

in the Order, he can find friends where, without such testimonial, all would be strangers. In case of sickness or accident, he can summon brothers who will do all in their power for his relief and comfort.

In fine, we are Odd Fellows for what of good there is in the Order; for what, through its medium, we can do for others, and what they can do for us; for the liberality of its laws; its universal tolerance; its examples of unselfishness; its spread and practice of divine principles, and for the utility of its unwritten language.—*Pacific Odd Fellow.*

#### A BOY SAMARITAN—LESSON FOR ODD FELLOWS.

A reporter called to a little bootblack near the City Hall to give him a shine. The little fellow came rather slowly for ore of that lively guild, and placed his box down under the reporter's foot. Before he could get his brushes out another larger boy ran up and, calmly pushing the little one aside, said: "Here, you sit down, Jimmy."

The reporter at once became indignant at what he took to be a piece of outrageous bullying, and sharply told the new comer to "clear out."

"O, dat's all right, boss," was the reply, "I'm only going to do it fur him; you see he's been sick in the hospital for mor'n a month, and can't do much work yet, so us boys all turn in and give him a lift when we can—savy?"

"Is that so Jimmie?" asked the reporter, turning to the smaller boy.

"Yes, sir," wearily replied the boy, and as he looked up the pallid, pinched face could be discerned even through the grime that covered it. "He does it for me, if you'll let him."

"Certainly, go ahead;" and as the bootblack plied the brush the reporter plied him with questions. "You say all the boys help him in this way?"

"Yes, sir. When they ain't got no job themselves, and Jimmy gets one, they turn in and helps him, 'cause he ain't very strong yet, you see?"

"What percentage do you charge him on the job?"

"Hey?" queried the youngster. "I don't know what you mean."

"I mean, what part of the money do you give Jimmy, and how much money do you keep out of it?"

"You bet your life I don't keep none; I ain't no such sneak as that."

"So you give it all to him, do you?"

"Yes, I do. All the boys give up what they get on his job. I'd like to catch any feller sneaking it on a sick boy, I would."

The shine being completed, the reporter handed the urchin a quarter, saying, "I guess you're a pretty good fellow

so you keep ten cents, and give the rest to Jimmy, there."

"Can't do it, sir; its his customer. Here Jim."

He threw him the coin and was off like a shot after a customer for himself, a veritable rough diamond. In all large cities there are a good many such lads with warm and generous hearts under their ragged coats.

Brother Odd Fellow: Having read the foregoing story of the "Boy Samaritan," go and practice more faithfully than ever the sublime teachings of your ritual. The traveler from Jerusalem to Jericho is always your brother.

#### TOO MUCH NEGLECTED.

The duty of a committee on investigation is not only to call on the person making application for membership but to make diligent inquiry of those to whom he may refer, and of any others the committee may wish. We believe that of all committees appointed in a lodge the committees on investigation of candidates for membership are the most careless. They seem to think because the person is recommended by Brother A., or Brother B., that he is worthy and should be admitted, and are willing to report favorable on the application at once, but this is not accord-

ing to law. The law requires that at least two of the committee see and talk to the applicant. If the law was enforced in this matter it would be almost impossible for any one to be admitted who is unworthy, and lodges would not be compelled afterward to perform an unpleasant duty by expelling a member. It is not only the loss (?) of the member expelled, but in but few if any cases has there been a member expelled who has not had some friends in the lodge who felt hurt, and a coolness would spring up among the members. Some would stay away and finally drop out, while if the committee on investigation had done their duty this member would have been rejected and all this trouble avoided. We believe it is better for a lodge to reject ten good men than to admit one who will, after receiving the degrees, want to run the lodge after his own idea or ruin it, which he is sure to do if he is not promptly set down on. To the committee on investigation of candidates: Do your duty thoroughly, investigate the character and standing of every candidate of whom you may be appointed on, and report unfavorable on the application of every one, who after you have investigated you think will be a detriment to the lodge, and who you would not be willing to take into your family.—*Odd Fellow Register.*

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