

do by taking into its membership the riff-raff of the world. This it has not done, by any means, in a practical sense, but it has taken in those, any one of whom, by a single ballot, can reject a candidate, simply because he is a free and independent man of unblemished character.

Every Lodge should struggle to rise to this grand and noble level. Whenever you have a candidate whom you find to be incapable of allowing other people to differ with him, reject him, for if elected, he will, in turn, reject every other candidate of real, intelligent merit.—*Gouley's Freemason.*

A SINGULAR INCIDENT.—A few weeks ago, in the City of Washington, a Fellow-Craft, who had been regularly passed in one of the Lodges, anxious for proficiency to enable him to advance, was advised to go to a Lodge of Instruction. He applied for admission, and by a mistake of the Tyler, was vouched for and passed in, while the Lodge was engaged in exemplifying the third degree, and witnessed the entire exemplification before his real Masonic rank was discovered. M. W. Bro. C. F. Stansbury, the Grand Master of the District, was immediately sent for; and, upon learning the facts, convened the brethren who were present into a Lodge of Emergency, and had the third degree conferred forthwith upon the involuntary intruder—two weeks in advance of the time when the degree would have been regularly due. The record of the proceedings of the Emergent Lodge was certified to the Lodge in which the Fellow-Craft had received the first and second degrees; and the Grand Master authorized that Lodge to receive the fee, and to take the so-made Master Mason as a member, as if he had been regularly received in the Lodge. But the Lodge, upon ballot, refused to receive him. He is now, in the opinion of the Grand Master, in which we concur, to be recognized as a Master Mason in good standing, but unaffiliated, with the privilege of applying to any Lodge for membership.—*National Freemason.*

THE NEED OF LIGHT.

"Once upon a time." I will not mention either time or place, the writer of this was appointed on a committee of examination, ordered by the W. M. of the Lodge, to try the quality of a visiting brother, a stranger to every brother present.

What was the astonishment of the examiners to discover that the visitor was perfectly unable to make himself known as a Mason! He could not recollect even the name or number of the Lodge he hailed from! The Senior Deacon sternly asked the stranger if he could give any account of the sublime third degree, who answered:

"I think I was raised!"

"With what were you raised to that degree?"

"With a sprig of shillalah!" answered the supposed impostor, amid the uncontrollable laughter of the committee.

And yet it turned out that this man was no impostor, but a subject that had been "hurried through," to go on a sea voyage. The occurrence above related transpired in a Lodge under this jurisdiction, the members of which will recognize every detail here narrated, as strictly correct.

Such specimens of non-reading, unlearned Masons, are altogether too common for this enlightened age; if any of this description should