

doubts throughout his chequered career, and therefore the eventual burial of his body in monastic gloom, and his mind in the intellectual shadows which envelope all who are the blind subjects of a priestly caste, did not occasion the surprise that is now awakened, in the case of the Marquis of Ripon."

It adds :

"It is sad to know, that he whose Masonic life was begun in the "Lodge of Truth," Huddersfield, England, and after having lived in the light of the great truth of Freemasonry for so many years, should voluntarily exchange truth for error, and the Lodge for the confessional. It cannot be! For once the electric wires must have proved false to their mission. The printed page may not confirm their rumor. 'So mote it be,' for it is a melancholy office to write the obituary of a living man, to see a Brother burying himself alive, and while having a name to live, be but the shadow of himself. But the whirligig of Time may yet bring in his revenges. This new accession, if accession it be, to the ranks of a bigoted branch of a narrow sect, from the united throng of the universal Brotherhood, may have its compensations in store, for its own defeat. We leave all to the future. Our deepest and sincerest regret is for our misguided Brother. He is only *one* of the Craft, but he is *all* of himself.

The London *Freemason* of the 5th September announced the resignation of the Grand Master of England, and we are happy to see affords room for hope that the noble Marquis may not have passed into the ranks of the enemy. It says:

"Our many readers will share in the regret and astonishment with which Grand Lodge heard, on Wednesday evening, the announcement of the Marquis of Ripon's resignation of the Grand Mastership. As our distinguished brother gives no other reason, in his letter to the Grand Secretary; but that he "finds himself unable any longer to discharge the duties of Grand Master," we can only record the event, adding to it the expression of our heartfelt sorrow at such a separation from our noble and excellent brother. No Grand Mastership has ever opened with fairer promise of permanent well-being and successful administration, and we deeply deplore the loss of so able, and so high-minded a Master.

ADOPTIVE MASONRY.

SOME would-be thought clever persons, who happen to be Masons, are endeavoring to establish in the United States a sort of new order of Masonry, in which they are joined by women. "The Eastern Star" appears to be the favorite name, and we observe that lodges have been formed under that title in various places. This adoptive or androgynous Masonry is made up of a curious conglomeration, and the fair sex are particularly prominent in it, especially in the Eastern States. Not only have Chapters been formed, but a Convention was recently held in New Haven, Connecticut, at which eleven Chapters were represented. A Constitution for a Grand Chapter was adopted and the officers elected, of whom some fourteen or fifteen are females. The first meeting of the Grand Chapter is to be held at New Haven this month.

To wipe off such an excrescence should be the duty of all good Masons wherever it has appeared, and we are glad to find that the Grand Master of Wisconsin has taken the proper steps against the intrusion of this new order, by issuing a circular to the subordinate lodges, in which he says circulars had been issued, signed by D. W. Thomson, P. G. Lecturer, asking the use of their lodge rooms in that State for a lecture upon the so-called "Adoptive Masonry," and for the institution of so-called Chapters of the the so-called "Eastern Star." After quoting the article of the Constitution forbidding the conferring of side degrees, R. W. Bro. Cottrill repeats the standing order of Grand Lodge with reference to the use of lodge rooms without a dispensation, and adds: