



**The Good Templars and the Orphans.**

We clip the following from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge I. O. G. T., as published by the Raleigh Sentinel:

The committee on the Oxford Orphan Asylum submitted a report, after the adoption of which, Rev. Dr. Pritchard took the floor and made an eloquent appeal in behalf of the orphans. He said:

The most interesting thing in this world is man. Considered as mortal, and a sinner, it does seem strange that God and his holy angels should regard him; but when viewed in respect to his mental and moral endowments, and especially his immortality, he seems worthy of the love of God and the solicitude of the angels.

The most interesting and important part of man's history is his childhood. Not only is that the period when his mind must be developed, but that is the time when his moral character must be formed. The first ten years of his life determines his destiny. The mightiest influence in this world for the formation of character is a mother's love or father's care, and will grow up in vice and sin if not trained aright. It is the prompting of a wise economy to send them to an asylum, where they will be educated, taught to work, taught good manners, good principles, and be brought under the influence of religion. There is a boy in our penitentiary only 14 years old; he is there for 8 years, his mother died early, and his father, a bad man, trained him in the school of Satan. Crime will cost far more than the proper care of these orphans, for not a murder occurs which does not cost the county and State from one to five thousand dollars.

We don't know what possibilities are in these little children. The people of Erfurth little thought that in the little beggar boy, Martin Luther, who sang in the streets for bread, there was concealed the mightiest moral and mental force of that century. Nor did those who brought the poor boy, John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, to Christ and helped him along in the world, know that the boy would develop into one of the most useful men of this age. He is the superintendent of a Sunday school of 2,500; they meet in a stone house which cost \$60,000, two-thirds of which he gave himself, and near by is a Presbyterian church, which cost \$50,000 all of which is due to this man more than to any one else. The future governor of the State, or the woman who is to write the great poem or raise the great son of the next century may be trained at Oxford or Asheville. I was born in old Mecklenburg and in the town of Charlotte, and I love my native State; she has many virtues, and we would that she should excel in all. It is not to our credit that she has not a State Orphan Asylum or that our churches and benevolent organizations have had none till recently. To the Masons belong the honor of originating this enterprise, but it does not belong to them alone; it is the institution of the whole State, and alike the property of the Churches, the Odd Fellows, Good Templars, &c.

Dr. Pritchard then said that he had been to Oxford and had seen the blessed results of the work done there, and after stating that none of us knew that our children or grandchildren might not find a home there, he made an earnest appeal in behalf of the orphans.

A committee consisting of Mrs. Beckwith, Miss Blanche Pentress, Miss Jennie Albright, Mrs. Fannie Ballard, Miss Ida H. Bledsoe and Miss Barringer, was appointed to take up a collection in behalf of the orphans. The collection amounted to \$64.75, which was ordered to be forwarded to the proper authorities.

**The Minor Differences in Working.**

One of the tendencies of the present age is to remove every obstacle from the free interchange of thought between peoples, and hence we see conventions of various religious, scientific, commercial and political bodies, the members of which comes from all parts of the world to discuss points of mutual interest, to clear away mistaken ideas as to the purposes of each other which distance, preju-

dice, ignorance or jealousy have long caused to exist between them. Such a course is not only productive of present good, but is a means of binding all mankind together in efforts for more advanced civilization.

There are many differences in ceremonial and in matters really nonessential in value, between the various Masonic bodies throughout the globe, but our remarks now chiefly apply to those of English-speaking nationality. Why should they exist? Fortunately such is the catholicity of Freemasonry, and such its liberality that no very serious difficulty has ever arisen, or indeed can arise from such non essentials. And yet difficulties and doubts do arise from this cause, and again the question is asked, "Why should such differences exist?"

