

BRO. JAMES C. BATCHELOR, M. D., has been Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for the past twenty years, and is a most efficient officer. Bro. Dr. Batchelor was made a Mason in Eureka Lodge, No. 64, of Greenville, Ala., in 1846. He is a P. G. H. P. of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Louisiana, and has been its Grand Secretary since 1867. Bro. Batchelor was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1818, and in youth lived in the States of New York and Alabama, prior to removing finally to Louisiana. He served in the Seminole war, in 1839, in Florida, and in the Confederate army as a commissioned officer during the civil war. His friends are legion, and his Masonic ability and character are held in the highest esteem.—*Keystone*. R. W. Bro. Batchelor has ever been a firm friend of the Grand Lodge of Quebec and is highly esteemed by the brethren of his native province.

CONFUCIUS.—A statuette of Confucius, B. C. 1200 (circa), contributed by Bro. Controller Blake to the recent Plymouth (Eng.) Masonic exhibition, attracted much attention from all visitors. The figure is clothed with an Apron, on which are depicted emblems familiar to Freemasons.—*Lt.*

THE Grand Chapter of Mark Masons in America having "locked out" all M. M.'s under the English Grand Mark Lodge, that lodge threatens to grant charters to its brethren in Canada and the States. We do not think it will.—*Sydney Freemason*.

A much needed improvement, which will be greatly appreciated by the fraternity, is being supplied in the Masonic Temple, Boston, by the introduction of one of Whittier's hydraulic passenger and freight elevators. It will probably be in running order soon after the 1st proximo.

FREEMASONS AND TEMPLARS.—It is evident there was some connection before the revival (in 1717) between Freemasonry and Templary, as they had a common origin from the Benedictine Order who, separating into two branches from the Cloisters in the 11th and 12th centuries, went forth into the world—the lay brothers employed as Architects to repair and erect new ecclesiastical edifices to the "Glory of God"—the other branch guiding and organizing the multitudes proceeding to the Holy Land to recover and guard the sacred places of our Lord's nativity from the infidels—which gave rise to the Religious and Military Order of the Templars—both branches promulgating the same doctrines—the "Sacred Mysteries." In Dryburgh Abbey there is an old tomb of the fourteenth century or fifteenth century, with a memorial cross-hilted Templarsword, surrounded by a wreath of Ivy; having a Square and Compasses on each side of the sword under the hilt, evidently referring to the connection of the old Templars and the Builders.

THE General Grand Chapter of the United States has, in pursuance of its supporting the Grand Lodge of Mark Masons in Quebec against the invasion of its territory by the Grand Mark Lodge of England, withdrawn its recognition of the latter Grand Mark Lodge. We will deal with this invasion in another issue.—*Sydney Freemason*.

AT a meeting of St. John's Chapter, R. A. M., Hamilton, recently, R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, of the Grand Chapter of Canada, was presented with a magnificent regalia and address in token of the appreciation of his services in the office which he has held for ten years.

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