

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR AND HIS SONS.

The monarch was one day thoughtful. His wise men inquired the cause, and he stated that he wished to know what would be the fate of his sons after his death. The wise men consulted together, and at length it was proposed that they should put questions separately to the three princes, who were then young. The first who entered the room was Robert, afterwards known by the name of Courthose. "Fair sir", said one of the wise men, "answer me a question. If God had made you a bird, pray what bird would you wish to have been?" Robert answered—"A hawk, because it resembles most a valiant and courteous knight". William Rufus next entered, and his answer to the same question was—"I would be an eagle, because it is a strong and powerful bird, and feared by all other birds, and therefore it is king over them all". Lastly came the younger brother Henry, who had received a learned education, and was on that account known by the name of Beauclerc. His choice was a starling, because it is a debonnaire and simple bird, and gains its living without injury to any one, and never seeks to rob or grieve its neighbour". The wise men returned immediately to the king. Robert, they said, would be bold and valiant, and would gain renown and honour, but he would finally be overcome by violence, and die in a prison; William would be powerful and strong as the eagle, but feared and hated for his cruelty and violence, until he ended a bad life by an equally bad death; but Henry would be wise and prudent, peaceful unless when compelled to war; he would gain wide lands, and die in peace. When King William lay on his death-bed, he remembered the saying of his wise men, and bequeathed Normandy to Robert, England to William, and his own treasures, without land, to his youngest son, Henry, who eventually became king of both countries, and reigned long and prosperously.—*Wright's Literature.*

THE MUNIFICENT EXPENDITURE OF MEANS BY THE ORDER,
FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS.

The last annual report of Grand Secretary Ridgely, shows that the large sum of *one hundred and ninety-seven thousand three hundred and seventeen dollars* were expended during the year in the relief of distress among the brothers of the order, and their widows and orphans. This fact should for ever close the mouths of gainsayers, in the utterance of charges against the Order, and should establish in the minds of the virtuous and humane, its high claims to support and respect, as the most potent of agents in the amelioration of humane distress.

The above enormous sum was not dispensed with the ostentation that characterizes the efforts of many benevolent societies of the day. There was no flourish of trumpets, no pompous parading of the *relievers*, or humiliating publication of the relieved; but silently and unseen, the almoners went forth to the room of sickness and the chamber of distress, as brothers fulfilling the high duties of humanity, and dispensing the blessings of fraternal affection. Our institution is not based upon empty professions, and supported by frothy praises; its works are practical, and well able to stand the test of severe scrutiny. No man in his right mind can look upon the operations of the order, and pronounce denunciations against it, without proving himself destitute of truth.—*Iris.*

Humanity

Is not a field where tares and thorns alone
Are left to spring; good seed hath there been sown
With no unsparing hand. Sometimes the shoot
Is choked with weeds, or withers on a stone;
But in a kindly soil it strikes its root,
And flourisheth, and bringeth forth abundant fruit.

—*Southey.*

HUMBLE LIFE.

There is happiness in humble life—who can doubt it? The man who owns but a few acres of land, and raises an abundance to supply the necessary wants of his family—can ask for no more. If he is satisfied with his condition—and there are thousands so situated who are—no man is more happy. No political movement disturbs his repose—no speculative mania chases the calm serenity of his mind. His family is the world to him; his little lot is all his care. Who sighs not for such a life of calmness and serenity? Amid the cares and anxieties of business, who would not change his prospects and his honours for the repose of him who is far from the noise and bustle, princely luxury and squalid poverty, of city life? If there is a situation congenial to the true spirit of man and the growth of virtue, it is amid the rejoicings of nature—in the cabin retirement of rural life.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE R. W. GRAND LODGE
OF CANADA.

Montreal, October 2, 1846.

The R. W. Grand Lodge assembled this evening, at the call of the M. W. Grand Master.

Present—M. W. Grand Master, R. W. Grand Secretary, R. W. Grand Chaplain, W. G. Marshall, W. G. Guardian. Also Present—P. G.'s Montizambert, Hilton, McGoun, Whitney, Clarke.

On motion, the reading of the Minutes was dispensed with.

On motion, the Order of Business was suspended to proceed to the Installation of E. L. Montizambert, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master *elect*.

P. G. E. L. Montizambert being presented by the W. G. Marshall at the Chair of the M. W. Grand Master, was solemnly qualified in the O. B. N. of his office, and proclaimed duly installed R. W. Deputy Grand Master in ancient form.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed P. G. Wm. Hilton, W. G. Conductor, who was forthwith installed into that office.

On motion of P. G. Holland, seconded by P. G. Hilton, the Order of Business was further suspended, to admit of new business being brought forward.

The Grand Secretary presented a communication from P. G. A. H. Laird, inviting this Grand Lodge to coöperate in the Celebration of the Anniversary of the Montreal District of the I. O. O. F., Manchester Unity, to be observed on Tuesday, 6th October.

The Grand Secretary presented communications from Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1, Queen's Lodge, No. 2, and Commercial Lodge, No. 5, requesting permission to accept the invitation of the I. O. O. F., Manchester Unity, to assist at their Annual Celebration.

Moved by P. G. Holland, seconded by P. G. Cooke, That the invitation of P. G. A. H. Laird, to co-operate with the Montreal District of the I. O. O. F., Manchester Unity, in the Celebration of their Anniversary, be accepted, and that permission be granted to the several Lodges in this city under this Jurisdiction, which may have made, or shall hereafter make, application for permission to assist at said Celebration; and that the M. W. Grand Master cause public notice to be given to all the Subordinate Lodges in the City, calling upon them to assemble at Odd Fellows' Hall at a given hour, in full Regalia, for the above-mentioned purpose.

Moved in amendment by D. G. M. Montizambert, seconded by P. G. Clark, That all the words after "That" be struck out, and the following substituted: "a Committee of Three be appointed to meet the Committee of the Montreal District of the I. O. O. F., Manchester Unity, in the friendly spirit manifested by the present Invitation, and ascertain and report to this R. W. Grand Lodge tomorrow evening, what is to be the nature of the proposed Celebration."

The question being put on the amendment, it was decided in the affirmative.

The original motion, as amended, was then put and carried.

The Chair named P. G.'s Montizambert, Clarke, and Hilton, as the Committee.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned to the following evening, at 7 o'clock.

J. CUSHING, *Grand Secretary.*