

RENTING ROOMS IN THE TEMPLE.

The *Buffalo Sunday News* had better more fully understand what it is talking about when it assumes to discuss the New York Temple affairs. The fact that the Trustees rented halls in the Temple to other masonic bodies than blue lodges was to increase the revenue and assist in paying the debt. To allow none but lodges to meet in the building would be foolish in the extreme, and the wonder is that the *News* did not see the absurdity of its reasoning. Tenants are what the trustees want and if they find such among the legitimate masonic bodies of the city willing and able to pay, it is a source of congratulation to the entire fraternity of the State.—*Rochester Democrat*.

The *Sunday News* does understand what it is talking about, and the writer has the courage to say what is right. Some masonic editors are given to fawning on dignitaries, covering them with nauseous flattery and a flow of sweet adjectives which disgust all save the two men directly interested. It could not be expected that the proposition to house lodges in the Temple to the exclusion of Mystic Shriners, Mohammedan Nobles, and other pseudo masons, would receive favor in their eyes. It is not necessary to say more than that Blue lodges are better tenants, for there are more of them, whereas the Nobles and Shriners would pay less rent, and the rooms, when fitted up for their frequent use, could not be occupied by other bodies. There are scores of lodges near the Temple in New York that would be glad to meet there if there was room for them. Why crowd these lodges out?—*Buffalo Sunday News*.

From the above extracts it will be plainly perceived that our brethren in the rural districts are keenly alive as to the manner in which restoration of the Masonic Temple in this city shall be effected permanently, in order to attain the greatest possible revenue for the Asylum Fund, the specious beguiling the fraternity of this State into the erection of the Metropolitan White Elephant, threatening to remain on our hands as an unprofitable beast for half a century to come.

The *Buffalo Sunday News* is perfectly correct in its statements, all of which we heartily endorse, and, as out of the 70,000 Masons under our Grand Lodge, 50,000 are now resi-

dents of this city, but subject to a most obnoxious and un-masonic poll-tax. It is fair to presume that they will hold the Trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund to a strict business accountability as to the manner in which their involuntary contributions have been invested. Were there no other reason for exclusion of the Templars and Shriners, a fundamental masonic law, which has hitherto been disregarded upon the excuse of policy, closes the portals of the Temple against them. That law, as old as the hills, declares that a hall, dedicated to Ancient York Masonry cannot be used for any other purposes. Our hall, erected by York Masons, was formally dedicated by our Grand Lodge to the purpose of York Masonry, over which it has authoritative jurisdiction, and cannot be legally devoted to occupation by bodies, other than lodges by it legitimately constituted. Such is the universal law of York Masonry, and it must be implicitly obeyed by any representative official, created by a Grand Lodge of York Masons. Were discretion to be tolerated, we might possibly have slugging matches or jig dancing in the Grand Lodge room, winked at upon the ground that the performers being Master Masons in good standing were desirous of increasing our revenue.—*Corner Stone*.

GRAND LODGE FOR NEW ZEALAND.

Opinions differ as to the advisability of establishing a Grand Lodge for New Zealand,—some Masons—among whom is our esteemed friend, Bro. Walter Hill—being in favor of forming an exalted body of the kind, while others prefer to remain under the control of the rulers in the old country. There is much to be said on both sides of the question. No consistent brother will contend that the principal desire on the part of the advocates for the institution of a Grand Lodge for this colony—the