

AMERICAN MASONIC ITEMS.

The Grand Lodge of Colorado has formally recognized the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

A new Masonic Temple has recently been built in Virginia City, Montana Territory, which cost \$35,000.

In the State of Maryland, the Grand Lodge has forbidden applications on the part of subordinate Lodges to the Legislature for acts of incorporation.

The Grand Lodge of Louisiana is in a very prosperous financial position. It owns \$4,817 in cash, and \$219,306 in other assets, over and above all liabilities.

The Masons of Philadelphia have purchased a lot for a new Masonic Hall, the corner-stone of which is to be laid on St. John's Day. The building is to be of granite, in the Norman style, and is to cost three-quarters of a million of dollars.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia has declared that no profane has any rights in Masonry. The election of an applicant merely invests him with the privilege of being admitted into the fraternity, which privilege can for good cause be withheld; and that Lodges have the right to admit or reject visitors at their option.

Shall negroes be admitted into existing Lodges or charters be granted for negro Lodges, are questions which excite some attention among our neighbors. The Grand Lodges of Illinois and Iowa have decided both questions in the negative, the latter setting forth among other reasons that the candidate for Masonry must be "freeborn."

Grand Master Hazlerigg, of Indiana, gives the following sound advice: "Do not risk the making of a good Mason out of bad materials,—out of him of whom you can only say, 'He's a good, clever fellow'—'I know no harm of him.' You will find it almost, if not quite, an impossible job to make good marble out of sandstone; better let it be."

During the year 1866, according to the proceedings of Grand Lodge, there were initiated in the various Lodges of the State of Michigan, 2,679, and 1660 candidates were rejected; in North Carolina the Lodges initiated 671, and rejected 343 applicants for Masonry during the same year; and in Ohio, no less than 3,260 were initiated last year, the entire number of Masons in that State being 20,225.

The eighty-first annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey was held at Trenton on the 22nd and 23rd ult. The following Grand Officers were chosen:—Henry R. Cannon, G. M.; Robert Rusling, D. G. M.; James H. Stevens, S. G. W.; Wm. E. Pine, J. G. W.; Wm. R. Clapp, G. Treas.; Joseph H. Hough, G. Sec'y; Henry E. Phelps, G. G. Sec.

The question of initiating or advancing maimed candidates has been considered in some of the American Grand Lodges, the war having left a large number of maimed citizens in the States. The Grand Lodge of Georgia favors the innovation, and that of Minnesota having had the case of a one-legged candidate brought before it, has deferred the consideration of the question for a year. It is difficult to understand how there could have been any hesitancy in deciding such a question.

MONTHLY RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

—Charles Kean, the actor, is dead.

—The eruption of Vesuvius continues.

—More fighting is reported in Candia, in which the Cretans were successful.

—The Emperor of France is to visit the Sultan of Turkey next summer.

—A. C. Buchanan, Esq., Chief Emigration Agent at Quebec, died on the 2nd ult.

—The body of the Emperor Maximilian arrived at Trieste on the 15th ult. It has since been buried with becoming pomp at Vienna.

—The Chinese rebels have again gained a victory over the Imperialists.

—The Countess of Harrington *nee* Miss Foote, the celebrated actress, is dead.

—There is wide-spread suffering among the Nova Scotia fishermen. Means for their relief are being adopted all over the Dominion.

—Her Majesty has published a new book containing a history of her travels in the Highlands. It is having an enormous sale.

—The Duke of Edinburgh has met with a most enthusiastic welcome in Australia.

—Mr. Thornton, the new British Ambassador to Washington, has been presented to the President.

—Popular tumults have occurred in several places in Italy, and much discontent prevails.

—Great storms prevailed in England and throughout Western Europe during the latter part of January. A large number of maritime disasters are reported.

—A despatch from Lisbon tells of an attempted assassination of the King and Queen of Portugal, while returning from a hunting party.

—The Palestine exploration is progressing satisfactorily. Some most interesting discoveries have been made in and around Jerusalem.

—In London, in one day, no fewer than 712 persons connected with the Bank of England were sworn in as special constables. At St. Paul's, Covent Garden, the corps of Commissioners, who came up headed by their band, were sworn in to the number of 134. They are all under the command of Col. Sargent, C. B.

—There are now seven Field Marshals in the British army, the following four having lately been gazetted: Gen. Sir Alexander Woodford, G. C. B., G. C. M. G.; Gen. Sir William Maynard Gomm, G. C. B.; Gen. Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, G. C. B., and Gen. Sir John Fox Burgoyne, G. C. B.

—Mrs. Lincoln is said to be really insane. She recently sold all the furniture in her house, and had two old men as body-guard, believing that she would be robbed and murdered. Her mania is for selling things, and a dread lest she come to want. All her friends are said to be conscious of her mental condition, but think, so long as she is harmless, her removal to a lunatic asylum would increase her derangement.

—On the evening of the 5th ult., a man named Chatterton was shot in the streets of London, and badly if not fatally wounded. The assassin was instantly arrested, and gave his name as Zem Middles. From his declarations, it seems that he mistook Chatterton for James Bird, the milkman, who is an important witness for the Government in the affair of the Clerkenwell explosion, and at the examination before the police court, identified one of the prisoners as the man that fired the powder. It is said that Middles is half-witted, and the belief is general that he is the tool of other parties, who prompted him to commit the deed. The shot took effect in the throat of Chatterton, where it made an ugly wound. He still lives, but his recovery is doubtful.