter requiring his decision. He confesses himself unfamiliar with Masonic usage, which as Bro. Drummond says is a law unto itself, discarding the technicalities of the civil law and lodging more power in the head of the craft.

The administration was wise and conservative and Masonry was prosperous beyond that of several former years. Three new lodges were organized, and received charters, one at Glendale, near the Hecla Mine in the southern part of the State; a second one at Butte, which took the name of Mount Moriah, and a third at Fort Benton, at the head of navigation on the Missouri River, all permanent Lodges. The membership increased fifty-seven. Expense kept close pace with revenue and the Grand Treasurer could only report a balance of $35.78. Bro. Monroe of Bozeman was chosen Grand Master and Helena selected as the next place of meeting.

Seventeenth Annual Conclave was held in Helena, commencing October 4, 1881, Grand Master George W. Monroe presiding. Bro. Monroe is a physician, and the first of that profession to attain the Grand Mastership. Our Brother is a native of Alabama, with all the companionable traits of a Southerner. He is a skillful and successful physician. He has always been active in politics as a staunch Democrat and has held the office of Land Register. He is now a resident of Butte and active in the practice of his profession. The year had been quietly prosperous. One new Lodge had been granted a dispensation at Miles City, 386 miles east of Helena on the Northern Pacific Railroad, at the junction of Tongue River with the Yellowstone. The difficulty of finding a suitable place of meeting postponed the work so that it was not ready to apply for a charter. But the membership in the 21 chartered Lodges had increased 77 and stood at the opening of this communication at 839. No very important matters characterized the year's administration or appeared in the address save the assassination of President Garfield.

A new revision of the constitution appeared this year by Bro. Samuel Word. It was a difficult matter to embody the substance of all the reports adopted. For his labors which included seeing it through the press he would only accept the thanks of Grand Lodge, which a little later chose him Deputy Grand Master.

Notwithstanding the special expense of printing the new constitution, the balance in the treasury was increased to $158.33. The next Annual Communication was set to be held at Deer Lodge. The Grand Lodge closed after two days' session, having elected Bro. Thomas M. Pomeroy of Missoula as Grand Master.

The Eighteenth Annual Communication was held at Deer Lodge, October 3, 1882, Grand Master Pomeroy presiding. The members were for the first time slow in arriving and it was two hours after the appointed time that the Grand Master and a quorum of the Lodges were in attendance. Missing his conveyance the Grand Master had been compelled to walk a considerable distance, which accounted for his late arrival and probably accelerated his end. He insisted on presiding through the sessions, though evidently suffering. It seemed to be the great ambition of his life to become Grand Master, a position that he came within one of attaining ten years before. He was never communicative of his early life and experience and most of his intimate friends supposed him a bachelor, but it turns out that he was married and has a son living. Probably family trouble drove him to the far West. He had lived at different times in Portland, Walla Walla, Lewiston, Florence, Elk City, before coming to Montana. At Missoula he settled and made a home almost entirely erected with his own hands. He served as Post Master, Justice of the Peace and general factotum for the whole community. His energy seemed inexhaustible. But his whole ambition and pride centered in Masonry and the welfare of Missoula Lodge, of which he had been Worshipful Master and was Secretary when elected Grand Master. His ambition to distinguish his administration by visiting every Lodge in the jurisdiction, led him to exertions beyond his strength and years. After closing his address he hesitated, and said something within him admonished him that his work was done and that he would never meet with them again, and pronounced a parting farewell and benediction. None of us dreamed that his death was so near at hand, but he was taken violently sick the day following adjournment and died on the fourth day, never rallying under the best medical treatment and the best of attention.

On the 12th, just one week after the close of Grand Lodge it was again assembled in special communication to perform the funeral services over his remains. He is buried at Deer Lodge and a handsome monument marks his resting-place. He left no will. His estate was administered on and search made for any one entitled to inherit the estate.

After long waiting, it was converted into cash, amounting to several thousand dollars and declared escheated to the Territory. It passed to the State Treasury and has been distributed among the school districts. It would not be far from the fact to say that Bro. Pomeroy fell a martyr to his zeal for Masonry. He was our fifteenth Grand Master and the first to die. The business of the session was light and so was the attendance. For the first time Grand Lodge assumed the expense of publishing the picture of the Grand Master. Heretofore each Grand Master had paid for his own picture. Two hundred dollars was further voted the retiring Grand Master to reimburse him for his expenses in visiting the Lodges. No one since has undertaken to visit all the Lodges, so widely are they scattered that it would take months, and thousands of miles of travel. Brother A. J. Davidson of Helena was elected Grand Master and Butte selected as the next place of meeting.

The Nineteenth Annual Communication was held at Butte, commencing October 3, 1883, and continued two days, Brother A. J. Davidson, Grand Master, presiding. The affairs of Grand Lodge during the year were marked by no unusual event. Yellowstone Lodge, No. 26, at Miles City received its charter, the special investigation having reported conditions satisfactory. Two other Lodges were granted dispensations and received charters from Grand Lodge, one at Twin Bridges, on the stage road between Helena and Virginia City, named West Gate, No. 27, the other at Stevensville in the Bitter Root Valley, near Fort Owens, an Indian Agency of very early date, and where Father Ravalli had a Catholic Church school and dispensary. It was named Oriental and numbered 28. Membership had increased to 939, and the treasury balance to $1,158.45. The address of the Grand Master was brief. He was an active business man and an old resident, with hosts of friends, always an active and exemplary Mason, not much given to words in speech or writing. He called attention to the very unsatisfactory method in vogue of examining the returns of Lodges. At first transcripts were sent up, then the original records, with expense and risk of loss. Bro. Davidson urged district deputies to visit the Lodges and examine them.

This plan involved too much expense. The work is now done by the Grand Secretary in advance of the session and through correspondence, involves no expense and the committee on returns is almost entirely relieved of its perplexing and unsatisfactory work. The motion to meet next at Bozeman met with no opposition.

