

For six nights each labored in vain to augment his brother's store, and still the mystery grew. The seventh night the brothers resolved, each secretly to himself, to keep watch and see who had done this thing, by which the secret gifts were thus returned to their unwilling hold. Then discovery came and the fraternal love which had prompted the generous acts of mutual self-sacrifice was blessed and gave blessing to their future lives.

"The spot," says the legend, "where so beautiful a thought at once occurred and was acted on by the brothers, was deemed a place agreeable to God, and it was blessed and chosen whereon to build a house to His Name."

In the spirit of this legend let your lodges and chapters securely rest on this foundation of true self-sacrificing brotherhood. Beware the first sign of discord in your chapters. Do all that can be done honorably to make your brethren and companions "dwell together in unity," but, above all, guard the entrance to the fraternity. As Royal Arch Masons, zealous for the good name and prosperity of your chapters, be attentive to the interests of the lodges of the Ancient Craft to which you owe your earliest allegiance. There guard the gate, and let none enter unless you are satisfied that he comes in his heart prepared to be a true brother, and so, if he will, an honored companion.

After the restoration of the Jews by decree of Cyrus, the second Temple was with much difficulty raised at Jerusalem on the site of the first. But a band of poor exiles, just returning to a desolated land, could not build with the architectural magnificence of the royal builder. The glory of the second Temple did not compare with the glory of the first. As the years rolled by, however, it was the high privilege of a foreign king, whose royalty was the gift of the Roman Senate, to adorn and renew with considerable splendor the House of

the Lord. It was done to conciliate a people whose loyal respect had been alienated by his cruelty.

"UNMASONIC PUBLICATIONS."

M. W. Bro. Frank R. Lawrence, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, in his annual address, has ventured on a field he would have done better to keep out of, though beyond doubt his object was a good one. Under the above heading he says:—

"I deem it my duty to call your attention to an evil of much importance and long-standing; consisting of the circulation among lodges and brethren of certain newspapers, claiming to be devoted to Masonry, but which in fact are abhorrent, in their sentiments and tendencies, to every principle of the fraternity. The general liberty, and even license, of the press, which exists in this country, is by them carried to the furthest extreme. Ridicule and abuse of a personal character form their constant staple of publication; and their ends are sordid, as their methods are base. Though powerless for good, they are at times potent for evil; and while experienced brethren, if they read such publications, may take them at their true value, the younger members of the craft are often misled by their mendacious statements and pernicious teachings, and so far as they circulate among the profane, the fact that they are able to obtain any sort of Masonic patronage, is humiliating to us and injurious to our institution. We neither possess nor desire authority to prevent the circulation of such publications, yet some method may be adopted, such as exists in other jurisdictions, whereby the craft may be warned against them, and their countenance, by the lodges at least, may be prevented. I commend this subject to your careful consideration."

We are afraid our M. W. Bro. has allowed his desire to benefit the craft