

mony. It seems to read thus in the York system:—Hiram, the Abif, or Chief of the Craftsmen, has his violent death lamented for 7 days, when the brothers are gladdened by his re-appointment in the person of Adoniram, prince of the people. In real history, we are told by Dr. Oliver that Dios and Menander says, that Abde-monius of Tyne was the same person as H.A.B., in which case he went back in honor to Tyne; and the Bible tells us that the man actually slain was Adoniram. So it was in the *Aphanism* and *Euresis* of the great Mysteries, and Divdorus informs us that the Egyptians lamented the violent death of Osiris at his tomb for 14 days, in reference to the moon's limation, after which they rejoiced at his proclaimed rising. Baring Gould shows that the many martyrdoms and resurrections of St. George, are no more than an application to the Saint of the legends related to the weeping worshippers in the temples of Babylon of the suffering of a God in the north, perhaps the Sun in June.

There is an allusion in Dr. Oliver's *Landmarks* to an "old work" upon the history of the Arch Degree, in which it is said that it was carried forward from Z., H and J., to the Tabernacle of M. A. and B., and then to Noah with the Rainbow for an Arch and his Altar for a Pedestal, and the Craft lectures of York have an allusion to Noah and his altar; so also has the Arch of Enoch, which no doubt found mention in this old work, as Oliver further states that the history is carried to the Garden of Eden. These references are lost in our modern ceremony, but there is a certainty that they formed a part of the most ancient legends, and are landmarks that ought not to have been abandoned. The Rainbow was engraved on the Seal of the Grand Chapter of all England at York; in 1752 Brother Laurence Dermott fell foul of a Dr. Mackay in London, because he told him, what Dermot calls an absurd tale, of 12 marble stones, "and that the Rainbow was the Arch." There are certain old brass plates at

Sterling, very rudely engraved, perhaps about 1743, though alleged to be much older, and in these the Arch is clearly a Rainbow; the plates contain also the emblems of the Templars and Knights of Malta. There is also a printed Catechism of 1723, which says that the Rainbow is a pattern of the Arch.

In old mediæval times a Fraternity, or centre with ruling power, was termed an Arch Fraternity, thus amongst the Templars the Preceptory at Jerusalem was an Arch fraternity, and in the case of the Knights of St. John there is said to be statutory use of the term. In this meaning, as applied to Craft Masonry, York was an Arch fraternity irrespective of an Arch Degree. It is a little significant that there seems some slight early evidence that they were rather uncertain whether Knights should rank before or after Arch Masons, and at a time when we knew something definite about their arrangements the Arch ceremony alluded to the time of Solomon. This may be explained on the evidence of the late Dr. Oliver who says that he had seen an Arch Ritual of 1788 in which the Arch of Enoch formed an introductory part, and that upon his Exaltation in 1813 he saw another in which this portion was crossed out as abandoned.

TEMPLAR.

In alluding to the Templar degree I will make my remarks very short. All the symbols and emblems which we as Freemasons have were possessed by the Templars; they are in evidence in their old churches, and have been found on their buried bodies. When the Pope suppressed them in 1312, Scotland escaped her persecution, that country was then at war with England, and it suited the policy of Bruce to quietly ignore the Papal demands, and the malignity of their enemies; but they died out as a power with the Knights of St. John about 1560, some went abroad and others became protestants. My friend, Bro. F. F. Schnitger, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, to whom I am indebted for much of this informa-