

to perform a sad ceremony in memory of a beloved Companion, a zealous member of this Encampment; one who, but a short time since, was amongst us, and who took a sincere interest in the formation of our Encampment. I allude to our dear Frater, Col. Alexander Roberts Dunn. Doubtless all of you have read the mournful narrative of the melancholy manner in which our beloved Frater came by his untimely death. Let me simply say, then, that he accidentally shot himself on the 26th of January last, whilst on a sporting excursion in company with one of his brother officers, about seven miles distant from Senafe, in Abyssinia. He was cut down in the prime of life, for he had attained the age only of 32 years. He has gone from our midst to that bourne whence no traveller returns, but it is to be with his Saviour. We must go to him, for he never can come back to us. Our deeply lamented Frater was, in every sense of the word, a true and sincere Christian and a thoroughly good Mason, and to know him was to love him. Not only did he win the affection and esteem of every Mason; every one else who had the good fortune to form his acquaintance cherished him sincerely. He was no ordinary man; his heart was full of goodness. The high esteem in which our dear Frater was held by his brother officers, and by the men of his Regiment, was testified to at the time when his remains were consigned to the grave; not an eye that was there but shed tears over them.

Well indeed may we say he was beloved whose loss we now mourn. We may also truly say, that "a great man has fallen in Israel." Our dear departed Frater held the high office of Prelate in "Ascalon" Encampment, Poonah, of which Encampment he was a member for nearly three years. It was my earnest wish at the time he joined our Encampment that he should fill the same post here, but I regret to say he was obliged to decline complying with my desire, in consequence of his Regiment being under orders then for Abyssinia; but he assured me he would gladly have accepted that office had he been staying here. I regret, for the same reason, that my acquaintance with the late Sir Knight Dunn was of very short duration. Regarding his personal history, I know but little. I may say, however, that our dear Frater was a native of Canada, and that, at his own expense, he raised the 100th Regiment, for which Our Gracious Queen and Sovereign rewarded him with the promotion he so well merited.

It should be stated, also, that by his daring and valour in the dread Balaclava Charge, he won the proud distinction of the Victoria Cross.

When his numerous friends and relatives in Canada hear that we have assembled piously this evening to hold this funeral service in honor of his cherished memory, I am sure that they, one and all, will be gratified.

Dear Sir Knights, when I heard of the sad news of Sir Knight Dunn's death, I was overpowered with grief; yet I lost no time in writing to our Provincial Grand Commander, V. E. Sir Knight Judge, informing him that I wished to hold this solemn ceremony, and asking his authority to do so. As I felt confident it would be, my request was at once acceded to; for our dear departed Frater was entitled to this mark of our respect and affection. He was kind and considerate; his heart was ever full of love for his Creator, faithfulness to his Queen, and goodness, gentleness and unbounded charity and benevolence

towards his fellow men. Since he possessed such noble attributes, we may safely answer to the question, Where is our dear Frater now?—He is in that abode of bliss, in the great and glorious Encampment of Heaven, for which, as a Mason and a Christian, he ever strove so earnestly to qualify himself. The Saviour of mankind hath said: "He that believeth in me shall have eternal life." Our beloved Frater believed implicitly, and did his duty to the best of his ability, to both Christ and man. He feared God and Christ and loved his neighbor, and we now feel confident that he is enjoying that reward which the Great Captain of our salvation has promised to those who conquer in his name. Yes, we are certain he is in the happy and eternal presence of him who has said: "Blessed are all they that die in Jesus Christ; for he that liveth in Christ shall not die eternally, but have everlasting life."

Dear Sir Knights, let me tell you that power, riches, genius,—all disappear when the grave opens to receive the mortal remains of man. No one can escape the empire of death. Time overthrows all; its ravages are rapid; a breath can extinguish the flame of life! The course of our life is uncertain; the poor and the rich, the serf and the king—all in death become equals. Yet believing in Christ's promises, and in the sacred teachings of Masonry, we may also believe that our Frater, who so fought as to conquer, must enjoy the fruit of his works and of his faith. His faith guided him,—he now needs not faith. His hope supported him,—now he needs not hope. His charity sustained him, and gained him the summit of his wishes,—that eternal and glorious Encampment, Heaven, which was not made with hands, and is veiled from mortal eyes; where Charity, Love and Peace reign ever supreme.

Dear Sir Knights, let us all seek the Lord Jesus Christ, so that when the time comes for us to quit this world of sin, strife and misery, at the summons "to prepare to meet our God," may we be ready,—aye, ever ready—like our sincerely beloved and deeply regretted Frater, to say: "Even so: come Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!"

After the address, which was listened to with an attention that showed how deeply the Sir Knights shared in the sentiments of affection and esteem for their deceased Frater expressed by Eminent Sir Kt. Martinnant, the Prelate read the 12th Chapter of the Book of Ecclesiastes.

PRELATE.—May we set our hearts and souls to seek the Lord.

SIR KNIGHTS.—So mote it be.

PRELATE.—May we bear one the other's burdens, rule our spirits, and square our actions according to thy testimonies.

SIR KNIGHTS.—So mote it be.

PRELATE.—May we have wisdom from on high to direct us, strength equal to our task to support us, and the beauty of holiness to adorn and render all our performances acceptable in thy sight.

SIR KNIGHTS.—So mote it be.

ALL TOGETHER.—Glory be to God on high: and on earth, peace and good will towards men. We praise thee: we bless thee: we worship thee: we give thanks to thee for thy great mercy, O Lord God, Heavenly King, the Father Almighty.