

The following text is transcribed from a handwritten letter from one, Joshua Davis to an Edgar McAllister, Esq. of Lewiston, Maine. The original letter is written on official I.O.O.F. Grand Lodge of Maine letterhead and dated Nov. 23rd, 1889. Items which could not be transcribed appear as '???' in the text of the letter.

Edgar McAllister, Esq
Lewiston, Me.

My Dear Sir & Bro.

In answer to yours of the 22nd will say the Rituals and charter of Judith-Rebekah Lodge was returned to the Grand Lodge but the Records Ledgers were never returned – consequently I have no means of knowing who its members were. I have no reason to doubt but you was a member in good standing at the time the lodge returned its charters. But in order to give State Cards to you and your wife I should have to receive a certificate from each stating that you were in good standing in Judith Rebekah Deg[nu???] Lodge at the time the Lodge surrendered its charter June 6, 1886. and those certificates to be endorsed by the ??? or Secretary of the lodge when it surrendered. I am obliged to have something to protect me in granting the card, as the books are not in my possession to show who its members were. Am sorry to give you all of this ??? but I must be protected in granting the cards. The price of State Cards is one dollar each _

Fraternally Yours,
Joshua Davis
Gr. Sec.

P.S.

Have the certificate endorsed as ??? or Secy. at the time lodge ceased to exist.