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Lecture by R. W. Bro. Klotz to the Lodges in the City of Hamilton,
on 13th January, 1882.

WORSHIPFUL SIRS AND BRETHREN:—

Who, I would ask, does not always feel pleased to meet his brethren in that hallowed place within the sacred and tiled walls of our temple, the Lodge? Who, again I would ask, does not, at the moment he enters the Lodge, feel as if he were suddenly translated into another sphere, removed from the toils and cares, the contention and strife, the prejudices and intrigues of the outer world, into a region where peace, harmony, fraternity, equality, truth, sincerity and pure love reign supreme.

It is not, my brethren, an empty saying, that the Lodge possesses peculiar attractions and charms. These attractions and charms are founded upon realities, upon pleasures, enjoyments, instructions, and benefits, nowhere else to be found in such an unalloyed, pure and perfect condition as in a Masonic Lodge. For the uninitiated it is impossible to comprehend this; but this is not surprising, because Freemasonry being a science, a knowledge of its system can only be acquired by a systematic study, aided by proper instruction. To those brethren, however, who have not remained contented with having been initiated, but who have carefully studied our noble science, who have well

informed themselves upon the principles of Freemasonry, and who live and act upon the same, it is a well known fact that the Lodge possesses those peculiar charms and attractions.

Freemasonry is said to be mysterious, and so it is in various respects, if contrasted or compared with any other institution; but to him who really knows Freemasonry it has ceased to possess any mystery. He who has drawn aside that veil which obscured and hid that noble science, and who has viewed it in all its splendor and magnificence,—to him Freemasonry is not mysterious, but, on the contrary, a bright, shining and fully revealed science.

If, for instance, we compare the history of Freemasonry with that of science, we must admit of an anomaly. Freemasonry, without territorial possessions, without any other coercive power than that of morality and virtue, has survived the wreck of mighty empires, and resisted the destroying hand of time. The Jews, God's favored people, into whose custody Masonry was entrusted by its Divine Author, where are they now? A race of wanderers, scattered over the face of the globe. And that magnificent and stupendous structure,