Bro. Hugh Duncan, a member of Grand Lodge at its organization, as Junior Warden of Montana Lodge, was chosen Grand Master. Our Brother was a Methodist minister and according to usage frequently changed residence. He aided in the organization of three Lodges and though his family residence was at Sheridan he was longest connected with Flint Creek, No.11. He had attended every Annual Communication and was very eager to be Grand Master. He, like Brother Pomeroy, illustrated the "perseverance of the Saints." With his Scotch trait of opposition and hasty speech, he was not regarded as a safe leader, but he had other traits that endeared him to all, and when he led off in singing Burns' Adieu at the close of every Annual Communication he won all hearts and that made him Grand Master. It was at this Communicationthat news was received of the death of our first Grand Master, John J. Hull. He was born on Christmas, 1824, and died at Peoria, Illinois, October 13, 1883. He received the degrees of Masonry at Pittsburg in 1852 and started the next day for California. He came to Alder Gulch in 1860, and left Montana in 1868. For a time he kept hotel in Duluth, but his last years were spent in Peoria.

The Twentieth Annual Communication opened at 9 A. M., October 1, 1884, at Bozeman, with 24 Lodges and a membership of 1062 and had revenue from dues of $3,030. The Grand Master's address was not delivered till afternoon, the morning being occupied with the report of the Credential Committee, and those of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer. The address made many pleasant allusions to his early associates at the organization of Grand Lodge and the creditable history since made. Two new Lodges were organized during the year that have proved strong, permanent Lodges, one at Dillon, the county seat of Beaverhead, the most southern county in our State on the Utah Northern Railroad, now known as Dillon, No. 30; the other at Billings on the Northern Pacific Railroad, 228 miles east of Helena, named Ashlar Lodge and numbered 29. A broken leg prevented the Grand Master from visiting as intended. He did however visit the Lodge at Miles City, 287 miles east, where there was some trouble resulting in the suspension of a Brother. One of the smaller Lodges had expended $140 besides personal services for a sick Brother, a member of Blandinsville Lodge, No. 233, of Illinois. Getting no satisfaction from the Lodge, the case

was referred to me to correspond with the Grand Lodge of Illinois. We could get no satisfaction. This is not the way that we treated Eureka Lodge of California. It is not what we understand as the teaching of Masonry, but rather what St. James calls one of the "spots" in the feast of charity.

The division of the jurisdiction into districts was again urged and this time answered and the experiment tried with no satisfactory results. Permission was asked and granted for Valley Lodge, No. 21, to remove to Townsend, now the county seat of Broadwater County and on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

Bro. Samuel W. Langhorne was elected Grand Master and Helena selected as the next meeting place. This matter of the place of meeting, which in past years had been such a matter of contention, had lost that character as it involved a considerable tax upon the local craft, which in spite of protest from Grand Lodge insisted upon entertainments which were never refused and were generally expected. One of the most far-reaching amendments was adopted on motion of our Grand Treasurer in reducing mileage to 5 cents by rail, two cents by stage or cayuse, and per diem to $3, accompanying this the dues were reduced from $3.00 to $2.00. The first effect of this was to sensibly reduce the revenue of Grand Lodge. It was at this Communication also that it was finally settled that no member should cast more than one vote, except as proxy for one of the three principal officers of a Lodge. A memorial page was inscribed to the memory of Bro. Ira Bateman, long-time Tyler, who died five days after returning from Grand Lodge, aged 78 years, universally respected.

The Twenty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana was held in Helena, October 7 - 8, 1885, with Brother Samuel W. Langhorne officiating as Grand Master.

Prior to the Annual Communication on June 16th, a special communication of the Grand Lodge was held to lay the corner stone of the Masonic Temple in Helena, which has been ever since, and still is, the meeting place of all the Masonic bodies in the city. It was the fifth place that in their short history the Masons had occupied. The first was in a log building on the east side of upper Main street, in a half-story over an auction store, reached by an outside stairway, where the occupants could only stand erect in the center of the room, which was carpeted with sawdust and covered overhead with shakes in lieu of shingles, of which at that time (1865) there were none in the country.

The furniture was rude and all home-made, as well as the jewels. From there the first removal was made to the second story of a frame building on Main Street, at the foot of Broadway. Here we had greater conveniences of room, but the rent was heavy, $167.50 a month in gold dust.

The next move was to the north side of Broadway, the second lot west of the present Monticello Hotel, where. Messrs. Hartwell and Jürgen's were erecting a Public Hall, and allowed the Masons to put on a second story at their own expense, rent free. This lodge room was destroyed by fire in August, 1872, having been occupied since November 11, 1866. Even before its destruction, the Masons had purchased a lot on the corner of Main and Wall streets and had laid the corner stone on St. John's day, June 24, 1872, and the completed structure was dedicated by Grand Lodge in October, 1873. The lower story of this building was rented at a good price. But there was only a single room for all the Masonic bodies which had so multiplied and increased that it was insufficient to accommodate all. The present Temple, located at the northeast corner of Broadway and Jackson Street, was erected in 1884 - 1885. The lots cost $14,000. The excavation and basement were completed in 1884, at a cost of $6,000. The three stories above the basement were added during 1885. The whole building, completed and furnished, cost upwards of $50,000. Part of the basement, all of the first floor and some of the second story were rented at good prices for several years and contributed handsomely towards reducing the debt, which is still $20,000, in bonds drawing 5 per cent. The main hall is in the second story, with a large reception room. Here also is the Grand Secretary's office, while the large front rooms on this floor are occupied as a reading room and club room. The third story contains two large halls, one for the Commandery and the other for the chapters. It also contains the banqueting room and kitchen. To resume on the special of June 6th. Owing to the bad weather and delays in making contracts, only a week's notice of the cornerstone laying was given, but there was a large attendance and the weather was exceptionally fine. The oration for the occasion was delivered by Past Grand Master Comly and is published with the proceedings of 1885. The ladies of the Eastern Star gave a banquet in the evening in honor of the occasion, the crowning glory of the occasion.

At the opening of the Twenty-first Annual Communication, October 7, 1885, there were twenty-six chartered lodges and all but three were represented. The membership showed an increase of 150, but the revenue showed a decrease of $718. On the whole it had been a

prosperous and growing year. Two new lodges were planted along the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, one at Glendive, farthest east, the other at Livingston, where the Park branch leaves the main line. Both have proved permanent lodges.

Some of the extraordinary expenses of the year had been $200 for a monument to Past Grand Master Pomeroy, $70 for pictures of our first Grand Master, John J. Hill, and $140 for Grand Lodge jewels.

