

abroad. We have seen what he could do in South America, and his compliment to Bishop Dupanloup, the only assailant that has been heard in France for some time, has had no effect, for neither Pope nor Bishop could arouse a feeling against the Grand Orient. The great aim of the Roman Catholic assailants has been to connect Masonry with politics, but in this they have signally failed. It is true that in France and Italy there have existed, and perhaps still may exist, secret societies with political objects in view. It is unfair, however, to associate such societies with Freemasonry, for there is nothing that would be so strongly reprobated as the introduction of politics into the lodges. This has been so often and so emphatically stated, that it is about time credence were given to it. Politics and Masonry cannot exist together, and we are well persuaded that the assailants of the Order know that the political societies they speak of have no connection whatever with Freemasonry. The persistence in the false statements so boldly put forth, would indicate that no matter how frequently denied, it is the design of their fabricators to keep repeating them, with the expectation that some at least may believe them. We can only hope that ere long the malicious persons engaged in this work of falsification may be led to see the error of their ways.

MASONIC BRIEFLETS.

THE *Masonic Advocate* is very patronizing towards the order of the "Eastern Star," and thinks it can be made beneficial to the ladies, while it does no harm to Masonry. This mixing up of side degrees with Masonry is a thing all good Masons should discountenance.

THE proceedings of the thirty-ninth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas have reached us in their extended form. There is a brief allusion in the Foreign Correspondence to the nineteenth meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and Bro. Robertson's report is well spoken of.

THE *Kentucky Freemason* and *The Voice of Masonry* send up their wail against the shortcomings of the fraternity, in not affording them the support so necessary to their continuance as good and efficient Masonic magazines. It is a matter of wonder that Freemasons are so slow to assist in the dissemination of the principles they uphold through the press?

SEEING that it is customary in England for ladies to attend Masonic demonstrations, some of our American contemporaries are advocating the adoption of the plan. The admission of the fair sex to dedications has answered well in Canada, and we think our neighbors should try the experiment. Of course, no American lady would think of such a thing as gracing a public banquet with her presence, but the experiment only needs to be tried to prove a success. The Baroness Burdett Coutts was present in an English Lodge, on the occasion of presenting a set of chairs recently, and afterwards attended a banquet in connection with the same. There can be no good reason for excluding the ladies when their presence does not interfere with lodge working.

BRO. MACOY, of New York, is heavy on the side degree business, and has recently completed a new degree, which he calls the "Queen of the South." The officers are twelve ladies, styled princesses, and two brethren. We wonder what the next organization will be?

THE *Michigan Freemason* says Bro. Anthony Sayre, the first Grand Master of Masons of England, in 1717, was a simple stone-mason, and