

Finisher of our faith. Now, no association seems to have contributed more in allaying differences, and healing divisions in every country where Christianity has prevailed, than the association I now address. I find your motto is, "to love the brotherhood—to fear God, and to honour the King." You exclude none, therefore, from your society, but the selfish, the uncharitable, the contentious, blasphemers of God's name and word, and traitors to the King, or the Government under which they live: all others, no matter of what sect, religion or country, you receive as brethren, and treat them as such.

It would be a crime for any member of your body to divulge the secret that unites you together as brethren, and separates you from the rest of the world. In giving an account of your order, even were I a brother, I could go no farther than the publick documents disclose, with which I have been favoured; but as I am not a member, if I should speak unadvisedly or incorrectly, I trust you will pardon the one, and excuse the other.

You say you can trace the foundation of your order from the commencement of the world. No doubt the principle which governs your society, is as ancient as the Creation—when the Earth, Sun, Moon and Stars, and all the Planetary System, were formed by the Divine Architect, in that beauty and order in which they still exist—when innocence and peace reigned on the earth, and the lamb and the lion lay down together.—Undoubtedly the principle which unites you as brethren, then existed: order and harmony reigned till sin entered the world, and one brother became the murderer of the other. But after this, we no longer find