

of having "wrought in the quarries, and presented approved specimens of his work." A true Craftsman will expect to be thoroughly tested, and feel the more secure when he finds he has found Brethren who know how to handle the working tools of the Ancient Craft—square him and plumb him, and if found "true and trusty," then assign him a place on the level, as a worthy Craftsman among us. On the other hand, there will be a few among the many who come, who have never "served a regular time as an E. A.;" have never wrought in the quarries, have never passed the Overseer's Square, and when they are called upon for the mystic proofs entitling them to draw wages as a Craftsman, they will be found to be "impostors." Look out for them; there are many prowling through the country, who are very expert in giving signs and talking wisely of the mystic art—too wisely sometimes for honest, unsuspecting Craftsman. Do not be in a hurry, take time, look up documents, trace genealogies, and be sure you are not imposed upon by an artful impostor, who seeks to get his hand into your treasury."—*Freemason's Monthly Magazine*.

GRAND MASTER HALL of Vermont says: "But, my brethren, while I with pleasure present you with assurances of the prosperity of the Order, and most heartily congratulate you on the same, yet let me at the same time, remind you that these times, when Masonry is considered most popular, and when thousands are seeking admission to the Order, are of all others the most dangerous to the true welfare of the Institution. The enemies of Masonry are not confined to those who are without, but, unfortunately, we have some in the midst of us. They may be 'with us but yet are not of us'—may gain admission to the Order in just such times as the present, through a too great remissness in the inspection of the material presented; times when our Lodges are over-worked, material is often received without sufficient inspection, and which is found all too soon to be entirely unfit for the building. They seek to join the Order, perhaps because their friends are there, or because it has become fashionable to do so; or, it may be, for personal aggrandizement, or some other equally unworthy motive. But in any case, they can be considered in no other light than as 'seed sown by the wayside or among thorns, or upon stony ground,' and although some attempt may be manifest at growth, yet they will never produce fruit. On the contrary, these unworthy brethren will be the first to desert when the Institution ceases to be popular, and, what is worse, when the Order comes to suffer persecution in the future, as it has in the past, they will not only desert you, but will turn about and sting you to the heart. My brethren, of such material let us beware. The time is coming, I fear, when we shall have cause to bitterly rue our present prosperity. The busy notes of preparation are being even now sounded. In some parts of the West, certain sects (I regret to say of the Christian Church) are combining for the ultimate overthrow of our Institution. Let me here simply caution you to be careful what soldiers you receive into your ranks to fight the great battle in the future against *bigotry, superstition and intolerance*."

AT REST.

W. BRO. H. S. MINNES, W. M. of Catarauqui Lodge, died on the 20th inst., at the age of twenty-six years. The *Kingston News* says of him: "Mr. Minnes was a very young man, notwithstanding which he was widely and favorably known. Indeed, we can safely say that he had not a single enemy. As partner in the firm of Shaw & Minnes, he had earned a high reputation for honor and integrity, and he was most popular with the customers and the public generally. About a month ago he was struck down with a low fever, from which he never rallied, and which carried him off this morning at the early age of twenty-six. Mr. Minnes, at his death, was the Worshipful Master of Catarauqui Lodge, A. F. and A. M., which has lost within a week no less than four of its members, but the last, the saddest and severest blow of all, is the death of their Worshipful Master, Mr. Minnes. Among the brethren he was held in the highest esteem, and his decisions were always received with the most unbounded confidence and respect.

IT is with much regret we announce the death of R. W. Bro. JOHN V. NOEL, P.D.D.G.M., for the Central, now St. Lawrence and Ottawa District, which took place at Kingston, Ont., on Friday evening, the 16th ult. The members of the various orders, of which he was in full communion up to the time of his death, attended his remains to the place of interment, and there committed them to their last resting-place on this earth, with full Masonic ceremonies.

COMP. JAMES BIRNIE, Grand High Priest of South Carolina, died in Greenville, in that State, Nov. 12th. He was sick but three days, of diphtheria. This is a great loss to that State, as Comp. Birnie was a sound thinker and a fine writer. The Deputy Grand High Priest, Comp. A. T. Smythe ordered the jewels and working tools of the Chapters, to be clothed in mourning for 90 days, and a blank page in each Record be inscribed to his memory.