

it should exist at all must be one of the curiosities of American Masonry.

But what strikes the Scottish Mason in America as being most peculiar is the misuse of the word "Scottish." He will be gravely told by a brother that he is a Scottish Mason, or he will see a notice of a Scottish Rite meeting, only to discover, on enquiry, that the brother in question never saw Scotland; and on going to the meeting in joyful anticipation of meeting with compatriots and talking over "auld lang syne," discover to his surprise and disappointment that there is nothing Scottish about the Scottish Rite meeting, and catches himself wondering if by some occult working of the law of contraries this may not be the reason why it is so called.

Yet with all its peculiarities, and they are more than there is time or space to enumerate, American Masonry is in a healthy and flourishing condition, and the brother hailing from a foreign jurisdiction is always sure of a hearty welcome; and in the esoteric work, as in the lodge government, the Scottish Mason will be more at home than he would be in the sister jurisdictions of England or Ireland.

Craft Tidings.

AMERICAN.

The headquarters saloon and open bar has disappeared. The cause of Templary has been advanced and the cross floats in the van of Truth, Justice and Soberness.—*The Orient*.

In Texas no Mason can vouch for another except he has sat in Lodge with him. A voucher to a brother outside of a Lodge will not authorize a voucher to visit a Lodge, nor will any examination except an examination held in the hall by order of the Master or officer in charge.

The widow of the late George C. Connor, of Tennessee, has presented Lookout Commandery, No. 14, K. T.,

with his valuable library of 2,000 volumes of the choicest literature. Bro. Connor was the founder of the Commandery.

Masonry for centuries has suffered proscription, persecution and death, but has never yet shed one drop of blood in retaliation.

Whithin the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas no Masonic work is allowed in any but the English language.

We notice that the legislative body of I.O.O.F. of the state of New Jersey passed a law recently prohibiting anyone in that jurisdiction from joining the order who is engaged in buying or selling or the manufacture of intoxicating liquors. The firm stand Missouri Masons have taken on this question for many years is bearing fruit even outside of her own jurisdiction and order. It is a good thing push it along.—*The Orient*.

Pennsylvania says cremation is not a Masonic disposal of the remains of deceased brethren, while Missouri acts on the contrary. "Strange such a difference there should be" about "ancient landmarks." We believe in cremation here, perhaps and we may escape in the great future.—*The Trestle Board*.

The colored Masons of Washington dedicated a new hall. It will be occupied for the meetings of all the colored Masonic bodies in the city including nine Blue Lodges, four Chapters, four commanderies, one Scottish Rite, one Mystic Shrine, and one adopted Rite for Sisters.

One of the Eminent Jurists of the G. E. says that Missouri had no right to pass a law prohibiting the saloonist from becoming a Mason, because it is "forinst" the landmarks. Whew! so it is against the landmarks to select decent and respectable company. Thanks for the information.—*The Orient*.

Bob Burdette says the Creater wasted mud when He made the man who takes a newspaper from the postoffice for two or three months, and then has the postmaster mark it "refused," in order to avoid paying for it.