



**State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives**

**KYLE MASONIC LODGE, NO. 422
(WHITESBURG, TENN.),
MINUTE BOOKS,
1871-1911**

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Kyle Masonic Lodge, No. 422 (Whitesburg, Tenn.)

Inclusive Dates:

1871-1911

Scope & Content:

The Kyle Masonic Lodge, No. 422 (Whitesburg, Tenn.), minute books span the period 1871-1911. The collection is composed of three volumes that contain chronological minutes of the transactions and proceedings of the Kyle Lodge, No. 422, F. & A.M. (Free and Accepted Masons). The first is dated 1871-1884 and contains the earliest minutes of the chapter. An entry dated, January 31, 1874, is especially poignant as it contains the memorial resolution for Dr. A. W. Thompson, the first Senior Warden of the chapter. The resolution has the following to say about Dr. Thompson's character: "As a mason Brother Thompson was upright in conduct and devoted to the cause and especially in founding and upholding our body in its infancy. As a member of society honored and cherished. As a member of the church faithful to the end and left bright testimony that he has gone to glory and to God. As a kind husband and affectionate Father, many of us could envy his disposition. He was energetic and benevolent in all good causes. In short a mason in deeds and in thoughts." The resolution goes on: "Oh! How sweet it will be in that beautiful land so free from sorrow and pain, with songs on our lips, and harps in our hands to meet one another again. With profound respect we tender this tribute of respect to the memory of our departed Brother." The minutes for the May 26, 1877, meeting describe a brother who is accused of immoral conduct: "The Bro has openly and flagrantly violated the teachings of one of our most sacred tenets, Truth, without which our beautiful fabric would be a ruin, and ruthlessly trampled under foot all regard for his own self respect and honour and by his dishonourable and

unmasonic conduct has cast mantle of shame and dishonour over our noble order.” The brother was accused of courting a young lady of respectability and making her believe that he was free to enter into marriage with her when he had a living spouse. The second book continues where the first left off and contains records for the years 1884-1903. The third is dated 1903-1911 and, along with the minutes, contains a few loose items including petitions for membership to the chapter, correspondence, and a memorial to Edmund Preston McQueen, Past Grand Master, issued from the Office of The Grand Master of Masons in Tennessee.

Physical Description/Extent:

1 microfilm reel, 35mm

Accession/Record Group Number:

Mf. 2028

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

Mf. 2028 (available only on microfilm)

Repository:

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

Administrative/Biographical History

Kyle Lodge, No. 422, in Whitesburg, Tennessee, is a Masonic lodge established in 1871. Most Worshipful John C. Brown issued a Dispensation authorizing the lodge on June 14, 1871. He sanctioned Pharoah Arthur Cobb to act as Worshipful Master, Dr. A. W. Thompson to work as Senior Warden, and Frederick Pangle to operate as Junior Warden. On June 21, 1871, the first documented meeting of Kyle Lodge took place and the following officers were appointed: Thomas J. Anderson, Secretary; William Keel, Treasurer; The Rev. John J. Carroll, Senior Deacon; Joseph Russ Mendenhall, Junior Deacon; The Rev. Philip Mulkey, Chaplain; and John H. Boren, Steward and Tiler. Kyle Lodge received its charter on November 13, 1871. The charter was signed by Grand Secretary John R. Frizzell.

The lodge was named for Brother William S. Kyle's family due to the fact that he donated a set of jewels to the Lodge. Mackey's *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* states that each lodge has a set of six jewels: the Rough Ashlar, the Perfect Ashlar, the Trestle-Board, the Square, the Level, and the Plumb.

On July 28, 1871, the lodge appointed A. S. Bible, A. W. Thompson, and T. J. Anderson as a building committee. They were charged with conferring with the building committee of Bent Creek Baptist Church (later Whitesburg Baptist Church) “to ascertain the probable cost of erecting a Masonic Hall in connection with said church.” At the December 8, 1871, meeting, the lodge voted to “build a hall in connection with the Bent Creek Baptist Church” with “said hall to be the second or upper story of the building.” In 1984, the church built a new building and sold its equity in the old building to Kyle Lodge. Consequently, the lodge moved its meeting room to the first floor of the building in 1986.

Source: Information in the historical note was gleaned from various items within this collection and from the following website:
<http://www.gmwp.org/lodges/422history.html>

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

Three single-volume ledgers containing chronological meeting minutes.

Conditions of Access and Use

Restrictions on Access:

No restrictions.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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Index Terms

Personal Names:

McQueen, Edmund Preston, 1851-1909
Thompson, A. W., fl. 1871

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

Kyle Masonic Lodge, No. 422 (Whitesburg, Tenn.) -- Records and correspondence

Subjects:

Freemasons -- Tennessee -- Whitesburg

Geographic Names:

Whitesburg (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources
Hamblen County (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources

Document Types:

Minute books

Acquisition and Appraisal**Provenance and Acquisition:**

These minutes books were loaned to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by Billy White on June 4, 2012. They were microfilmed and returned to the donor.

Processing and Administrative Information**Preferred Citation:**

Kyle Masonic Lodge, No. 422 (Whitesburg, Tenn.), Minute Books, 1871-1911, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Processing Information:

The collection was reviewed and prepared for microfilming by Lori D. Lockhart, June 27, 2012.

Existence and Location of Originals:

Held privately.

Electronic Location and Access:

<http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/mf2028.pdf>

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

Contents/Item Title	Date	Volume
Minute book	1871-1884	1
Minute book	1884-1903	2
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