

it will order La Loge de la République Démocratique to be struck off its roll of lodges for its recent disgraceful conduct.
—*London Freemason.*

TRIPLE TRUTHS OF FREE-MASONRY.

One of the Brahminical Scriptures is entitled the "Bhagaved Gita" and assumes to convey the "right knowledge of the royal mystery," to be the exponent of the sacred lore, the divine wisdom. It refers to "the seven great Sages and the ancient Manus four, of whom this world is the offspring." The seven Sages were the primeval teachers of man, and the archetype of all subsequent teachers; while the ancient Manus were the primitive governors of man, the four sons of Brahma, the archetype of kings, or mundane rulers.

The Manu, one of the sacred books of India, contains this remarkable statement: "Man is not man except as he is triple, that is man, woman, child." The Brahmins also made their Divinity triple: the all-Father, the all-Mother, and the blessed Son. The ancient Egyptians, who, if their civilization was not native and primitive, must have been dervied it from Meroe, or from Babylonia, Chaldea or India, also set forth the same doctrine: their gods were Osiris, the father, Isis, the mother, and Horus, the son. The Great Sphynx of Egypt was sacred to Horus, and before it is an altar, now covered with sand, on which sacrifices were anciently offered to Horus. In Freemasonry we have a relic of this ancient symbolism in the numerous triads of the Fraternity, especially in the three Lesser Lights, the Sun, the Moon, and the W. M. (in a certain sense representing Father, Mother and Son), and the three Great Lights, the Holy Bible, the Square and the Compasses.

Freemasonry is not Freemasonry unless it be triple. It could not be less, and it cannot be more. Three, and only three degrees are ancient, and whatever is more than these is an ex-

creescence, a super addition, and ultimately and surely a seed of conflict and evil.

The great poet-philosopher who was Pope and Bolingbroke rolled into one, wrote:

"Know then thyself, presume not God to scan:
The proper study of mankind is man.

One of our own essayists, Chapin, has said: "Man was sent into the world to be a growing and exhaustless force." This is the doctrine of Freemasonry. It says to initiates: Brethren, know yourselves and respect yourselves, for you are immortal. Know your Brethren and love your Brethren, for they are mystically united with you: they are your other selves. And it also says to all who have been brought from Darkness to Light—which is another term for Freemasonry; learn its triple character and at the same time its complete unity.

Wherein is Freemasonry a unit? In that it is one "secret," one "art and mystery." Its three degrees are a threefold presentation of one truth. Supreme truth is and can be but one. There cannot be three or more such truths, but there may be, there are, three aspects of the same truth. The three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry symbolize the three aspects of the one Masonic truth. To this one, and these three in one, Freemasons cannot devote too much attention and thought. The more you ponder them the better you apprehend and comprehend them, the greater pleasure you derive from witnessing the rites incident to them, the more fully you are persuaded that you are members of a fraternity which not only like a club, enables you to while away a vacant hour, but like a school of human and divine philosophy, qualifies you to understand the beauty of charity, the utility and value of human comradeship, the divine perfection of the Grand Architect of the Universe, and the dignity of man, who is "greater than a world." Freemasons respect themselves and their kind. No man is beneath them, for they think, if they