Those who travel by land or by water know well that sometimes those who are to the "manor born" find it no easy matter to "work their way in," and this is especially the case with brethren from England when visiting lodges in the United States. Many are deterred from visiting by the knowledge that such differences exist, and thus the craft suffers, not alone from the non addition of many a good member, but from the absence of that intelligent companionship such visitations afford. *There should be entire uniformity in the working of all Masonic lodges throughout the world.* How is this to be accomplished? By a convention of English speaking Masons representing the Grand Lodges of their respective countries. Nor is this so difficult of accomplishment as might at first seem to be the case. The differences ought to be all ascertained, in the first place by correspondence, and afterwards could be discussed in convention. The idea is by no means Utopian, and we confidently appeal to our British Cousin Brethren to aid us in carrying it out. The Grand Lodge of the State of New York ought to take action in this matter, and we are sure that those of Great Britain and Ireland would gladly join in the good work. Much may be done by the Masonic press on both sides the Atlantic, and we respectfully suggest to our worthy collaborator, *The London Freemason*, that we begin the specification of the differences alluded to, with a view to their removal. If, however, it be found impossible or impractic to change trivialities, long sanctioned by usage, perhaps just fied by local influence, would it not be of value to the craft in general, and to travelers in particular, that such should be known? There would thus be no fear of the magnifying of non essentials by the enemies of Freemasonry, because there is no doubt that every means are adopted to injure the belief in its universality.—*N. Y. Square.*

If our Brother of the Square will remember, we urged the same thing, in an article in the MASONIC JOURNAL some months ago. There is a great lack of uniformity in our own jurisdictional work, and of course it is much greater between American and European Lodges.—*Ed. JOURNAL.*

Bro. Cummings, of Iowa, thus speaks of Masonic qualifications in certain States: Nevada says "the candidate must have absolutely whole limbs, which includes every joint of every finger and toe;" but Missouri knows of no use in the ceremonies for a toe, and therefore does not regard its loss as a disqualification. In Texas the material is not suitable if a finger be missing; but in Florida, if enough of the

thumb be left for the candidate to give proper proof that he is a Mason, it is well with him. In Vermont a stiff knee disqualifies; in Arkansas a defect in the hip is not objectionable. In California a candidate is not permitted to go "one eye" on it; in Louisiana, if the three senses "deemed peculiarly essential are not affected so as to interfere," the "profane" may be allowed to see light. In Kansas he must be internally and externally sound. "No "rheumatic" need apply. In Rhode Island a dwarf can be made a Mason. It is not believed that the size of the State had any influence in adopting this rule. In Michigan to the honor of its Grand Lodge may it be said, the candidate must be able to read and write. In Tennessee he must be able to make a living. But Chairman Cushing, of Texas stands on the top round of the ladder, shouting, "He would be a fool who would consent to his friend, if over eighty, being initiated."

**Masonic Rules.**

Never solicit a man to become a Mason.

Never recommend an applicant, unless you know him to be a good man, and who will conform to the precepts of the institution.

Never cast your ballot in favor of a candidate unless you know him to be worthy and free from reproach.

Never fail to vote as a member of a Lodge upon all questions before it.

Never disclose the manner of your vote upon application.

Never speak of Lodge matters in improper places.

Never indulge in practices which will bring reproach upon the institution.

Never forget that you are a Freemason, a link in the chain of the universal brotherhood.

Never be absent from your Lodge if you can help it.

Never make a display of Masonic emblems to attract attention for purposes of business.

Never forget that a Mason is your brother and treat him accordingly.

Never become an informer or spy upon your brethren.

Never fail to admonish a brother if you see him err.

Never repel a prother because he is poor.

Never act or sympathize with any party or clique in the body of Masonry.

Never electioneer for Masonic candidates, as no one is a true Mason who solicits office.

Always abide the decision of the majority, without murmuring or dissent.

A Mason must be a "peaceable subject" of the State in which he lives.

He must be prudent in his conversation and actions.

He must consult his health, by not continuing too long from home after Lodge hours.

He must relieve a brother in want, if he can.

He must avoid all wrangling and quarreling, and backbiting and slander.