At this communication the law was changed so as to require the election of proxies by the Lodge, taking away the right of personal appointment by the officer. With this was coupled the right for either regular officer to cast the vote of absent ones, if not represented by proxy, so that if either the Worshipful Master or either Warden were present, the lodge should have three full votes. A provision of our law that no lodge shall draw out more for mileage than it pays in dues would not allow full representation of several of our, smaller lodges but for the latter provision.It always has been and still is the case that some of our lodges draw out for mileage and per diem every cent that they pay in dues, and have never contributed a dollar to the general expenses of Grand Lodge. Grand Master reported that only one of the four District Deputies had made report, and that further legislation would be necessary to insure any beneficial .results. Such legislation was had giving greater power and dignity to the office and providing compensation.

The Grand Master in his address called attention to the fact that the Worshipful Master of one of the Butte lodges during the year had published pamphlets ridiculing the Great Light of Masonry and thereby causing great scandal among members of the fraternity. In very calm, conservative manner the Grand Master stated the true position that all Masons should occupy on this vital question, but left it to the Grand Lodge to deal with the case. It went to a special committee, which brought in a scathing report, characterizing it as "high treason" to the most vital principles of Masonry. The report was unanimously adopted and the Worshipful Master was deposed from office, and another committee appointed to formulate charges to be served by the Grand Secretary, requiring him to appear and answer at the next Annual Communication. If any other Mason in the jurisdiction entertains similar views, he has kept very quiet about them ever since.

The old controversy about the place of meeting again broke out, but the fact that Helena would have a commodious temple to meet in carried the resolution that Helena should be the place of meeting for the next five years. Brother Joseph A. Hyde of Deer Lodge, member of No. 14, was elected Grand Master. Brother Hyde had long been an active, zealous Mason as well as an active and successful business man at various places within the State, widely and favorably known.

The year 1886 and the Twenty-second Annual Communication held in October of that year were comparatively uneventful. Only one new lodge, Acacia No. 33 at Anaconda, a new mining town not far from Butte; where Marcus Daly had established great smelting works to work the copper ores from his Butte mines. To offset this addition, Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, which had failed to make returns or pay dues the previous year, forfeited and surrendered its charter. It had been left to one side by the railroad and its members had become so scattered that a quorum could not be got together to vote a surrender of its charter. The annual increase of membership was only sixty-six, and the total 1,298. The local craft in Helena had been fully occupied the previous year in erecting their Temple, which was so far completed that in January, 1886, the Grand Secretary's office was ready for occupation, and was at once occupied. The Temple itself was finished and furnished early in the year and was dedicated by the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication in October of that year.

Our printing was still done in the East, that year by Brother Staton of Kentucky. To expedite the publication my correspondence report was printed in advance and copies supplied to members at the Annual Communication. This has been done every year since that time.

A dispensation had been issued to organize a new lodge at Walkerville, a suburb of Butte, under the name of Rainbow. But the brethren fell out and surrendered their dispensation.

Brother A. C. Logan had been deputized to constitute Glendive Lodge, and the charter was entrusted to him on this mission. But this singular event to relate that the charter was stolen from him on the cars and never was found or heard of afterwards. Considerable time of the Twenty-second Annual Communication was taken up by the trial of the Worshipful Master of one of the Butte lodges on the charges prepared by the committee of the last previous Annual

Communication, which had been served and testimony taken. All in connection with the matter was omitted from the publication. Suffice it to say that the charges were not sustained. Anything in the nature of intolerance in religious matters or extreme views on temperance have never found favor among the body of the craft of Montana. Contrary to expectation, the revenues of Grand Lodge met all demands, and the balance was actually increased to a small amount. The District Deputy system had also worked better than anticipated. There was a report from all four and they had fairly done their duty.

What we have always regarded as the most important act of this Communication was the adoption of a series of resolutions, five in number, modified somewhat from those adopted in Louisiana, at the instance of Past Grand Master M. E. Girard, our Grand Representative. They had been published in the proceedings of the previous year, so that all could be fully advised of their meaning and importance. To our great surprise, they were adopted unanimously and with hardly any debate and amendment. We have on several occasions referred to them as our guide when dispute waxed hot among warring jurisdictions.

Brother Samuel Word, who had attained the position of Deputy Grand Master five years before, a Montana-made Mason, a zealous, active member, who had once revised and codified our Constitution and Laws, an eminent and successful lawyer, was chosen Grand Master.

The Masonic year that ended with the Twenty-third Annual Communication witnessed a fair degree of prosperity. Two new lodges were organized, one at Great Falls, as Cascade Lodge, U. D., and later as No. 34 the other at Walkerville, a suburb of Butte, where an attempt had previously been made and failed. This time it met with better success and became Monitor Lodge, No. 35. The gain in membership had been seventy-five and reached a total of 1,375, and the dues increased to $2,690.

The leading features of the 'Twenty-thirdAnnual Communication was the consideration and adoption of a ritual. During all the preceding years Montana had no more definite work than that exhibited by the officers of Virginia City Lodge at the time of organizing the Grand Lodge. There was no uniformity of work. It varied with every lodge and every successive Master.

In order to reach a greater degree of uniformity, it was determined to secure as near as possible the original Webb work and have it reduced to cipher. For this purpose Brother Robert Morris of Kentucky, the poet laureate of Masonry, recognized as one of the best living ritualists in the country, had been induced to visit us to lecture on and exemplify the ritual. He satisfied us that he had the original Webb work as pure as it existed anywhere, and we adopted it. We have it in cipher, so that it cannot be changed, and be-sides the Grand officers, who are the custodians, there are many brethren able to read it and instruct others. It was opposed by some, but adopted by more than a two- thirds vote and embodied in our Constitution, where it cannot be easily disturbed. It has given us many years of rest and increasing uniformity, without the need of lecturers and the attending labor and expense. At every Annual Communication the work is exemplified and kept close to the standard.

The recent death of Past Grand Master Duncan was kept in mind by draping the lodge room, and a special obituary report. The further to perpetuate his memory and keep in touch with the past it was voted that hereafter each Communication should be closed with the singing of Burn's Adieu. After some failures, the custom has lapsed for want of Scotchmen to lead the singing.

On the question of physical qualifications of candidates, Montana has always been liberal, provided that the more important mental and moral qualities were all right. So Grand Master Word held that a candidate with one good eye could see the light of Masonry. Montana, at that date was not a sovereign State, and among the members of our Supreme Court were Past Grand Master V. W. McConnell of Tennessee and Past Grand Master McLeay of Texas. Both were honored visitors. Brother McLeary had introduced in Texas the custom of bestowing on his successor a signet ring, with injunction to wear it during his official term, and pass it on to his successor. Brother Word introduced the same custom into Montana and it has become part of the ceremony of installation to invest the new Grand Master with the signet ring on which is engraved a lion's paw. Brother Word also signalized his retirement by presenting the Grand Lodge his picture in an enlarged photograph handsomely framed, to hang upon the wall of the lodge room. Since then many another has joined the procession.

