

## THE DEMANDS OF THE TIMES ON MASONS.

IF there was ever a time when the Masons of every Grand Jurisdiction in America should be filled with noble aspirations, and should set out with firm resolution to give to Masonry that full measure of distinction to which it is entitled, that time is now. We are about entering upon the second century of the existence of a country that was born of a war in which our fortunes were piloted by that immortal general whose whole life was an epitome of Masonry, and who never ceased, day or night, to impress its beauty and the value of its teachings upon all with whom he was associated—a country whose southern borders are fanned by the breezes of the tropics, and whose northern limits end among the perpetual snow and ice of Alaska—a country in which the fullest civil and religious liberty is secured to all, and which is of such vast extent from east to west that the great sun in his course sheds his benignant rays upon the hills and valleys of her eastern border for four hours each day, before the time when he appears above the horizon that skirts the vision of the inhabitants of the golden gate on her western coast. Throughout this whole vast domain are scattered thousands of Masonic Lodges, and hundreds of thousands of Masons, all hooked together as with hooks of steel, and all offering up their reverential adoration to the same Deity. This vast possession is ours—ours to refine, to purify, to enrich. We cannot escape the grave responsibilities which rest upon us. As in the past so still more in the future, Masonry must, from the very nature of things, be felt, and its influence and power recognized among men. For this reason it behooves us all to be true to our country and just to the government under which we live, and to the end that we may continue to keep at the front in all refinement and civilization, let us, like brave men and true, struggle for those magnificent possibilities which come as a reward to those who do not weary in well doing.—*Grand Master Geo. H. Durand, of Michigan.*

## AT REST.

FOUR Knights of the Mary Commandery, Philadelphia, have recently died, namely, Sir George L. Ranch, J. W.; Sir Henry F. Bucher, Sentinel, who was killed by an accident on the 4th July; Sir Charles Sutherland, and Charles Berlinger.

BRO. G. L. HOWLAND, of New Bedford, Massachusetts, died on the 28th June. As an architect he planned many public edifices in Providence and elsewhere. He was highly esteemed by all, and held an honored position in the Masonic ranks.

BRO. JAMES H. PARSONS, a prominent lawyer of Providence, Rhode Island, died on the 16th June, in his 45th year. He had been Clerk of the Senate of Rhode Island, and a member of the General Assembly, and also speaker of the same in 1863. He was appointed District Attorney, but the appointment was not confirmed, on its being discovered that his political proclivities were unfavorable to the administration. He was an ardent Mason.

BRO. WILLIAM BUTLER, a wealthy business man of Warwick, Rhode Island, died on the 19th June. He was a great benefactor to the poor, and died respected.

BRO. L. C. RICHMOND, a member of St. Albin's Lodge, Providence, died on the 25th June, at the patriarchal age of ninety-five. He had been a Mason nearly seventy years. He had been for forty years cashier of the Bristol Bank. He was vestryman of St. Michael's Church where he was baptized, for sixty years, and Clerk of the Parish for forty three years. The Parish records of one hundred and eighty-three meetings are in his hand writing.

BRO. THEODORE MANSEL TALBOT, of London, England, died on the 18th June. He was Provincial Grand Master of South Wales, which position he held for eleven years. The *Freemason* says: On the testimony of those who have for many years been most closely and intimately associated with him in Masonic work, we are enabled to state that his administration of affairs gave thorough satisfaction. His genial, kindly demeanor won him his friends. His great abilities secured for him constant admirers, while his impartiality and justice surrounded him with consistent, zealous, and warm-hearted supporters. Welcomed throughout the Province in every lodge he visited with the utmost enthusiasm, it is not too much to say that his premature removal has caused a vacancy which will with difficulty be properly filled, and a still greater void in the hearts of brethren who will long deplore the loss of a wise, prudent, energetic and skillful chief, whose influence was ever for good, and whose able administration has left an impress upon Freemasons in South Wales which will not be soon or readily effaced.