

blem of the Temple above, and reflects the glory of the Incarnate God, and is adorned with His righteousness and the righteousness of His saints. The workmen on King Solomon's temple came from the various tribes of the Jewish nation, and the materials for its erection were gathered from different parts of the land of Judea. The stones were taken from the mountain quarries, the cedars from Mount Lebanon, the gold was from Ophir, and the curtains were from Babylon. All were gathered from widely distant parts, and each contributed its share. So also with the laborers on and the materials for that Holy Temple of which the Apostle speaks—the Christian Church. They are gathered from every clime under heaven's sun; they are immortal souls from all nations, kindred, and people on all the earth; they come from lands bound by eternal frosts, and from those parched by a burning sun; they come from Alpine mountains and from sea-girt islands; from the huge cities and the dark mines of Europe. From every corner of the globe comes fitting materials—apostles and saints and holy souls—all to rear higher and higher this great building to God, and to adorn it with every Christian grace. Of this great temple the Apostle says, that as a wise master-builder, he had laid a foundation at Corinth, and of his converts there, he said, "Ye are God's building"—and to each one on his entering the sacred portals we would say—upon this foundation now laid, you are to raise a superstructure, perfect in its parts and honorable to its builder. The Jews estimated the value and greatness of Solomon's Temple, by the size of its stones and the length of time it took to build it; with a national pride they pointed to the mighty stones in its walls, and with a sacred feeling they referred to the seven long years of its erection. But, brethren, we can point to the Christian Church as containing in its walls mighty living stones—saintly and heroic souls—apostles and con-

fessors and a noble army of martyrs; and we can look back through 1800 years, and see this great building of God's all the while in the progress of erection—we can see how age after age holy souls have labored and toiled on its sacred walls, and how, on to our own day, those walls have been reared higher and higher, and yet the last stone has not been laid—the sacred building has not been finished—the holy temple has not been completed. But for so blessed an end we are now toiling, and we are also praying, that God may "hasten His kingdom and complete the number of His elect." For the erection of so mighty a structure as Solomon's Temple, it was found necessary to form all who were to take part in the work into one organized body; and also to divide the whole into several classes, and to appoint overseers over each. In this we find three chief or grand officers, whose duty it was to draw out the plans for the intended building, to designate the kind of wood, and to preside or rule over all. Then, under the chief officers there were three hundred expert men, master-workmen, whose duty was to inspect and report upon the progress of the work. Then again, under these there were 3,300 overseers, and 30 000 men in the cedar forests of Lebanon, and 80,000 in the mountain quarries of Judea—and yet, amid this mighty mass of workmen, so perfectly was everything arranged and ordered, that there was no confusion or delay—all things were done decently and in order—there was no "strikes" or "panics," but with wonderful harmony and with great skill, with promptitude and to perfection, the stately and majestic temple rose rapidly and was completed; and with uplifted hands, they "glorified God." In the erection of the Christian Church, no doubt the Divine Will was that a similar order be observed; and for this the Great Head of the Church has appointed "divers orders"—chief officers or overseers, subordinate