

WORK IN THE LODGE.

Bro. Burdett-Countts, M. P., (says the *London Freemason*), spoke to very good purpose the other day at the meeting of the Abbey Lodge, Westminster, when he insisted on the importance of accurate working in our lodge ceremonies, and brethren who aspire to be lodge rulers will do well to take his advice to heart. A Master is paying a very poor compliment to the lodge which has elected him to its chair, when he performs his duties in a slovenly and perfunctory manner; or when, in absolute ignorance of the most important of those duties, he is obliged to call upon some brother to perform them for him. We are not all gifted with the same power of committing things to memory, and one man may succeed in knowing his part more perfectly than another, just as of two whose knowledge is about equal, one may be able to carry it out more impressively than the other. But it is well known there are many brethren among us who are incompetent to work either of the three degrees, or even to open or close the lodge, without some one being at hand to help them through the task. Yet they are elected W. M's., and at the close of their term of office are presented with the usual jewel in recognition of their valuable services. It is quite possible, of course, that they may have rendered such services, but they have also done the lodge the dis-service of setting to the members an example of laxity in work which cannot be otherwise than prejudicial. If a brother intends offering himself as a candidate for any office, let him follow the example of Bro. Burdett-Countts, and obtain a knowledge of the duties that he will be called upon to perform. If he cannot make up his mind to undertake this small amount of trouble, then let him stand aside for others who, while they regard office as an honor that is worth aspiring to, are not unwilling to discharge its

duties in a creditable¹ or passable manner.

CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS.

The members of Fidelity Lodge, met in the Masonic hall, Ottawa, on the 11th Nov., where there were a large number of brethren from the other lodges in the city present. The occasion was accepted as a fitting one to present R. W. Bro. Church, P. D. D.G.M., with a costly jewel, etudded with diamonds. R. W. Bro. Burritt, of Pembroke, D.D.G.M., was present, besides past grand officers, W. Bros. John Satchell, Chatfield, Mingey, and other members of the Grand Lodge. Bro. Church is a favorite with the craft, which accounts for the large and enthusiastic attendance. In accepting the jewel Bro. Church made an appropriate reply, and a very pleasing evening was spent.

GLEANINGS.

By desiring what is perfectly good, we are a part of the divine power against evil, widening the skirts of light and making the struggle with darkness narrower.—*Geo. Eliot.*

THE true Mason believes in a supreme intelligence which pervades and animates all nature—the Infinite One—and will pay him that reverence due from a creature to his Creator. Nor will he use the name by which He is known to us in a light and trifling manner.

THE Steward, in England, is a Masonic official, whose title has been retained in America, but his occupation is gone, inasmuch as we have discarded the convivial usages of our progenitors, and transact business upon strictly temperance principles. It would be considered an affront to a guest at a public dinner in this region to "pass round the hat," and when a man pays for his ticket to a feast he imagines his charitable mission to be ended. In England the case is re-