

most attractive and elegant regalia, giving entertainments of costly hospitality, furnishing the rarest wines and fruits of our goodly State. We are proud of them, and proud of the Order which, in the coming possible strife with an alien church, will hold in defence altar fires, around which any honest religion may rally in defence of liberty and conscience. We wish the travelling California Knights Templars had left the bear at home."

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As already announced, a movement is on foot and meeting with much success, to organize a Grand Lodge in New Zealand. There are now 150 lodges in that colony, of which 86 are under the E.C., 15 under the I.C., and 49 under the S.C. The recent appointment to the Governorship of the Colony of a popular nobleman holding high Masonic rank in the Grand Lodge of England, and who is believed to possess all the necessary qualifications for the government of the Craft, is a strong incentive toward the completion of the movement. The articles of agreement that are being considered by the brethren of the three constitutions in New Zealand provide (1) That Bro. The Earl of Onslow, Past Grand Warden, England, be requested to permit himself to be nominated as first Grand Master. (2) That Bro. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, be respectfully requested to honour the United Grand Lodge of New Zealand by becoming its Patron.

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A new regulation was adopted recently by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, which prescribes that when a man proposes to offer himself as a

candidate for Freemasonry a Committee of Investigation must inquire, not only as to his age, and generally as to his standing in life, but also as to whether he is single or married, and if married whether he lives with his wife; whether he is addicted to the intemperate use of intoxicating liquors; if he gambles or associates with bad characters; and if he habitually uses profane or indecent language.—*The London Freemason* commenting on the above says:—"Many of our readers will, no doubt, consider that, though it is just and proper that a lodge should take reasonable precautions against the admission of improper candidates, some of these questions are not a little inquisitorial. There is often great laxity over the admission of candidates into our lodges, but it strikes us that this kind of regulation goes too far, and that it should be enough if a man is well and worthily recommended."

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Brother W. J. Hughan, in the *London Freemason*, publishes a letter showing the cosmopolitan character of Freemasonry. His letter is based on information received from a brother in India, who had visited a lodge in Madras, the W. M. of which is a Christian, the I.P.M., is a Hindu (a local magistrate, &c.), and both are much and deservedly respected. The membership consists of Mahomedan, Parsi, Hindu and Christian brethren, all of whom, Bro. H. says, I believe, are natives; there not being a European on the roll; though, of course, all are made most welcome as visitors. The Bible was kept open in the lodge, even during the "raising" of a Hindu brother, who was obligated on the