He must not set up his own ideas of law and usage against the constituted authorities of jurisdiction.

He must defend his brother's character, and do him all good offices, as far as may be consistent with his honor and safety.

Masons must salute each other courteously, calling each other brother.—*Ancient Regulations.*

Masonry demands the exercise of Prudence and Justice on questions of dispute.

**PEN AND SCISSORS.**

.... Capoul has congestion of the larynx.  
.... Blight dew—the due of a mortgage note.

.... Good words and good deeds are the rent we owe for the air we breathe.

.... They who weep over errors were not formed for crimes.

.... Sturgeon fishing is good in the Connecticut river.

.... The number of saloons in Michigan has decreased 234 during a year past.

.... The only way to be permanently safe is to be habitually honest.

.... A German physician says that only those who perspire easily are subject to rheumatism.

.... An enraged Brooklyn husband rushed out of the house the other night, threatening to buy a yacht.

.... A Servian woman doesn't feel at all dressed unless adorned in all the hues of the solar spectrum.

.... A correspondent from Russia says: "Nine-tenths of this vast country produces little else than firewood."

.... The evil which we do does not draw upon us so many persecutions and so much hatred as our good qualities.

.... Few of the Atlantic steamship lines have done more than pay expenses during the last six or eight months.

.... Gov. Smith of Georgia, has leased the labor of the State convicts for a term of twenty years at an annual rate of \$25,000.

.... An Edinburg butcher named Dunn has been fined \$20 for having 539 pounds of "deceased" beef in his possession.

.... Old men delight in uttering good precepts—to console themselves for being no longer in a position to set bad examples.

.... In Charleston, Miss., reside two ladies 80 years old. They are twins, and each has had two husbands and seven children.

.... A twenty dollar premium for the fastest hog team is a feature of the approaching Robertson county (Tenn.) fair.

.... A courageous maiden prevented a duel between two fools at Long Branch, the other day, by standing between the pistol holders.

.... A petrified whale, fifty feet long, has been found in California, and is supposed to have been harpooned by the Cardiff Giant.

.... One of the proudest moments of a fat man's life is when he can eat buckwheat cakes without getting molasses on his shirt front.

.... "Are you lost my little fellow?" asked a gentleman of a four-year-old Saturday. "No," he sobbed in reply, "b-but m-my mother is."

.... The playful fly is rather intimately inclined this weather, always in reach, but too lively to be hit when endurance ceases to be a virtue.

.... It is estimated that the Texan cotton crop will be 800,000 bales, and will be at least 5000 bales in excess of last year. The weather is very favorable.

.... The teacher who deliberately says "I can and I will," supplementing resolution by thought and work, will ultimately overcome all obstacles to success.

.... Life is said to be a journey from the cradle to the grave, and the great problem with most men seems to be how to perform it without getting corns.

.... At a shooting match in Savannah, Ga., the other day, Mr. I. W. Moore, at the distance of sixteen paces, shot from the mouth of Constable Frank P. Fox a pipe, twice in succession.

.... The Greeley Sun says: "The rattlesnakes in this vicinity are unusually malignant this season. A large number of sheep have been bitten by them down the Platte."

.... The Menomouee (Wis.) Herald estimates the amount of pine on the Menomouee and its tributaries at 41,835,000,000 feet, 7-460,000,000 is now owned by thirteen persons.

.... On the frontier it is regarded as an unmistakable sign of Indians to discover a man with twenty bullet holes in his body and a hairless, sanguinary place on his head.

.... It is well enough to speak of a wife as the partner of her husband's joys, but it looks inconsistent to see the husband sitting on the shady side of the barn to eat watermelon alone.—*Detroit Free Press.*

.... A Cleavelander has for two years owned and petted a watch dog under the idea that the animal would make it hot for burglars. Burglars got in, walked all around the dog, robbed the house, and now the dog, oh, where is he?—*Detroit Free Press.*