

accord with our view. This is a question of so much interest and importance, we give his recapitulated statement in full. (This has hitherto appeared in *THE CRAFTSMAN*.) Grand Master Graham declined a re-election. His closing words to his Grand Lodge, glow with a fervor full of Masonic love and kindness. Few Grand Lodges have been so long and so highly favored with a Grand Master so learned and scholarly, and one of such admirable fitness and ability. He has conducted the important and often complicated affairs of his Grand Lodge, and has upheld its honor and dignity under many circumstances of a trying nature, with a zeal and manly ability seldom met with, and worthy of the highest admiration.

"A condensed report containing no general review on Foreign Correspondence, was submitted by J. Fred. Walker, in which the proceedings of various sister Grand Lodges, with Washington for 1881, are acknowledged."

FOR THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN.

### EPOCHS IN FREEMASONRY.

BY M. E. FRATER COL. W. J. B. MACLEOD MOORE.

We are indebted to the Great Prior of Canada, Col. MacLeod Moore, for the following outline of the various "Epochs in Free and Accepted Masonry," with extracts from his Masonic common-place book.

The first Epoch is 1717 to 1721. The details of this important Epoch has been already shown in pages 6 to 10 in his "Allocution" to Great Priory of 1882:—

While the great Order of the Temple continued intact, the "Builders," mainly composed of lay brethren, had lost in a great measure their

identity, and deteriorated into Guilds. The Builders had given up their connection with Monasteries and, as a natural consequence, "Guilds" were the result, in which, although retaining the ceremonial and doctrines of the Monasteries, even those became obsolete in a great degree, until the valuable ceremonial was lost. In all the Constitutions of the Fraternity the doctrine of the Trinity was the basis.

In the year 1717 there was but one Degree of Initiation, the names of "Entered Apprentice," "Fellow Craft," and "Master," being merely the designation of "classes of workmen" and not degrees. This was the situation in 1717, at the time when the "revival of Masonry" and the revision of the work fell into the hands of Drs. Anderson and Desaguliers. In 1721 the work was apparently completed, and came from the hands of these men in "Two degrees," viz.: "Entered Apprentice," and "Fellow Craft," rejecting the doctrine of the Trinity and making the institution cosmopolitan. It is clearly demonstrated that the 3rd degree was made up by them after 1721. It was derived from the "Master's part," so called, and was simply the legend of "Hiram," said to have been borrowed out of the Jewish Targums. "Anderson and Desaguliers" were publicly accused of the act, and they never denied it.

Thus the main character of Masonry was entirely changed both in a religious and political view, and in this character has come down to us. It may well be called the first great "Epoch in Free and Accepted Masonry."

*Extracts from Masonic common-place book.*

—"The lodges instituted by the Benedictines flourished until the beginning of the 14th century, at which time the Ecclesiastics began to abandon their taste for architecture, and the architects originally trained and