

truth results from the legitimate carrying out of various propositions, so as to show the actual state of things. These two are closely related ; and they are necessary to our development as rational and intelligent beings, although their absence may not give rise to moral turpitude : and yet, great inconvenience and loss, both of life and property will result from error or from ignorance of what is logically and scientifically true. For instance—Through ignorance of scientific truth in the cases of steam and electricity great discomfort and inconvenience would ensue. Take away knowledge of truth in chemistry, and poisoning by wholesale would follow ; while the nitrogen compounds would play sad havoc in terrible explosions : and thus it is throughout the many and various departments of nature's wonderful machine shop.

Moral truth is termed truthfulness, sincerity and veracity or honesty. It effects those, who utter it, as well as those, who hear it, and so do the violations of it. This kind of truth is especially considered in masonic intercourse, and is, what we have to discuss at the present time. In the first place, it is a necessity in society. It is the cope-stone of character building. An element of untruthfulness running through a man's nature destroys the man, and renders him utterly worthless like a bar of steel impregnated with sulphur and phosphorous or a chain with a number of weak links in its structure. Truth is the foundation of all confidence in the intercourse, which exists among rational beings. It is from the veracity of others, that we gain the most of our knowledge. It is from this source that we learn the facts of ancient and modern history. On the ground of truth all the transactions of commercial life and all the operations of good government are conducted. On this ground the pupil confides in his teacher, the child in his parents, the master in his servants: and we all confide every moment in the faithfulness of the Almighty for the regular returns of the seasons, day and night and seed time and harvest. Truth is the foundation of our present comfort and our future prosperity. In the absence of truth, the character cannot be well and truly builded, be the superstructure ever so carefully carried up. Every one who wilfully misrepresents a physical fact or law of nature is a deceiver, who attempts to show a distorted view of the character of the Deity. We are told in the sacred volume, that "lying lips are an abomination to the Lord.

Masonry can do little or nothing with an untruthful man, because the material of the foundation is bad and cannot be used either for service or ornament in any building in the craft. This principle of truth is commonly violated in many ways, in words, in writings, in books, in newspapers, by gestures, by signs, by speaking and by remaining silent. A man violates the truth, when he invents falsehood respecting the character of his neighbour, or when he remains silent, and refuses to defend him, when his character is unjustly aspersed. He violates the truth, when he promises, what he had no intention of performing, or what he had no right to promise, or what is out of his power to perform, or