

zealous in promulgating would become one of such magnitude, and would exert the power for good that it does. Little did they think that their names would be remembered by us of the present generation with reverence. The question often arises in our minds, What is there in Masonry that should cause it to stand as it does? What is there that should cause men of all creeds, classes and opinions to eagerly ask for admission at its doors? Other societies have been formed, and have displayed as much intellect as ours, yet they have lived but a few short years, and were numbered among the things of the past. There are even societies at the present day that would rival Masonry in good works. Masonry has many imitators, but not one that is like it. We, as Masons, recognize the Holy Bible as the Book of the Moral Law, and as such it is displayed upon every true Masonic altar. Our tenets are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and we attempt to live up to them, not only with our own brethren but with all mankind. On the outer door of our Mystic Temple is written, in letters of pure gold, Faith, Hope and Charity, the principal of which is Charity. Our foundation is the impregnable rock of Justice, and on that rock is inscribed Temperance, Fortitude and Prudence. The points that lead us onward are those five that are deeply cherished in our hearts, and on which we not only reflect but act. From the dead level to the living perpendicular is but a step, yet that step is the resurrection of the intellect from the dead level of ignorance to the perfect perpendicular of right, displayed by the means of knowledge; a knowledge of what? a knowledge of ever remembering that God rules above, and that we, as his children, should live in obedience to his law.

In all lodge rooms where Masons are wont to assemble we meet as one; the political, social or religious questions which at times shake the very foundations of society, are left "out-

side the Masons' door." In our assemblies we know no political, social, or religious dogmas. Masonry is universal; it knows no North, no South, no East, no West; and by its height, depth, length and breadth, it covers every known point of the compass. That "starry decked heaven" which covers the Mason of Egypt covers him of the Pacific. In whatever language they may be spoken, its principles are the same. With but one exception (France), the Volume of the Sacred Law is fully displayed upon its altars. That one example stands alone and unrecognized amongst the lodges of the world. She took from her altars the Book of Law, and for such sacrilege is condemned by all. From a little acorn has sprung a tree whose magnitude is untold, whose influence to dispel ignorance is most powerful, whose warning cry of "peace toward all and good will toward men" is heard and felt by all mankind. In the deadly conflict of arms, where the battle rages the hottest, a Mason's hand will be found to save. Its charity is as boundless as the heavens above. When the Mason seeks for that which was lost, he never loses sight of that which he already has. None should despise small beginnings. A Mason should ever remember the time when he first received the Light of Masonry, and should from the very onset strive to obey the moral law, as well as all the laws of the land in which he lives. Years ago the small acorn produced a shoot which has grown into a tree that we will call Masonic. There clings to its body innumerable branches. These branches are our lodges; the leaves upon these branches are our brethren. Now, my brethren, see to it that you do not clip off any of those branches, but carefully prune them, that they may grow and expand. See to it that the principles we love so well will for ever shine to guide us on our way to the future, and then we will prove the truth of the adage, "Tall oaks from little acorns grow."—*Keystone.*