Brother James W. Hathaway of Morning Star Lodge, No. 5, was chosen Grand Master. Like Brother Word, he belonged to a younger generation of Masons made in Montana.

They have shown that the home-made article has not deteriorated. Though by resolution of the year previous, the Grand Lodge has been located at Helena for five years, yet the next Annual Communication was fixed to meet at Missoula.

It was also voted that hereafter the printing of the annual proceedings should be done in Montana, provided it could be done within 25 per cent of what it cost in the States. We have found on trial that it costs very little, if any, more, while it hastens publication and gives greater facility in correcting proof.

During the Grand Mastership of Brother Hathaway Masonry continued its steady growth. In July, 1888, the Grand Lodge was called together in special communication to lay the corner stone of a Masonic Temple in Dillon. Deputy Grand Master Logan presided on the occasion and there was a large gathering of the local craft and not a few from outside. Besides the usual Masonic ceremonies, a band of music escorted the members to the site selected. The building to be erected was to be of stone and brick, two stories, the first for rent, while the second story furnished ample room for Masonic purposes for many years to come. The Masonic ceremonies were followed by an address, and in the evening there was an elegant banquet at the Opera House.

Agreeably to the vote of the Grand Lodge at its previous Communication, the Twenty-fourth Annual Communication was held in Missoula, commencing at 5 P. M., October 3, 1888. Grand Master Hathaway was absent, being detained by the duties of his civil office, and Deputy Grand Master Logan presided. The chartered lodges had increased to thirty, with two others U. D. The membership had increased to 1,541 and the dues paid to $2,982. All but one of the lodges was represented, but they were late in getting together.

The Grand Master's address was read by the Deputy, and notices the death of Brother Robb Morris, who had been with us the year before. Two new lodges were organized U. D., one to be known as Ruby at Granite, a rich quartz mining camp; the other at Lewiston, the county seat of Fergus County, rich in agricultural and stock raising resources. A revised edition of the constitution, by-laws, standing resolutions and approved decisions was prepared and 1,000 copies published by the Grand Secretary. This was the last year that our printing was done east, having found publishers close at home willing to undertake to do good work at the rates prescribed by vote of the Grand Lodge.

Much to the surprise of the Grand Secretary, his salary was increased from $500 to $750. Brother Charles Gould, who subsequently became Grand Master, gave an oration of rare beauty and eloquence on the subject, "Masonry, the Pioneer of Civilization."

A standing resolution providing for consolidation of lodges was adopted. A Grand Lecturer was appointed in lieu of District Deputies. It was voted to hold the next Annual Communication at Great Falls, and the choice for Grand Master fell upon Brother Arthur C. Logan, one of the most accomplished ritualists we ever had. The Missoula brethren treated their guests to a magnificent banquet and ball. And the day following final adjournment provided a special train to show their guests the magnificent Bitter Root Valley, with fruit and watermelons "ad libitum." The mileage and per diem were increased $450. The year 1889 was an eventful one for Montana, because in that year she became a full-fledged State of the Union, without any division or change of boundaries, and with it the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge became fixed. During the summer our constitutionaconvention was held and the first Tuesday in October was fixed to vote upon the adoption of the constitution. This was the day Before our Grand Lodge had appointed for holding our Twenty- fifth Annual Communication at Great Falls.

By universal request the Grand Master issued a circular letter postponing the convening of the Grand Lodge until the last Wednesday in October, at which time there was a general gathering of representatives of the craft, only one of the chartered lodges being without representation. As indicated by its name, the City of Great Falls is located near the Great Falls of the Missouri, about 100 miles north of Helena. It was then a place of great promise, Which is fast being fulfilled in the utilization of a water power greater than Niagara. The lodge here had only been chartered two years, had twenty-eight members and was entertaining the Grand Lodge. Notwithstanding the absorbing interest in political matters, Masonry kept up its steady advance. Two new lodges had been organized during the year, both in the Bitter Root Valley, one at Hamilton, the other at Corvallis. The gain shown by the returns was 129, the total 1,670, and the dues paid $3,206. Masonic effort during the year had been concentrated upon the dissemination of the new Webb work. Not satisfied with the progress made under District Deputies, it was thought better to employ a competent lecturer, who would devote all his time to the work, and pay him such a salary as would compensate him. Brother John C. Major was selected for the position and filled it most successfully. He visited every lodge and spent at least five days

with each. Great diversities were discovered and corrected, and the work has continued nearly uniform ever since.

One singular occurrence during the year is worthy of mention. Among the members of the youngest lodge, Ruby, No. 36, there was a falling out, and the Worshipful Master took possession of the funds, records, and so stopped all work. The Grand Master being out of the jurisdiction at the time, the charges were filed with the Deputy Grand Master. But the recalcitrant Master would yield to no authority till the Grand Master paid him a personal visit. He was not only suspended from office, but when the Grand Lodge reached the case he was indefinitely suspended from all Masonic rights. A resolution was adopted doing away with the necessity of giving the Past Master's degree as part of the installation ceremony. Another reduced the minimum fee for the degrees to $50. The effort to change the law so that one ballot should elect to all the degrees was again defeated, though it seemed to be gaining strength. Livingston was selected as the next place of meeting.

Brother John Anderson of Missoula was elected Grand Master. This brother had been Worshipful Master of three different lodges in the jurisdiction and was every inch a Mason, of modest demeanor, but true as steel to every Masonic trust and duty. Brother Charles Gould as Grand Orator pronounced an eloquent and charming oration on "Mystery." If the dimensions of our mileage and per diem allowance had been a subject of comment the previous year, there was greater reason for it this year, when it amounted to $1,916.15, almost two-thirds of our total receipts for dues. And as if the treasury balance could not be made to disappear fast enough, a motion was made and carried that a jewel be presented to each of our Past Grand Masters who had not received any.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Communication was held at Livingston, in Park County, on the Northern Pacific Railroad, September 24-5, 1890. The Grand Master, Brother Anderson, was sick and unable to be present, so that it fell to the Deputy Grand Master, Brother W. T. Boardman, to preside. Grand Master Anderson before being taken sick had begun, but not completed, his address and the portion published was only secured after the close of the Grand Lodge. The chartered lodges at this Communication numbered thirty-three, and the membership had increased to 1,833, showing a gain of 163, and the revenue from dues showed an increase of $402, but the treasury balance had subsided to $1,103.25.

