

severely deprecated, and was sorry to see so much attention paid to them in the columns of a journal like the *Freemason*. For his own part, he would rather see his daughter or his wife at the bottom of the Clyde, or in her grave, than that she should have anything to do with them. There was no Masonry in them; therefore, let them be discountenanced."

**THE MASONIC ALMS CHEST.**—Ours is a charitable Institution. Like other benevolent societies, it has a treasury and a treasurer, but its deeds of charity are by no means to be measured by the amount paid out of the treasury. Far from it. When it makes a man a Mason, it makes an alms-chest of his bosom, and it gives to every other brother throughout the world a key to it. When a brother dies, he leaves this golden key to his widow and orphans.

Silently are these alms-chests unlocked. The world hears not the lid creaking upon its hinges. Here are found not gold and silver alone, but what is sometimes a great deal more valuable—a smile of sympathy, a note of timely warning, and a word of cheering encouragement—the aid of a friend when such is needed and deserved.

There is no other alms-chest of human construction, fastened with one lock, to which there are ten thousand keys in every part of the world. This is the grand characteristic of this fraternity, wherein it differs from all other societies of charitable origin.—*Bishop Randall*.

THE word dimit is from the Latin *dimitto*—to permit to go. The dismissal of a Mason from his lodge does not cancel his obligation. *Once a Mason, always a Mason.*

IN Masonic symbolism, the North is the place of darkness. During this last age the North has been the true East of light. It is in countries situated in the North that liberty of thought, elevated ideas, and Masonry have found the most partisans.

THE word *Passed* alludes to the passage of the Entered Apprentice between the symbolical columns, and through the porch to the middle chamber.

THE word *Tiler*, signifies one who covers the roof of a building with tiles. So the guardian or sentinel of a lodge is said to tile or cover it from inspection or intrusion.

THE only reason why ladies cannot be made Masons is, that their mysteries, being symbolical of labor as performed by man, could in no case be shared by women. No honest man for a moment believes her to be his inferior in mind.

A REGULAR lodge consists of seven masters, and also of five. The last number is derived from the five senses, inasmuch as the persons who are united to form a lodge should be as perfect as a whole, and work together with as much unanimity as a single man, who is endowed with five healthy senses.

THE good Mason is an example to his neighbors. To his wife he is a tender husband, not a usurping lord; to his children he is a kind, a providential father, not a domineering tyrant; to his servants, he is equally the friend as the superior. Thus ruling, he is obeyed with cheerfulness; thus his home, whether cottage or palace, is the abode of peace.

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## JURISPRUDENCE.

*Question.*—Is it constitutional to appoint two members a Committee of Inquiry on a candidate for initiation—should there not be three?

*Answer.*—The Constitution does not limit the number, but it is usual and advisable that there should be at least three on the committee.

*Question.*—An applicant for initiation is lame. Can he be initiated if he is physically unable to assume proper positions during the ceremony?

*Answer.*—Certainly not. It would be well for the District Deputy Grand Master to see the candidate and judge for himself.

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## AT REST.

WORSHIPFUL BROTHER PAST MASTER ROSS ROBERTSON, of Northern Light Lodge, No. 266, Kincardine, died on board a railway train, about 100 miles west of Chicago, on Thursday, November 26, 1874, aged thirty-four years and nine months. W. Bro. Robertson came to reside in Kincardine over sixteen years ago. He was then a very young man, but soon identified himself with every movement tending to the prosperity of his town, and to the advancement of his fellow citizens. He was a man of great energy, of pleasing address, and of a loveable and affectionate disposition. He became early affiliated with the Northern Light Lodge, to the advancement and prosperity of which he devoted much of his time and energy. He was elected to the Oriental Chair in December, 1860, and filled that position for two years with honor to himself and