

AN OLD MASONIC SCANDAL.

So much has been said from time to time in relation to the Morgan affair of 1826, that I have been induced to give particular attention to the affair. Half a century ago, most of the men connected with the affair were alive, and willingly gave me their statement of the facts. Some time in 1824, a man calling himself William Morgan, a stonemason, came from Canada to Rochester, N. Y., and settled there. He was a disreputable, worthless fellow, but smart and forward. He brought with him what purported to be a Masonic diploma, and he succeeded by its aid in visiting the lodge there. A few months later he began to travel among the lodges of Western New York, and in 1826 removed to Batavia. Here he was detected as an imposter and publicly exposed. This so exasperated him, that he announced his purpose of publishing an expose of the secrets of Freemasonry, and actually began, in company with one Miller, a printer, to prepare such a work. Some of the more thoughtless Masons threatened him with grievous penalties if he did not desist, and the public gave credence to the idea that he was in peril of his life. Gov. De Witt Clinton, who had long been Grand Master, concerned for the honor of Masonry, took the lead in raising money to induce Morgan to go back to Canada. A committee of most respectable gentlemen took the matter in hand at Clinton's request, and on September 10th, 1826, Morgan started for Canada, where he had promised to settle down near Hamilton, and his family were to be sent to him. Bu. free, and with money in his pocket, he pressed on to Montreal and all trace of him was lost. He may have been murdered for his money by the roughts with whom he associated; or, which to me is more probable, he may have shipped before the mast on a European-bound vessel. At any rate he absolutely disappeared from the pages of history.—*Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

MASONIC STATISTICS.

From a careful estimate made from reports to the different Masonic bodies for the year 1880, the following figures have been obtained, which will be of interest to members of the Order and others:—In Germany there are 342 lodges; Switzerland, has 33; Hungary, 6; Roumania, 11; Servia, 1; England and Wales, 1,187; Scotland, 334; Ireland, 299; Gibraltar, 5; Malta, 4; Holland and Luxembourg, 46; Belgium, 15; Denmark, 7; Sweden and Norway, 18; France, 289; Spain, about 300; Portugal, 22; Italy, 110; Greece, 11; Turkey, 16; Egypt, 28; Algeria, 11; Tunis, 2; Morocco, 2; the west coast of Africa, 11; African Islands, 25; the Cape, 61; Arabia (Aden), 1; India, 118; Indian Islands, 16; China, 13; Japan, 5; Australia, 229; Australian Islands, 41; New Zealand, 4; United States, 9,824; Canada, 535; Cuba, 30; Hayti, 32; West Indian Islands, 65; Mexico, 13; Brazil, 256; other South American States, 179, making a total of 14,625. The number of members is estimated at about 5,000,000, which makes an average of about 842 members to a lodge. The number of lodges and members has largely increased in the last six years, and the next report will show a great increase throughout the world.

EMULATION.

This word means a strife, but in a sense towards goodness. It is, indeed, an important factor of Masonry, and carries with it great significance. We admire Masonry because there is in it something benefiting to the human family. In the principles we see evidences of matter, although somewhat of a chaotic nature, and it is by emulation that regularity and order is established. It should be a strife of who best can work and best agree. The great work of Masonry that is now in progress is carried on through the instrumentality of this word. We care not how important or