

us that once in a while it is good to gather our friends about us, and with them enjoy Masonry out of doors—*M. W. Bro. Geo. Simons.*

THE STRONG FOUNDATIONS.

By Bro. Robert Morris.

WHEN the appointed time had come,
And Israel, from his mountain-home
Came up, by SOLOMON's command,
To lay, in state, the CORNER-STONE,
And build the TEMPLE high and grand,
An EDIFICE that God would own,—
The MONARCH by a just Decree,
Thus set the Law, eternally.

"Lay your FOUNDATIONS deep! the FANE
"May not, to distant age remain;
"The tooth of time may gnaw its side;
"The foe deface its golden pride;
"Pillar, Pilaster, height and base,
"May mingle, in one foul disgrace:—
"But with FOUNDATIONS deep and wise,
"Other and nobler works will rise,
"And, till the earth in ruin sink,
"Some structure crown Moriah's brink!"

The people bowed obedient head:
HIRAM, THE ARCHITECT, began,
By long and wise experience led—
How sadly to our spirits come

The memories of that good man's doom!
To justify the monarch's plan:
From mighty quarries raised the rock
In Ashlars huge and weighty drew,—
See, yet, they rise upon the view,
In spite of time and earthquake's shock!
Until there stood as yet there stands,
The grandest pile of human hands;
A SURE FOUNDATION, deep and wise,
On which the noblest works may rise.

Craftsmen! ye build but for a day,
Unless these precepts you obey!
How oft we see within our land,
A structure reared *upon the sand!*
Its walls—magnificent they rise;
Its towers—they pierce the very skies;
Crowds, through its *portals* eager press;
Beauty and rank its altars grace,
And then,—*the storm has blown*,—'tis gone
From turret-top to corner-stone!

Craftsmen! the lesson heed and keep—
Lay your FOUNDATIONS wise and deep!

THE GRAND MASTER MASON OF ENGLAND.

THE Marquis of Ripon, better known as Earl de Grey and Ripon, and previously as Lord Goderich, is the only son of Frederick John, first Earl of Ripon.

His mother was Lady Sarah A. L. Hobart, only daughter of Robert, fourth Earl of Buckinghamshire.

He was born October 24th, 1827 and, after the usual education of English noblemen, began his life as *attache* to a special mission to Brussels, in 1849.

In 1852 he first appeared, we believe, in House of Commons as member for Hull, but in 1853 was returned for Huddersfield. In 1859 he was elected Knight of the shire for the West Riding of Yorkshire.

In 1859 he became Lord Ripon by the death of his father, and in the same year Earl de Grey by the death of his uncle, the well known second Earl.

In 1859, as Lord Ripon, he became Under-Secretary for War, with then Mr. Herbert, and in 1861, Under-Secretary for India.

Upon the death of Sir George C. Lewis, in 1863, Lord Ripon succeeded him as Secretary of State for War, and continued so until 1866, when he succeeded Lord Halifax as Secretary of State for India.

In 1868 he became Lord President of the Council.

In 1869 he was created K. G., and in 1871 was selected as Chairman of the High Joint Commission which settled the Treaty of Washington. On his return to England from that most important duty he was created Marquis of Ripon.

His Masonic career began in the Lodge of Truth, Huddersfield, of which he afterwards became W. M.

On the death of Lord Mexborough he was appointed, to the great satisfaction of the West Yorkshire Freemasons, P. G. M. for West Yorkshire, which important position he still holds, and on Lord Dalhousie's retirement was made Deputy Grand Master by Lord Zetland. His fitness for rule, and his most successful administration of the Province of West Yorkshire, pointed him out as the undoubted successor to Lord Zetland, when our good and Grand Master resigned the high offices he had discharged so admirably for so many long and eventful years.

He was installed Grand Master of our Order April 23, 1870, in which situation he still is, for the welfare and progress of English Freemasonry.