One new lodge, Star of the West, was organized this year at Red Lodge, in Park County, and they were given the use of the jewels of the late Nevada Lodge, No. 4. To offset this, the members of Bozeman Lodge, No. 18, only eight opposing, voted to surrender its charter, and it was accepted.

The services of the Grand Lecturer were continued with satisfactory results, and the work was exemplified by him before the Grand Lodge, his salary continuing at $500. The usual attempt was made to establish the system of one ballot for the three degrees, and though this time commanding a majority, it fell short of the two-thirds necessary. The time for the Annual Communication was fixed to occur on the second Wednesday in October. The resolution respecting non- affiliates, which some sister jurisdiction criticized as unreasonable, was softened a little. Deputy Grand Master Boardman was elected Grand Master, and the next meeting place was fixed at Butte. There was a public installation in the evening and afterwards a banquet and ball. It was during this Annual Communication that the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized, and its annual meetings are always held in connection with the Grand Lodge. Mileage and per diem showed a notable reduction to $1,465.85.

The administration of Grand Master Boardman was not signalized by any remarkable event. The sickness that prevented Grand Master Anderson from presiding at the Twenty-sixth Annual Communication proved fatal on December 1st, following, and the Grand Lodge was convened on the 3rd in special communication to pay our last respects to his memory and commit his mortal remains to the bosom of Mother Earth. There was a large attendance of Grand Officers and brethren and the whole city testified to a great common loss by its mourning array. Brother Anderson having no family or near relative, devised his entire estate to Missoula Lodge. The corner-stone of Monitor Lodge Hall was laid early in the year and before its close was dedicated. It is located at Walkerville, a suburb of Butte. Only one new Lodge was organized during the year, and that was at Boulder in Jefferson County, on the road between Helena and Butte. It received a charter in October, 1891, as Boulder Lodge No. 41 and has maintained a healthy growth. Agreeable to adjournment, the Twenty-seventh Annual Communication was held in the Masonic Hall in Butte, beginning October 14, 1891, with a full corps of officers, nine Past Grand Masters and representatives of all but two of the thirty-three chartered Lodges. The preliminary report of the Grand Secretary showed an increase of 175 in the membership, and a total of 2008.

Brother Boardman was an enthusiastic and devoted Mason, and his address shows a careful study of the interests of Grand Lodge and points the way, individually and collectively, to a higher level of useful activity.

By a careful study and wide correspondence he conclusively showed that the Grand Lodge was paying out for mileage and per diem a greater portion of its revenue than any Masonic Grand body in the world, while it was doing little or nothing for charity and laying aside nothing to meet any unforeseen demand. Grand Lodge did provide for a charity fund by setting aside five per cent of its revenue, but on the question of cutting down the paid representation of the Lodges, there was such an adverse majority that the attempt has not been renewed and the only effectual check on the extravagance is the limitation that no Lodge can draw out for the pay of its representatives more than it pays for dues. Our Grand Lodge is supported entirely by those Lodges that pay in more than they draw out. The opposition to this measure of economy was not through fear that the smaller Lodges would lose their full and equal vote in Grand Lodge, for it was especially provided that each Lodge should have three votes whether it had one or more representatives.

The only argument against this measure of economy was that it would prevent the attendance of some who would like to come and whom others would like to meet. While the meetings of Grand Lodge bring hard work to a few, it is an occasion of pleasure and rejoicing to a majority. Another question that occupied much attention and some sharp controversy was whether liquor sellers should be made ineligible. The Jurisprudence Committee reported adversely to any change in the conditions of admission. Though the law was not changed, a resolution was adopted discouraging the acceptance of such candidates. Another much controverted question was the substitution of a single ballot for the three degrees instead of the prevailing rule of a ballot for each degree. Though Recommended by the committee, it did not command a majority at that time. Grand Lodge rescinded its standing resolution advising Lodges to incorporate, and recommended, where necessary, to choose Boards of Trustees.In place of the order requiring the reading of the Annual Proceedings in open Lodge as soon as received, a resolution required the Worshipful Master to read the constitution and by-laws and regulations in open Lodge and report the fact to the Grand Master. This order is no more complied with than the former. Grand Lodge having refused to reduce the number of paid representatives and some measure of economy being necessary to keep within our income,

the services of a paid lecturer were dispensed with, after three years of excellent services by Brother John C. Majors. The numbers of standing committees, to which mileage and per diem are paid, were also reduced. On the other hand, one new expense was added in voting to become a member of the Masonic Relief Association of America.

The choice for Grand Master fell upon Brother Richard O. Hickman, one of the oldest, best known and generally respected members of the fraternity. It was in the closing hour of the session, after the installation of the new officers, and many had withdrawn, that the question was sprung to rescind the action of Grand Lodge in 1887 adopting the Webb work. It lead to a prolonged and heated discussion, in which the friends of the adopted work proved for the time to be in a minority, and the motion to rescind was declared adopted. It was, however, voted that until Grand Lodge should adopt some definiteritual, the Lodges might continue to work as they are now doing. It was low twelve when Grand Lodge closed to participate in a banquet at the McDermott House tendered by the generous craft of Butte City. Without contest, the City of Deer Lodge was chosen as the next place of meeting.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Communication was held at Deer Lodge, according to decision at the previous communication, but a month earlier by order of the Grand Master and the general wishes of the craft, to avoid as much as possible the excitement of the general election in November. The year, under the wise administration of Grand Master Hickman, had proved a quiet and prosperous one. Boulder Lodge was constituted undercharter and a dispensation for a new Lodge at Kalispell was granted. The membership had increased to 2,175, a gain of 167. Of the thirty- four chartered Lodges, all but three were represented.

A stormy session was anticipated, judging from the closing scenes of the previous communication, on the question of work. On the contrary it was the most harmonious and profitable communication on record. For this result the craft were indebted to the wise efforts of the Grand Master and Grand Lecturer during the year. It had been fought out in the Lodges during intermission in favor of the Webb work, and when the decisive hour arrived to which all other business was made to give way, the work was rehearsed by the Grand Lecturer, and everyone who had a criticism to make was heard and some changes were thus made, and then by a decisive vote of 62 to 13 it was adopted and imbedded in the constitution, not easily subject to change. Such was the good feeling engendered by the

by the happy settlement of the ritual question that all other business was facilitated. The Grand Master's decisions and actions were all unanimously approved.

