

the features of Freemasonry, let me close with a few words of exhortation to the Craft, which I trust will not be without profit to all of us.

Cultivate love above all things. It is the highest round of that celestial ladder, which planted here below, rests above on the throne of mercy, bridging over the gap between earth and heaven, that we poor prodigals may return to our Father. Having love we have all things. It is the "fulfilling of the law." It comprehends all the graces of the Christian character. It suffers long and is kind, it envies not, it slanders not. It never speaks the lie. Without it, all your achievements in the arts and sciences, to the study of which, as far as time admits, your connection with the Order binds you, will be as nothing. All the Masonic lore that may be stored up in your minds will leave you (without charity) as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. Even your acts of kindness to brother Masons and the outside world, will not profit you, unless they proceed from a sincere love to God and to your fellow man. Remember,

"No works shall find acceptance in that day,
When all disguises shall be swept away,
That square not only with the scripture plan
Nor springs from love to God, or love to man."

The great Architect of the Universe did not make our race to prey upon one another like the beasts that perish. He made our nature noble, *Godlike after His own image*. The fall has warped this nature, and distorted all its aims. But strength is given from above to repair the evil that was done. Faith in the Redeemer is the first round of the celestial ladder. Standing here we learn the "invisible things of God" by symbols furnished in "these His lower works"—through nature look up to God. Having gained a knowledge of the unseen, and dwelling upon the delights and glories of the future world by faith; we mount a step higher in the celestial ladder, and *hope* for the realization of these heavenly things. Then faith and hope breed love, and love reciprocating increases faith and hope. The life is love, its conditions faith and hope. Love must be the ruling power in this world, before its pains and woes and wrongs and sorrows will abate. Love should permeate all we do. It should be the centre of our social system. As the sun is of our planetary system, around this we should move with quiet uniformity in the several orbits assigned to us by the Creator. No matter how important our sphere of duty, no matter how obscure: surrounded in our march by many satellites, and girt with a gorgeous zone of borrowed glory, or like the dull earth on which we dwell, moving on with a single attendant: love from its intrinsic worth should form the common centre of our longings, the common focus whence we derive light, and warmth and vigor—light to behold clearly the path of duty leading to the skies, warmth to ripen our incipient energies, vigor to devote those energies to the practice of heavenly virtues.—*Freemason's Repository*.

THE TEMPLARS OF CANADA.

BY BRO. ALBERT G. MACKEY, M. D.

WE have been favored with a copy of the address of Sir Knight Col. W. J. B. Macleod Moore, Grand Prior of the Dominion of Canada, from which we have derived some interesting information in relation to the Temple Order in that colony.

The most important item alluded to, in the address is, that there exists a very strong disposition among Canadian Templars to dis sever their dependency on the Convent General of England and to establish for themselves a National Grand Priory. Much of this feeling has been excited it seems, by the apparent neglect of the Grand Chancellerie in England to make any response to the respectful memorials hitherto presented by the Grand Priory to that body. On this subject, Sir Knight Moore says:

"I am aware that total separation from the Order in England has been mooted by members of this Grand Priory, caused, no doubt, by irritation at the apparent contemptuous negligence in attending to our reasonable request, but I have always contended, and still maintain, that our proper position is to continue firm in our allegiance to the Supreme Head of the Order in England. It is not only the most natural, but where else could we find so honorable a banner to serve under as that of the Heir to the Throne, who rules us with the sanction and approval of H. M. Gracious Majesty the Queen. Separation would place the Templars of Canada in a very secondary position, as a mere adjunct to the masonic body, attached to and tolerated on sufferance only, whereas, we are now an integral part of an Order, Great *per se*, desiring a continuance of our connection with the parent stock. At the same time I fully concur in the steps taken by this Grand Priory, and contend that we are entitled to hold the position of a National or Great Priory co-equal with those of the nationalities of the Empire, and under the direct rule of our Royal Grand Master. We feel that it is not consistent with the dignity of this vast Dominion or the high position the Order now