

Masonic Emblems.

You wear the square, but do you have That thing the square denotes, Is there within your inmost soul That principle that should control All deeds and words and thoughts? The square of virtue is it there O you that wear the Mason's square?

You wear the compass; do you keep Within that circle due, That's circumscribed by law divine, Excluding hatred, envy, sin, Including all that's true? The Compass,—does it trace that curve Inside of which no passions swerve.

You wear the TYPE OF DEITY; Ah, brother have a care, He whose all-seeing eye surveys Your inmost thoughts with open gaze, He knows what thoughts are there, Oh send no light irreverent word From sinful man to sinless God.

You wear the Trowel, do you have That mortar old and pure, Made on the recipe of God, Recorded in his ancient word Indissoluble sure? And do you spread with master's care The precious mixture here and there.

You wear the cross; It signifies The burdens Jesus bore, Who staggering fell, and bleeding rose And bore up Calvary the woes Of all who'd gone before. The Cross! oh let it say forgive, Father forgive, to all that live.

My Brothers, if you will display These emblems of our art, Let the great moral that they teach Be engraven each for each Upon your honest heart; So will they tell to God and man Our ancient, holy, perfect plan.

Wise Precautions.

It is always wise to look ahead; to exercise a judicious caution in regard to determining any of the important relations and movements of life. By such care and forethought many unpleasant complications may be avoided, as well as the frequent embarrassments of condition to which the rash and heedless are always exposed. This careful consideration and judicious scrutiny are especially recommended to persons disposed to seek connection with the Masonic Institution. The becoming a Mason ought not to be wholly a leap in the dark. The step is far too important to be taken under the promptings of any sudden whim or impulse, and without any intelligent appreciation of the nature of the society with which affiliation is sought, the kind of company that will be found there, and the general duties that will be imposed. Because of such rash and ill-considered action, disappointment sometimes attends the initiate. We call to mind several instances that illustrate the fact. Under the impulse of personal friendship for a distinguished member of the Craft, an acquaintance of ours inconsiderately sought admission in Masonry. A most estimable citizen, he was constitutionally without a particle of relish for symbolism and scenic display,—his was a prosaic nature to which forms and ceremonies and figurative teachings were an abhorrence. Need we say this man was not overmuch pleased with Masonry? He ought never to have entered our doors; and, probably, he would not, if he had only enquired a little more carefully as to the character of the Institution.

We call to mind another very excellent person who has never been at home in his Masonic relations chiefly because of his own strong individualism, over-sensitiveness and reticence. This man caught glimpses of Masonry in its philosophical aspects, but he did not sufficiently consider that it makes fellowship one of its

watchwords, and calls at times for personal unbending in that free intercourse and cheerful companionship for which it gives the opportunity and provides the occasion. The expectations of our Brother were not fully realized; he can enjoy only a section of Masonry, and he would have saved himself from disappointment by exercising a little more care at the outset.

One other case comes to mind; A young man of noble thought and aims, acting impulsively, knocked at the portals of a certain Lodge for admission, having sought no information as to who composed its membership, the ceremony of initiation being completed, he found himself surrounded by certain Brethren not at all to his liking, with whom he was obliged to associate and fraternize! He felt that he had made a mistake, that he was not in the right place, and that he had acted too hastily. Nominally he is still a Mason, but he is not of us or with us in any true sense.

Better exercise a little more careful thought at the beginning; let the candidate inform himself as to the character and claims of Masonry, look at the list of members belonging to the Lodge he proposes to enter, and then if he decides to go forward he will not be likely to be disappointed. All this is in accordance with the old time teachings of Masonry. More than a hundred years ago this was the rule laid down: "In the first place, when you intend to be made a Freemason, go with your friend to the Lodge, and desire him to show you the warrant of dispensation by which the Lodge is held, &c. When they produce this authority or warrant, then call for the by laws, and, having seriously perused them, consider whether your natural disposition will incline you to be conformable to them. Next call for the roll, or list of members, where you may find the names of some of your most intimate and esteemed, friends, or perhaps the names of such other acquaintances, as you would not choose to associate with."—Freemasons Repository.

— Some of the new percale dresses are made with half-fitting basques.

— Paris dresses so closely fit the figure that tying back is unnecessary.

— Fashionable cuffs for gentlemen have their corners cut off or rounded.

— A new fancy is to trim bonnets with strings of colored seeds or berries.

— Partly made shirts of good material and excellent fit are sold at twelve dollars a dozen.

— Plaids are three times as large and six times as popular for gentleman's suits as they were last year.

— To wear with very long-waisted dresses, belts are made of leather or cloth from four to six inches wide.

— A fire-proof suit has been invented, in which a man can walk through flames of fire and come out unscathed.

— "Baby bonnets" are worn by ladies in Paris. They will not be adopted here unless they are bewitchingly becoming.

— Instead of linen dusters, gentlemen use for driving and traveling overcoats of heavy alpaca or gray Panama cloth.

— Crimped lisse or tulle for the necks and sleeves of dresses seem to have taken the popular fancy, even in preference to lace.

— Drives on the Pelhan coach, yachting, and polo are the attractions which have taken the place of theatre and dancing parties.

The Enchanted Mountain.

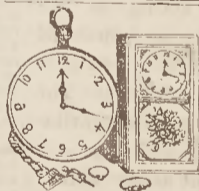
BY B. C. MORSREE.

In the State of Georgia is a large hill known as the enchanted mountain. There is nothing remarkable about this mountain until you get on the summit, when human tracks, or impressions in the solid rock which look like human foot-prints, may be seen. There are one hundred and thirty-six foot-prints and a few hand prints found on this rock. The smallest footprint is four inches in length and perfect in shape. The largest is seventeen and a half inches in length and seven and three fourths inches wide. This one unlike the others, has six toes. By whom these tracks were made is one of the many mysteries which we can never fathom. The Indians in that vicinity had many traditions concerning them. On of these is curious, for it shows that they had a vague idea of Noah's flood. The story is as it has been handed down from father to son for many ages, that this rock was the landing-place of the great canoe; and that the foot-prints were made by the people coming from the great canoe and stepping on the rock which had been softened by the long inundation.

Geology shows us that these tracks were made in a kind of mud, and that this mud hardened afterward into rock. And as the top of the mountain would be the first to show itself above the surface when the waters which once covered the earth subsided, it may be that this island—for it was then an island—was visited by a party of Aborigines who landed, leaving their foot prints in the soft mud which in the process of time was changed to solid rock. But this theory is purely imaginary. We do not know nor can we ever hope to know, who made the tracks.

Another Indian tradition is that a great battle was once fought there, and that the largest track is that of the victorious chief. This is essentially an Indian tradition as their ideas of mental greatness are circumscribed by physical size. They did not consider that the size or activity of the brain had anything to do with it. They regarded physical size and strength as the only necessary qualifications in a commander, and hence their reason for regarding the largest foot prints as having been made by the victorious chief.

So nearly are the English fashions copied by American gentlemen this season, that one might imagine an army of foreigners had landed on our shores.



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