

The guest chamber is large and cheery, and luxuriously fitted out in tufted leather and oak. There are engravings and paintings around the walls, and over the mantel is a portrait of General Pike, which I believe is considered good. I do not think so. The late Grand Commander was a magnificent type of the old time Crusaders; tall and straight, with waves of silk-white hair foming over his shoulders and silk-white brows and beard. And, in his younger days, so mighty did he make himself with both sword and pen, that even in a burlesque obituary, representing his repulse at the heavenly portals, the recording angel was made to demonstrate to its warden in this wise:

"Good Saint Peter hold your jaw,  
That's Albert Pike of Arkinsaw!"

When one compares the painting with the last photograph taken of the grand old soldier-scholar, one is bound to own that while the artist caught the features, he, some way, missed the man.

Washington is so barren of public libraries, that there are many scholars dying of mental starvation through its length and breadth because they have no food for their brains. This library has not limited its privileges to Masons alone, but has graciously opened its doors to readers of all creeds and none. A rich man who gives meat and drink to his fellows may be no better than his kind, but it is a glorious thing for a student who loves his books, to share them with the student who has none. It is so glorious that one likes to believe that when the time came for the Grand Commander to stand, indeed, before the heavenly gates, they flew wide at the word of Him who once said: "I was hungry and you fed me; thirsty and you gave me drink."—*Washington Post*.

#### AN AGED ONE.

From W. J. Hughan, Torquay, England, we learn that Lodge Scoon and Perth, No. 3, Scotland, has recently come into possession of some valuable

old documents connected with the Lodge: (1) printed copy of the Regulations of the Friendly Society of the Scoon and Perth, Mason Lodge, 1804; (2) copy Rules and Regulations of the same Lodge, 1777; and (3) excerpt from the minutes of the meeting of the Lodge held on St. John's Day, 27th December, 1813. These documents are of rare value to the Lodge as they refer to a time when no records exist, the minute-book having been lost. Bro. D. Crawford Smith, who discovered the documents, speaks as follows about the antiquity of the Lodge Scoon: It is exceedingly likely that we may have had a copy of one of the old Masonic charges, as the mutual agreement of 1658 is based on, and framed after the style of the charges and constitutions which are so ably edited by Bro. Hughan. The mutual agreement, although dated 1658, points us back to 1192, or thereby. The Abbey of Scoon was founded by Alexander I. in 1115, when Scoon was a flourishing Royal city—we would fain have it that the erection of the Lodge of Scoon was co-eval with the foundation of the Abbey. We have as good grounds for this assumption as Kilwinning or Melrose, or Kelso, or Glasgow; but after all is said, these are all assumptions. There is no proof. The fact of our Lodge being called the Lodge of Scoon—meeting in Perth—in our minutes of the early part of the last century, is a strong proof of our antiquity—I may say very great antiquity!—for Scoon, after the erection of her Abbey, began to decrease, while Perth began to increase. If the lodge was not erected in Scoon very early, there is not much likelihood of its being erected there at all. So I think the name Scoon is a standing proof of our antiquity. I might refer to the Mylnes, who were Masters of the Lodge prior to 1658. Bro. Smith quoted from the *Scottish Freemason* of August, 1894, an article which was reproduced in the Constitutional at the time when it appeared. Continuing, Mr. Smith said: From 1658, the date of the mutual agree-