There were fine opportunities for bitter and prolonged controversies with the Grand Lodges of Oregon and Scotland, but it was found just as easy to settle them amicably and honorably, and, we may add, more Masonically. To fill the cup of rejoicing the treasury balance increased over $1,000, the expenses of the session were less, and $250 was voted for a monument for Past Grand Master Duncan. Brother Moses Morris, who had received the degrees of Masonry at the hands of the Grand Secretary in 1866, was elected Grand Master, and it was voted to hold the Twenty-ninth Annual Communication in Helena on the second Wednesday in October, 1893.

It was not for a month after adjournment that the Grand Master announced the appointment of delegates to the World's Masonic Congress, which was to be held in Chicago during the great World's Fair in June of the following year. Although the utmost care was taken to select those who would attend, of the five Past Grand Masters appointed, Grand Secretary Hedges was the only one in attendance and he gave quite a full account of it in the conclusion of his Foreign Correspondence report for 1893. Those who attended found much to enjoy in the entertainments provided by their brethren of Chicago and Illinois, but so far as settling any of the controverted questions agitating the Masonic world, there was hardly an attempt made and the series of conclusions adopted are as ambiguous as the responses of the Delphian Oracle. The attendance was not large enough to justify the members in feeling themselves a representative body authorized to speak for the whole craft, besides; most of the members were limited by instructions.

While for the larger purposes contemplated by the proposers and promoters of the congress, it was a confessed failure, the personal and incidental benefits were numerous and invaluable. About the only response made by our Grand Lodge to any of the adopted conclusions, was increasing the number of our published Proceedings from 750 to 1,000.

When the Twenty-ninth Annual Communication opened at Helena, October 11th, 1893, there were only thirty-one Lodges out of thirty-five represented, and several of these only by a single representative. Though including the membership of three Lodges U. D., the entire gain was a short 100. It was a time of general business and

financial depression. As Grand Master Morris said in opening his address "For the first time in our history as a Grand Lodge there are seats vacant and Lodges unrepresented because dues are not paid." In spite of general depression, three new Lodges were organized U. D. during the year, one at Victor in the Bitter Root Valley; another at Choteau in Teton County, the third at Lima in Beaverhead County, the extreme southern part of the State. When charters were granted the name of Choteau was substituted for Berkley, and the name of Evergreen for Lima. The decisions received the approval they well deserved. The legislation effected was not important. The Grand Lecturer, owing to severe and protracted sickness, had been unable to discharge the duties of that office. The dry bones of those old issues, "the single ballot," "the single paid representatives," the prerogative powers of the Grand Master," etc., were brought out and rattled some, but went back into the closet as they emerged. The percentage of revenue set aside for the Grand Charity Fund was doubled and some use made of it.

The time of holding Grand Lodge was changed from the first Wednesday in October to the third Wednesday in September. So long as Montana was a Territory our general elections were held in August. Then October was the better time for meeting. When we became a State, general elections were held in November, and then September was the better time for meeting. In order to hold the membership in attendance, the election of Grand Officers and choosing the next place of meeting were put off till the afternoon of the last day. Brother F. C. Webster of Missoula was elected Grand Master, and Billings fixed upon as the next place of meeting. The Grand Secretary was instructed to codify and publishes the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, etc., with corrections to date. There was a sumptuous banquet at Electric Hall, prepared by the ladies of the Eastern Star, followed by toasts, and then came dancing for those who liked it.

The Thirtieth Annual Communication was held at Billings, pursuant to vote of Grand Lodge, September 19-20, 1894, with Brother F. C. Webster presiding as Grand Master. Business depressions continued and seriously retarded the growth of the craft. No new Lodges were organized; no special Communications held, and the increase of membership was only eighty. But of the thirty-seven Lodges all but two had paid dues and all but four were represented. The duties of Grand Master had been faithfully performed and the address called attention to all the matters that required the action of all the representatives of the craft. The Grand Secretary during the year

had codified and published a new edition of the code, 500 copies, and distributed the same. The custodians of the work had settled and agreed upon the work and put it in shape to be disseminated without a Grand Lecturer, whose office was abolished. Though the Lodges had been requested to express themselves and instruct their representatives on the subject of reducing the paid representation to one from each Lodge, the majority in favor of the change was not up to the constitutional requirement and the consequence was that the bill for mileage and per-diem was of appalling magnitude, nearly double that of the previous year, the result of meeting at a point so far from the center. The demands for charity seemed to be increasing and the portion of receipts set aside for that purpose was increased to 15 per cent. Helena was selected as the next place of meeting, largely on grounds of economy, and Brother James H. Monteath of Butte was elected Grand Master. In spite of the continuance of general depression, the year that ended with our Thirty-first Annual Communication in October, 1895, showed a fair increase of members 137 bringing the total to near 2,500. The number of Lodges increased by two, though one of these was but a revival of one previously existing at Bozeman, the metropolis of the rich Gallatin Valley. The other, appropriately named North Star, was in the northeastern portion of the State on the line of the Great Northern Railroad at Glasgow, the county seat of Valley County.

Grand Master Monteath was absent much of the year at the East, and it was during his absence that the death of Past Grand Master Hickman occurred, and a Special Communication was held at Helena, July 20th, to pay funeral honors to the deceased, Deputy Grand Master James H. Mills pre-siding. Brother Hickman's death was inexpressibly sad. No one of the craft was more generally and sincerely beloved and honored. His death was the result of maltreatment of an accidental wound. Past Grand Master Sanders delivered an appropriate eulogy. The acts and decisions of the Grand Master were approved and some legislation perfected that had failed in many previous trials. Of such was the amendment which made a single ballot elect for all three degrees. Grand Lodge dues were reduced to $1.50, but no corresponding reduction was made in expenses. Some appealed cases, of which there have been very few in our history, occupied considerable attention The election resulted in the advancement of Brother James H. Mills to the position of Grand Master. Brother Mills was even then a veteran editor, widely known, an elegant writer, a gentleman andscholar, universally respected. Without any change in the law and with a very full attendance, the mileage and per-diem was nearly a thousand dollars less than at.

the previous session. Butte City was selected as the next place of meeting. The year ending with the Thirty-second Annual Communication, held at Butte, September 16-17, covers the administration of Brother James H. Mills. It was a very quiet and fairly prosperous year, with only one special communication to lay the corner-stone of the State Normal School at Dillon. Three new Lodges began existence U. D., one at Whitehall in Jefferson County, named Mystic Tie, another (the third) at Butte named Silver Bow, and The third at Bonner in Missoula County named Temple. These all received charters and with their membership carried the increase of the member-ship for the year to 135, and the total to 2,626.

