

DILIGENT.

We note with regret that in the vocabulary of some Freemasons the word diligent has become almost a synonym of industrious.

It is that, and much more. The appellation diligent, comes to us from the Latin verb *diligo*, I love, I love dearly. Hence, a really diligent Freemason, a diligent Masonic student, is one who is not only industrious, but he is one who dearly loves his work. "Seest thou a man diligent in his business, he shall stand before kings, he shall not stand before mean men."

AN AGREEABLE SURPRISE.

Having recently visited a certain Lodge in which I had not, for reasons, expected to witness first-class work,—imagine my agreeable surprise to find that all the work in the degree conferred, including the delivery of the lecture, was done in a highly creditable manner. It was obvious also, from the beaming countenances of the assembled brethren, that they too were equally delighted.

Immediately after the closing of the Lodge, I heartily congratulated the W. M., and I perceived that other brethren were in like manner complimenting all the other officers. I asked the W. M. how this commendable transformation from middling to all but perfect work had been brought about. The secret, said he, smilingly, is weekly meetings for rehearsal and practice by all the officers of the Lodge. Having been grieved that our work was not what it ought to be, I requested all my officers to remain after Lodge for a brief conference on

matters of importance; and I earnestly addressed them on the urgent necessity of greatly improving the work, and asked each one thoroughly to acquaint himself with his part of the labor, and all meet me weekly in the lodge-room at a given hour on a certain evening for instruction in, and practice of the work, and what you have seen to-night is the result of three such meetings! Next month we expect to do a like amount and in three months we anticipate that our Lodge will be one of the best working Lodges in the District. If we cannot do it in three months, I am confident that in less than six months we can put our Lodge near, or at the head; and he fraternally added, with a significant look,—I thought that that brief, pointed address in a recent number of THE CRAFTSMAN, to the W. M. and Officers of ——— Lodge,—meant us!

PRECIOUS MEMENTOS.

In visiting one of our Lodges, we were highly delighted to see suspended upon the walls a large number of neatly framed photographs of some of the founders, and many of the former Worshipful Masters and other prominent officers and members of the Lodge. There were also a few finely executed oil paintings of such. There were also a few containing photos in group of all the officers of the Lodge for a given year. Most of these, we were informed, were presented to the Lodge by the officers and brethren themselves. A few only were procured at the expense of the Lodge.

How delighted we were to gaze upon the "similitudes" and signatures,