

ruled by a Sovereign who glories in the name of the Patron of the order, is left to the decision of abler practitioners in these doctrines than we are. We shall therefore conclude this address to R. A. M. by assuring him that we approve his scheme and by suggesting the propriety of submitting it to the masonic authorities.

Previous however dismissing entirely this subject, we would observe that formerly and we suppose it to be as yet the case, the Bishops, Archbishops or Grand Penitentiaries granted licence to some Ecclesiastics to read those works in which morality and decency were grossly violated or directed against religion and the Divinity itself, that they might oppose their pernicious effects either by prohibiting their reading to their flocks or by refuting their doctrines. Now, methinks that it would be more consonant with the rules of common Justice and more subservient to the command of the founder of our divine religion "*Judge not that thou mayest not be judged,*" if the Bishops, Archbishops or Grand Penitentiaries, previous to persecuting, for the refusal of Sacraments amounts to a persecution, if previous to persecuting the Free-masons of this Country, the Heads of the Church would fairly investigate how far this fraternity be deserving of their censure and anathemas. Why should they not, seeing that so many respectable and even high characters belong to it; why should they not authorise one of their order to be admitted into our mysteries. We believe, and that most sincerely, that no Free-mason would hesitate to relieve him from all and every obligation he might have entered into at his initiation, if he could discover any the least deviation from the strictest morality, from religious duties, from social ties; if, on the contrary, he should not find that all the obligations, constantly recommended and enforced at our meetings do not tend to the rigorous observance of all those duties prescribed by religion, morality and social good order. Masons however, are neither more nor less than other men, and if individuals amongst them do not strictly adhere to their special and voluntary obligations they have this in common with other individuals of whatever description they might be. But enough of this subject and let us pass to another of our Correspondents whose signature