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Date: Dec. 21, 1917  
Description: Letter from Frank Cole to Melvin Preble

Rising Virtue Lodge, No 10, F. & A. M.  
Bangor, Maine

Chartered September 13<sup>th</sup> 1802

Bangor Me. Dec 21<sup>st</sup>

Dear Master Preble

I am enclosing receipt for two dollars dues and thank you for the remittance.

The world moves about the same with us, candidates keep coming in and old familiar faces are leaving us, some going away to work and others going to the great hereafter. John S. Mitchell, Jonathon N. Drew, Nathan Whiteman and Edwin N. Carter have died during the year

Eight of our boys are now in the army and navy some in Europe and some in America. One of our members joined the Canadians at the outbreak of the war and we haven't heard from him since so we think he has been killed.

Both Lodges have cut out all banquets for the year in order to save on food as well as money and the higher bodies have made what banquets it was necessary to have as simple as possible.

Sugar is quite scarce here and everything is very high but everyone seems to get along about as usual. We have five applications to act on and if we get them all there will be plenty of work for a couple of months.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year I swear

Yours [fraternity?] Frank J Cole