

United States, will have upon our Order, it will be difficult for any one at present to foretell, but it is to be hoped that the lowering clouds which now overspreads that nation, momentarily threatening to burst and scatter destruction and dissolution in their midst, will be speedily dispelled, and the time soon come when they shall beat their swords into plough-shares and their spears into pruning-hooks; when they shall not lift up sword against one another nor learn war any more.

An extract from the address of the Grand Master of the State of Indiana, may not here be inappropriate:

"The troubles which exist and threaten the disruption of our glorious Union, has given rise to numerous surmises in the minds of our Brethern as to the effects of these troubles on the unity of our Institution, and upon the perpetuity of the one Grand Legislative head of the Order as it now exists, composed of representatives from all the grand bodies on this Continent. The significance of these questions at this time, and in view of future events, can neither be doubted or evaded. Many anxious minds desire some alleviation of their fears for our unity, and some encouragement to their hopes that the Order may pass unscathed through this trying vicissitude. My counsel is that we do nothing and say nothing calculated to engender dissention or fruitless discussion in our now united and fraternal Order. Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth; but let us, as an Order, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering forbearing one another in love, endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. Let us rely upon the freedom of our institution and its principles from all political bias, upon its universal fraternity that would make us all under God benefactors and all mankind objects of our benefaction and regard, to save our cherished Order from disruption and dissension. Though love of family, of party, or of country is a natural and beautiful sentiment and holds us to obligations of a peculiar character that should never be disregarded; yet we must not stop with these, we must not array them in direct conflict with other and more comprehensive duties. Let us never lose sight of what we teach respecting our benevolent enterprise, that all men are one family; that there is but one country the earth; but one nation, the human family."

The limited field of the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge has not furnished during the past year many topics on which it is necessary that I should address you, it seems to have been a year of rest, compared to other years, or the principles of Odd Fellowship are getting too well understood, and too rigidly practiced in the several lodges to call for the frequent interference of official authority, and it gives me much pleasure in stating that no interference on my part has been necessary during the past year, and I believe, for the first time in many years, there are no appeals before this grand body.

The report of our worthy Grand Secretary will give you full detailed information as to the condition of our Order in the various Lodges. From the reports which I have received from the D. D. G. M's. I find that the Order has not increased in numbers a great deal, but the financial condition of most of the Lodges appears to be better, which is very important to the existence of a Lodge. Ontario Lodge, I fear, will have to surrender from the mere want of energy among its members. In December last I received an application for a dispensation for a new Lodge to be located in the town of Stratford, and from the recommendations of Brother McLean, of St. Mary's, I granted the request, and it will be