

merely initiated they form a sort of chaotic map, not inaptly symbolized by the state and conditions of this earth of ours, just before the Great Architect of the Universe uttered that mandate of unspeakable sublimity, "Let there be light;" and there was light." This chaotic map of symbol and enigma as it presents itself to the novitiate, and even to very many who for years have been members of the Fraternity, needs some great master of the royal art to say: "Let there be light;" and then proceed, *step by step*, to bring order out of confusion, light out of darkness, and to display to the wondering gaze of the beholder, as the mists and films were brushed from his eyes, the *wisdom, strength and beauty* that, like the tree in the acorn-germ, or the blossom and the fruit in the closely sealed bud, lie encoiled in the apparently heterogeneous mass of symbol before him. If I were that master, as I am not, I would perform that office this day, as far as the sacredness and sanctity of the subject would allow, in the presence of a promiscuous audience.

"The present existence of a brotherhood of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in the world is a marvel and a wonder. Coming up from a distant age, with the patronage of hard-handed laborers *alone* to foster and sustain it; disturbed at times by dissensions within, and violently assailed by enemies from without, it at least reached a point in its history, more than two hundred years ago, when *honorary* members were elected, and initiated; these honorary members increased with the growing popularity of the Order, and in time became known as *Accepted* Masons; and thus advancing, *step by step*, Operative Masonry was gradually transformed from an Operative to a universal, Speculative Society. Under its modern form, without protection or patronage from State or Church it has continued to grow and enlarge, until now the sun never sets upon the breadth of its empire. Masonic *odes* are sung in every cultivated language of the globe; Masonic *prayers* are offered from the tropics to polar climes; Masonic *charity* is dispensed as noiselessly as the falling dew on wilted flowers, in every community of the civilized world, and a band of brothers, hand in hand, with friendly grip, engirdles the earth, forming one of the strongest bonds of union that holds the nations of the world in the tie, and under the obligations of a *Universal Brotherhood*.

"Freemasonry is the *"union of unions,"* it unites all good men into *one family*, on the broad platform of Liberty, Equality and Brotherly Love. It proscribes no man for his religious or political creed. It receives to its fellowship, *if properly recommended*, Jew and Gentile, Christian and Mohammedan, republican or royalist."

—[*The Freemason, St. Louis.*]

CAUTION.—We are requested to state that at a recent meeting of St. Albans Lodge, No. 200, Mount Forest, a resolution was passed, to the effect, that William Evans, a twice rejected applicant for initiation in this Lodge, and proprietor of the "Anglo American" Hotel, Mount Forest, had, on a number of occasions attempted to pass himself off as a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and that, by plausible conversation concerning the state of the Craft in this locality, or by the use of information presumably obtained in the body of a Masonic Lodge, he had successfully imposed upon one or two indiscreet Masons from a distance; they therefore deem it a duty to advise the Fraternity generally that the said Evans has never received a Degree in Masonry, and that Brethren in their intercourse with him should observe strict caution.