

"Do you know," continued Fred, "that I sometimes fancy that it served me right for having gone in with such a profane crowd as those Bolinda fellows. There wasn't a Craftsman on the Board, or among the promotion. If there had been, things would have been better for all of us—I hope."

"Spoken like a valiant deacon. But I hope so too. It's just the other way with us—609 bristles with P. M.'s."

"I am glad to hear it. But I would, in your place, stick to my Wheel Ellens all the same. Just recollect what trumps the Bon Accords proved, that I cared nothing for."

The advice was so sensible, that it would have been unpleasant to acknowledge having realized more than half of the stock he named. So I contented myself with conservative resolutions regarding the remainder, and, as the Cross had already begun to bend, we lit our candles and separated.

I had more than once sat in Lodge with Lockyer, and was therefore prepared to vouch for him on the evening of our visit to the St. Patrick. He, however, preferred being examined, and, finding a seat next me presently, whispered an emphatic acquiescence in my opinion of their laxity. Nor did his dissatisfaction diminish as the labour of the night proceeded; and it was easy enough to foresee that, if he joined at all, it would be elsewhere. Presently there came a summons at the port, and the Provincial Grand Master, under another constitution, was announced, and with him a number of brethren, visitors.

Their names we could not ascertain; but there was one among them whose appearance palpably occasioned some extraordinary interest. From whispers round us, it was plain that in his honour the salute was given so heartily, and it was towards him that every eye turned, as, after making his obeisance, he quietly sought a distant chair. A somewhat undersized man, of slight, spare, wiry form, with a thin face, sparsely covered with moustache and beard, and bronzed as the oldest tar's; with something, too, of command in his carriage and his gait, and with that calm, lofty front, that marks so faithfully habitual victory over danger; but chiefly remarkable for the depth and brilliancy of keen, earnest grey eyes, quick to notice all around them when he gave attention, but for the most part fixed in grave, thoughtful abstraction, as though looking through the walls, and past the city, out upon far distant scenes a thousand miles beyond.

Staying, through curiosity, to supper, we were enabled to recognize in this modest stranger a colonist, whose name was then among the most distinguished in the southern hemisphere. We had, too, the opportunity of hearing himself recount, in simple and unaffected language, some of the most novel of the great achievements which had won for him his