The Grand Master's address, with all his official acts and decisions, met with hearty approval. There was less legislation than at any former Annual Communication. To adjust expenditures to our diminished revenue, the amount set aside for the Grand Charity Fund was reduced to 5 per cent of the revenue. The Monitor prepared by Brother F. D. Jones was approved by the committee and adopted as the standard for the jurisdiction, but for financial considerations, Grand Lodge declined to be at the expense of publication and that was undertaken by Brother E. D. Neill.

The work of the jurisdiction was exemplified the first evening by Silver Bow Lodge U. D., and on the second evening the same Lodge was consecrated under the charter granted that day. An ambiguity in the Constitution was removed by declaring that a present W. M. could not also vote as a Past Master. And mileage was hereafter to be reckoned from the Lodge. Brother Chas. H. Gould was elected Grand Master, and Helena designated at the next place of meeting. We believe this was the first meeting of Grand Lodge without a banquet and was generally enjoyed.

During the administration of Grand Master Chas. H. Gould, which culminated with the Thirty-third Annual Communication held at Helena, September 15 - 16, 1897, there were three specials called, two for laying cornerstones, one of the Agricultural College at Bozeman, another of the High School at Butte.

The third was to bury with Grand Honors Brother John Stedman, our fifteenth Grand Master, and whose sudden death occurred March 28th, 1897, without warning while enjoying an outing with his wife alone. Deputy Grand Master E. C. Day presided on two of these occasions in the absence of the Grand Master from the

jurisdiction. It was an enjoyable year for the Grand Master, with no difficult questions to solve or disagreeable duties to perform. Brother Gould was in his element at Masonic banquets and was a brilliant after-dinner speaker. No new Lodges were created during the year, and the net gain in membership was only eighty, the total reached 2,706. The dues paid were $3,714, the mileage and per diem were $1,985.15.

The Grand Lodge Charity Fund amounted to over $5,000, and the Trustees were instructed to loan the same. The Grand Secretary was instructed to furnish badges to members. The proposition to remit further payment of dues after twenty-five years was not favorably considered. And the motion to reduce the minimum for thedegrees from $50 to $35 was tabled. Grants for charity were made to the extent of $300. Lodges were allowed to work U. D. till constituted under charter. They were required to send in annual report at least thirty days before the meeting of Grand Lodge. Objection to advancement except for good cause shown to be disregarded by two-thirds vote. Recognition was voted to the Grand Orients of Greece and Italy. Brother E. C. Day of Livingston Lodge No. 32 was chosen Grand Master, and Helena selected as the next place of meeting.

The fortunes of our Grand Lodge reached high-water mark in 1898, when our Thirty-fourth Annual Communication was held in Helena, September 14-15, under the administration of Brother E. C. Day, an able lawyer, in the prime of life, with the native eloquence of a Kentuckian, an accomplished ritualist, a devoted Mason, willing to devote time and talent to the duties of his office. During the year of his administration no less than five new Lodges were organized, one at Chinook on the Great Northern R. R., two in Lewis and Clarke County, one at Marysville, only twenty miles north of Helena, and the second at Augusta, still further north The other two were on the line of the Northern Pacific, one at Big Timber, east of Livingston, the other at Forsyth, still further east. The gain in membership was 144, and the total reached 2,850, and the receipts from dues exceeded $4,000. There were three specials, at each of which the Grand Master presided; one was to perform the funeral honors over the body of Past Grand Master, J. R. Boyce, Sr., our seventh Grand Master, in his eighty- first year.

He had formerly lived in Helena, though latterly in Butte, and he was brought to Helena to be buried by the side of his first wife. At another special, the corner-stone of the State University was laid in Missoula. And in August the new hall of Cascade Lodge was

dedicated at Great Falls. There was a good attendance at Grand Lodge. Besides the 102 on the pay-roll, there were over 300 Past Masters entitled to seats, but no per diem or mileage is allowed them and very few attend. The address was of more than usual length and was effectively delivered. The Grand Master exemplified the work of the third degree on the night of the first day's session.

The most important piece of legislation was that requiring the Lodge Secretaries to report the changes in membership during the month to the Grand Secretary and he was to publish and send them to each Lodge. It relieved the Lodge Secretaries but greatly increased the labors of the Grand Secretary. The salary of the Grand Secretary was increased to $1,000. The Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund were instructed to incorporate in order to take and hold real estate. A committee was appointed to codify the Constitution, By-laws, Regulations and Decisions, with power to remove inconsistencies, improve arrangement and to reduce to more convenient form for publication. A testimonial was voted the Grand Secretary on the completion of twenty-five years of service. It was a cut glass inkstand on a silver tray, but the recipient prized most the presentation address of the Grand Master. Helena was again selected as the place of meeting, and Brother Charles W. Pomeroy of Kalispell was chosen Grand Master.

During the year, July 4th, 1899, the corner-stone of our State Capitol was laid with Masonic ceremonies by Grand Master Pomeroy, assisted by all the Grand officers, nine Past Grand Masters, and a large attendance of craftsmen from all over the State. The Grand Commandery of Montana tendered their services as escort and there was a large procession of civic societies and citizens.

Besides addresses by Governor Smith and ex-Governor Toole, there was an address by Past Master Sanders, which was published in the Masonic Proceedings of the year. The only other special occurred about three weeks later in Butte at the laying of the corner-stone of a church, at which Deputy Grand Master Barrett presided.

At the opening of the Thirty-fifth Annual Communication the Grand Secretary reported that all of the forty-six chartered Lodges had made returns and paid dues, and all but two were represented. Though no new Lodges had been organized, one had been continued U. D. The gain in membership was 150, and the total membership reached an even 3,000. Aside from laying the corner-stone of the capital the year had been quite uneventful. By means of a circular

letter, containing ten test questions, addressed to the Masters ofthe Lodges, the Grand Master came into the possession of a full and reliable report from all the Lodges, which he summarized and Lay before Grand Lodge. Among other items the returns show thirty- two in need of a Masonic Home. The chief business of the session was in connection with a new code, prepared chiefly by Past Grand Master E. C. Day. His work was examined by the Jurisprudence Committee, and on their approval was accepted with the changes made. It was further ordered that 1,000 copies be printed, and after providing for distribution at home and abroad, the residue was to be sold at cost. Brother Day was to see that they were correctly published. Upon the subject of physical qualification of candidates, the Jurisprudence Committee adopted the report of the Ohio Grand Lodge that it was a question wholly for the Lodge to settle with the general qualifications before them. As all the railroads in Montana had reduced fare to four cents per mile, the mileage of representatives was reduced proportionally. Brother Anthony H. Barret, a Kentuckian by birth, a pioneer, Son of the American Revolution, and a veteran Mason, was elected Grand Master. Great Falls was chosen as the next place of meeting.

