



FOR EVERY THING THAT'S VIEWED ON EARTH, WELL POSSEDED, LEADS THE SOUL TO HEAVEN.

L. I.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 18, 1851.

No. 6.

FRANCES BUMPASS, PROPRIETOR.

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GREENSBORO, N. C.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1851.

For the Weekly Message.

Support of the Ministry, No. VI.

There is a class of lay officers in the church, called Stewards, whose duty is to attend to the money affairs of the church.

It is the duty of the stewards to furnish for the preachers, Dis. p. 178. To take account of the money provision collected for the support of the preachers.

Preachers will not attend to their duties unless they are provided with a board of stewards, and the preacher from having to attend to these things.

if such a welcome awaited him upon his next field of labor, surely the difficulties in the way of our itinerancy would have vanished.

BRUCE.

TRAVELS IN CENTRAL ASIA.

From the Westminster Review. "It is at this time that every one sets his accounts in order, and goes to worry his debtors; all the Chinese are both debtors and creditors, and it results from this that everybody is both pursuing and pursued."

A period of eighteen months elapsed before the French travelers were able to meet with an opportunity of going to Lha-Ssa. The route is almost unknown, but we have only space to indicate briefly some of its most remarkable features.

Six days after our departure we had to cross the Poutrain-Gol, a river which falls into the Blue Lake. The water is not very deep, but being divided into twelve branches approaching very near each other, they occupy a space of more than three miles.

broke the 'sacred embassy' was still splashing in the water."

The Mongols declared the passage had been an admirable one, as there were only two oxen drowned, and one man who had his legs broken.

When the caravan resumed its march it presented a most ludicrous appearance. Men and beasts were loaded with icicles; the poor horses were dreadfully embarrassed with their tails, which stuck out in a solid piece, as if they had been made of lead instead of hair.

After quitting the plains of Koukou-Noor, the country suddenly changes its aspect, and becomes savage and gloomy in the highest degree.

The ascent of the mountain Bourhan-Botu, in itself steep and difficult, was rendered additionally painful by the presence, near the ground, of a certain deleterious gas—apparently carbonic acid—which escapes from some fissure, and spreads its vapors along its side.

The march was to be a long and trying one. The usual signal for the departure of the caravan, the firing of a cannon, was heard an hour after midnight.

The sufferings of the wayfarers from this time were excessive. The cold was so severe that two or three balls of dough steeped in boiling tea, enveloped in cloths, and placed on their breasts, under a covering of three sheep-skins and a blanket, were invariably found frozen.

They were kept on their horses or camels as long as there was the least hope, but when they could neither eat nor speak, nor hold themselves up, they were left exposed on the road.

The long-dreaded robbers came at last too, but for this and other incidents of the route, we must refer to the volumes themselves. The whole passage across these formidable deserts of Thibet occupied a period of more than three months; and on the 29 of January, 1846, about sunset, the exhausted travelers at length caught sight of Dha-Ssa, the metropolis of the Buddhist world, surrounded by a girdle of trees,

many centuries old; its large white houses, the numerous temples with their gilded roofs, and high above all the majestic palace of the Tale Lama, with its dome entirely covered with plates of gold, and surrounded by a peristyle of which the columns, are also gilt.

The day after our arrival at Lha-Ssa, we took a Thibetian guide, and traversed the different quarters of the town, in search of lodgings to hire. The houses of Lha-Ssa are generally large, of many stories, and terminated with a terrace, slightly inclined, to facilitate the draining off of rain-water.

The Thibetian habitations are, in fact, nothing more than great whitened sepulchres—a true image of Buddhism, and all false religions, which take care to clothe with dogmatic truths, and all moral principles, the falsehood and corruption which they contain.

Our poor apartment was on an upper story, which was reached by twenty-six steps of wood, without any banisters, and so steep and narrow that, to avoid breaking your neck, it was prudent to ascend them on the hands and knees.

To mitigate the cold of winter, the Thibetians place in the middle of their rooms a vessel of baked earth, in which they burn argols (dried dung). As this fuel has the effect of emitting more smoke than heat, when you wish to warm yourself, you understand all the advantage of having a hole above your head.

In Lha-Ssa, as elsewhere, the Frenchmen were received with civility by the Buddhist priests. On one occasion apartments were assigned to them inside a convent of Lamas, they were listened to with attention and respect, and called the Lamas of Jehovah.

The Chinese influence is at all times great in Thibet, and at the time of M. Hue's arrival, recent events had increased its strength. The government of Thibet is, as is known, theocratic. The Tale Lama (usually written Dalai-Lama), is the political and religious sovereign of all the countries of Thibet.

The following Representatives presented themselves and were duly initiated, viz: J. W. Albright, J. A. Gilmer, Jr., R. Slater, E. J. Christian, J. H. Robbins, S. F. Parrott, C. C. Cole, J. A. Lineback.

Lama Converts, who was known to have been much devoted to the last, died also at the same time. Public opinion pointed to the Nomekhan, and to his jealousy of the Tale Lama's authority, as the source of these untoward events; and the ministers applied to the Court of Peking to use its influence for the protection of the newly made divinity.

We may not be disposed to admit as readily as he does the probability, for instance, of a certain Lama of Thibet being able to rip himself open with a knife whenever he pleases and close the wound by merely passing his hand over it, accounting for the fact simply by the agency of the devil.

From the few returns sent up for the two last quarters, it is impossible to make a correct calculation of the number of members belonging to our Order at present, but judging from the prosperity of the few from which returns have been received, we are encouraged to think that our Order is growing in numbers and importance.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE Grand Section of the Cadets of Temperance.

GREENSBORO, N. C., Oct. 21, 1851.

