

**THE**

# FREEMASONS' JOURNAL,

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OCCASIONAL PAPERS.

*Objections to Freemasonry, or, a defence of the Order.*

All human institutions are liable to objections from the simple fact of their being such. No matter how solid the foundation may be, the imperfection of man's best and noblest efforts is observable at some one point or another. Is it then, I ask, to be wondered at when freemasonry is attacked by the caviller? Surely not! We do not boast of *infallibility*, far be it from us to arrogate to ourselves a quality which belongs alone to the G. A. O. T. U., under whose almighty banner we are enrolled; bound by a mystic tie to promote harmony and good will amongst men. True, even in our own order there appears divisions and differences of opinions; but these are the result, rather of a spirit of *brotherly emulation* to excel in that which conduces to the good of all, than to rend the body or impair its usefulness. In such a light we must view the events of the present day and look forward to the speedy healing of sores already too long opened. One cannot help regretting that the *fallibility* above alluded to should have taken such firm hold in the minds of the powers that be—for *evil*! We boast of the power and ability to carry out the designs of a Beneficent Creator, to spread far and wide amongst the nations of the earth a spirit of universal love; to uphold the peace and good order of society, and casting the mantle of a mason's charity over the faults and failings of others, to lighten their distress, soothe their afflictions, and be to them brethren in reality in the hour of need. This is what masonry professes to do; this she has done and will continue to do, till our earthly temple is dissolved, and we have our perfect consummation and bliss in the eternal Lodge above—for Freemasonry is the handmaid of religion.

There are many popular objections raised against the order, indeed their name is legion; they are, however, reducible to three classes, and of each it is my intention to speak in these "papers."