This will bring the record of our Grand Lodge down to the close of the century and affords a convenient halting place. In the time of a single generation and while several of those who helped organize our Grand Lodge are still living, it has grown from the three constituted Lodges to forty-seven that still survive, and from a membership of about two one of over 3,000.

It has had thirty-seven Grand Masters, of whom twenty-nine are still living. It has had only four Grand Secretaries, three of whom are living. It has had five Grand Treasurers, three of whom are living.

It has contributed a generous share towards the establishment of law and order, and the introduction of elements and influence that make for righteousness and moral and intellectual elevation. It has allayed sectional, political and religious strife and differences; has administered relief to scores of sick, suffering and needy brothers soothed their dying pillow and given them honored burial. It has not only laid the foundation but has labored unremittingly to up build society and supply the material that "Constitutes a State." It has been one of the principal centripetal forces of society, reconciling the past with the present, adapting the old to the new, always moving forward to higher and better things. During much of his term, Grand Master Barret was out of the State undergoing treatment for serious

bodily ailments. Our Deputy Grand Master, though himself a skillful physician, was the victim of that dread disease, consumption, with which he waged battle for many months, going at last to Arizona in hope of relief, dying almost as soon as he reached his destination. His devoted wife who had accompanied him, retraced her sorrowful steps with his lifeless body, and Grand Lodge was assembled January 16, 1900, to consign it to the grave, Past Grand Master Logan acting Grand Master. Brother Brantly, our Senior Grand Warden, was busy with his official duties as Chief Justice, and Brother Slack, our Junior Grand Warden, who lived nearly 400 miles away, was compelled for a time to be the active head of the craft. Still no interest of the craft seemed to suffer. The gain of membership was 144, almost equal to the best previous year. The Grand Master recovered and returned in time to do more than usual visitation and was able to preside at the Annual Communication, September 19, 1900.

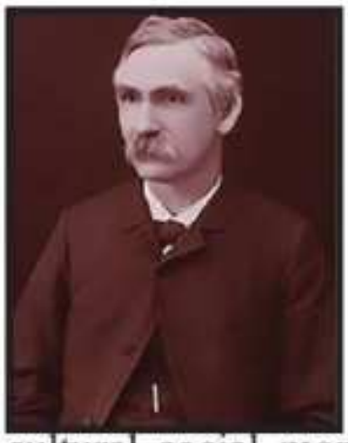
The Senior Grand Warden Brantly, while Acting Grand Master, rendered many important decisions, most of which were approved, but the Jurisprudence Committee and Grand Lodge differed in holding that the Lodge was under no obligation to return to a rejected petitioner the arrears of dues that he had paid as a prerequisite to petitioning. The most important and interesting transaction of the Thirty-sixth Annual Communication was the creation of the Masonic Home Fund, and the transfer to it of $6,000 from the Grand Charity Fund, and $2,000 from the General Fund. Further, this fund was increased by the sum of $1,303.16 from Chapters of the Eastern Star. Enthusiasm reached its culmination when Grand Lodge voted to raise the dues of members to $2.00 and devote 50 cents per capita to the annual increase of the Home Fund. The outlines of a future Masonic Home began to be discernable.

Brother Theodore Brantly was elected Grand Master, and Helena was again selected as the next meeting place. The citizens as well as craftsmen of Great Falls exerted themselves most successfully to provide entertainment for their guests.

With the Proceedings of 1900 appeared the picture of our second Past Grand Master, Leander W. Frary, and now living at Pasadena, California. He was the only one of our Past Grand Masters whose picture had not been published.

Figure 71. Cornelius Hedges at podium for cornerstone ceremony of the State Capitol Building in July 4,1899.

Figure 72. W. A Clark at podium for cornerstone ceremony of the State Capitol Building in July 4,1899.



In the beginning he put himself on the side of those who were determined Montana should be a safe haven for all who wished to live there and from that time to the day of his death his talents and his time were always at the service of his community and his state. During the lifetime of thought, study, and action guided by the basic virtues of charity and brotherly love, Cornelius Hedges contributed much to the cultural growth of Montana and the nation. Cornelius Hedges exerted a major influence on the cultural, social, moral, intellectual, aesthetic, and religious development of early Montana. The major contributions which Cornelius Hedges made to Montana and our Nation are those which have stood the tests of time and are living memorials to this early Montana pioneer. From the suggestion that Yellowstone be set aside as a National Park in 1870, in concentrated effort with others, Hedges saw Yellowstone National Park founded. And from it in turn, has grown a National Park System preserving our nation's scenic and historic heritage – a fitting memorial to Hedges' unselfishness. Cornelius Hedges rendered the eternal proof that the social, cultural, intellectual, and educational interests could and would receive more than ample development in Montana. The development of Freemasonry as a cohesive element in Montana society and the Grand Lodge of Montana which he helped shape has maintained a visible and prominent place in Montana for thousands of its members who contribute to their communities and the state is another memorial to Cornelius Hedge. As Territorial Superintendent of Public Instruction, Hedges in his unceasing benevolence stimulated among the citizens of our state the concern to build and maintain a good system of public schools. Cornelius Hedges is known in Montana as the "Father of Education." It is fitting that both the University of Montana and Montana State University should memorialize him. A residence hall at Montana State University located in Bozeman is named after him. The twin high rises on campus are North and South Hedges. There are also several elementary schools in Montana named after him. Likewise, the Helena Public Library, which stands ready and willing to impart its knowledge to the inquisitive minds of Helena, is yet another living memorial to this man. The University of Montana, School of Journalism located in Missoula has been honoring Montana journalists and the state's newspaper men and women who have made an outstanding contribution to the profession with the "Hall of Fame". The Montana Newspaper Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Montana Newspaper Association and the School of Journalism. Cornelius Hedges was inducted into the Hall of Fame on May 9, 1965.

ISBN 9781495178382