

pretensions." After quoting our own remarks concerning the best methods of making Lodge meetings interesting and attractive, our Brother Reviewer adds :—

We find it exceedingly pleasant to have our families meet as often as possible at the Lodge room and spend an evening with the brethren. There indulge in pleasant conversation, short speeches, closing, in the banquet hall, with a neat basket spread. Ladies and children present deeply enjoy such occasions. They hold the brethren together as much as anything we know of. In the Lodge room proper there should be a very warm feeling among the brethren present, and it should manifest itself in everything so that one who partakes of a truly Masonic meeting may realize that the bond among brethren is indeed fraternal. Whilst this is slow, still we are gaining a little every year. Human institutions are largely made up of this thing we call human nature and we believe it shows better in a Masonic Lodge room than anywhere else on earth. It has profited amazingly in the name of Masonry.

We like the views to which he has given expression in the following lines, and believe that the majority of readers of the present report will thank us for reproducing them herewith :

Under Connecticut, Brother Stevenson speaks of the principles of Masonry. That those principles are eternal and unchangeable there can be no question. The Lord said to Job, "where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fostered, or who laid the *corner stone* thereof?" And to Isaiah, "I lay in Zion for a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious *corner stone*, a sure foundation." So to speak, if the corner stone of a Master Mason's Masonic edifice is all right and understood, he can trace the principles of Freemasonry not only back to creation, but to Deity himself. Antiquity is not a principle, but it may bear evidence of the existence, force and power of a principle. It does of the principles of Freemasonry. Brother Stevenson says :—"We do not claim, Brother Wheeler, that Masonry originated in its present organized form at Solomon's temple, but we do claim that Masonry did originate there, and received its very life and existence from the wisdom of Solomon, and was fostered by that Divine Power under whose direction the famous building was constructed. We believe in the Bible, and believe in the building of the temple as narrated in the Bible. Now, if Masonry did not exist at the temple, the whole fabric is a lie. The organized form has nothing to do with it. True Masonry does not exist in mere organization or empty form; there is something more than that, which existed long before the present form was evolved at York, and announced to the world as the "York Rite." We intend to keep on believing in the antiquity and divinity of the development and organization of Freemasonry, the criticisms of others to the contrary notwithstanding." There