The Grand Section of the Cadets of Temperance of the State of North Carolina, assembled this day in the Hall of Greensboro Division, No. 6, Sons of Temperance, Present, Francis M. Paul, G. W. P.; W. H. Lilly, G. G.; A. Myers, G. W.; John F. Howlett, P. G. W. P.; Rep. James E. Lindsay, G. S., pro tem.

On motion, it was ordered, that a committee of three be appointed to invite the Daughters of Temperance and Sisters of Cadets, to be present during the session of the Grand Section.

The Chair appointed the following brothers, viz: A. Myers, Lilly, and Lindsay.

The G. W. P. appointed the following brothers a committee on credentials, viz: Lindsay, Myers, and Lilly.

Motion carried to adjourn until 2 o'clock, P. M. Closed in form.

JAS. E. LINDSAY, G. S. pro tem.

EVENING SESSION.

2 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Section met this evening pursuant to adjournment. Opened in form.

The committee on credentials presented the following report:

G. W. P. The undersigned, Committee on credentials, have examined the credentials of the following brothers, and find them correct, viz: Of Friendship Section, No. 1, P. W. P.'s D. P. Weir, James Sloan, Jesse H. Lindsay, and C. G. Yates, W. P. John F. Howlett, A. P.'s A. P. Sperry, and J. L. Hendrix, P. W. A.'s J. E. Lindsay, J. W. Albright, and W. A. John A. Gilmer, Jr. Of Wadesboro' Section, No. 4, P. W. P.'s J. P. Smith, W. P. J. A. Gale, A. P. L. Cameron, P. W. A.'s F. M. Paul, J. P. Willoughby, P. T. Reenan, and W. A. John A. Gilmer, Jr. Of Section, No. 10, P. W. A. Abram Myers, and W. A. Rowan Slater. Of Montgomery Section, No. 23, P. W. A.'s W. H. Lilly, and E. J. Christian. Of Institute Section, No. 44, W. P. J. H. Robbins, A. P. S. F. Parrott, and P. W. A. C. C. Cole. Of Caladenia Section, No. 46, P. W. A. J. A. Lineback.

In Y. L. and T. J. D. LINDSAY, A. MYERS, W. H. LILLY, Committee.

The following Representatives presented themselves and were duly initiated, viz: J. W. Albright, J. A. Gilmer, Jr., R. Slater, E. J. Christian, J. H. Robbins, S. F. Parrott, C. C. Cole, J. A. Lineback.

The G. S.'s report was read and referred to a committee, consisting of S. H. Robbins, W. Albright, and E. Slater.

The By-Laws of Caladenia were referred to the following committee, viz: D. E. Field, A. P. Parrott, R. Slater.

Moved and carried that Cadets in good standing in their respective Sections be admitted as visitors during this session.

The G. W. P. read his report, as follows: GRAND WORTHY PATRON'S REPORT.

Worthy Brothers—Another year of trial and effort has passed, and we are again permitted through the mercy of a kind Providence, to come hither from our respective Sections to discharge the high and responsible trusts confided to us by our brethren.

We come to interchange opinions, report the progress we have made in the cause, and to take counsel together as to our further operations; so that we may be the better prepared for new efforts, and new battles with our common foe—the foe of all sinners.

I would congratulate you on our happy reunion, and the pleasure of meeting you in our homes, and meet our brethren in the cause, each bound together by the triple cord of Virtue, Love and Temperance.

The peculiarly unfavorable circumstances under which I received the office of G. W. P., must serve as an excuse for the very indifferent manner in which I have discharged the duties of the office, during the time of my election.

Since the April session, I have chartered the following sections: Charlotte, No. 59, Charlotte; Telmont, No. 6, Statesville; Franklin, No. 61; Franklin; Anson, No. 62, C. F. College; Shady Grove, No. 63, Cedar Hill; Bethlehem, No. 64, Bethmont; Mount Airy, No. 65, Mount Airy; Davidson, No. 66, Davidson College; Spring Grove, No. 67, Spring Grove; Atlantic, No. 68, Pantego; Mount Ulla, No. 69, Mount Ulla; Shelby, No. 18, has surrendered its charter.

I would call your attention to the scarcity of returns sent up by subordinate sections, and urge the Grand Section to adopt some measure, if possible, to remedy the evil.

The great number of withdrawals from the Order, induces me to bring the matter before this body, and recommend the adoption of a rule requiring an applicant for withdrawal, to produce a written permission from his parent, master or guardian before he can be allowed to dissolve his connection with the Order.

The attention of the brethren is especially called to the new Ritual adopted by the G. Section of New York, and which we have been compelled to use for want of a better.

There are several matters that demand your attention at this session; but I do not doubt that the zeal and quick perception of the brethren will ensure your action upon all those things which tend to the strengthening of our bonds, and the rearing and beautifying of the glorious moral edifice we are engaged in constructing.

The late period at which most of the Sections report, prevents any practical inferences on the manner condition of the Order in the State; but the general reports received through an extensive correspondence with brethren in different parts of the jurisdiction, give the most cheering accounts of the growth and permanency of the Sections, and the fervor and generous estimation in which our Order is held by the people at large.

In conclusion, brethren, permit me to say, that the success of our Order depends almost entirely upon the conduct of its members, and especially upon the conduct of those elected to rule and legislate for the younger portion of the brotherhood. "The world will look to our example and judge the cause by us." Then, if it is seen by our fellow men that we strive to live soberly, brotherly and virtuously in all respects, they will entertain exalted opinions of the Order, and desire connection with us; but if by our conduct, show to them that the lessons intended to be taught by our noble motto, Virtue, Love and Temperance, are disregarded, then judging the tree by its fruits, they will consider it only to be hewn down and cast into the fire.