

ferent times. In the nature of things this cannot be, and little would be gained were it so. We are guided by the ancient maxim, "In non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." Go where you will, in Europe, Asia or Africa, wherever Freemasonry exists, and you will find that it is essentially the same. He who has well learned the art and mystery in England, or Ireland, or Scotland, experiences no difficulty in working his way into a lodge in India, or Malta, or Syria, or Morocco, or the United States of America. The fraternity is world-wide, its language is the only universal language, and with all the trivial changes in ritual that one constantly meets with, there are no serious stumbling-blocks, so that in every country where there is a Masonic lodge the Craftsman finds a home, and in every land a brother.

The "Voice" and the "Dispatch" are upholding public installations, and the "Keystone" denouncing the same. The "Masonic Advocate" now rushes into the *melée*, and speaks thus:

What is printed in books and placed on public sale can hardly be regarded as a secret, and yet the "Keystone" and the wisest of Pennsylvania Masons are writing labored articles against the public installation of the officers of a Masonic Lodge, as an exposure of Freemasonry. The position is too absurd for argument. They might as well attempt to suppress the beautiful Masonic ceremonies of laying the corner stone of public edifices, or the sublime and impressive burial services of a Master Mason. They are all published as public ceremonies of Masonry, and are never well performed without awaking an increased admiration for the principles and teachings of the time-honored institution.

Bro. Jerah Hill, of Foster, R.I., who died on March 27, 1882, was one of the veteran Hiramites who, according to the "Freemason's Repository," stood nobly by the institution during the days of its tribulation, and Hamilton Lodge, No. 15, of his town, to-day owes its continuous existence to his vigorous fidelity. In the fiery ordeal of those days the excitement ran so high that the lodge-room doors were nailed up, and the stairway leading thereto was barricaded. He procured a ladder, and mounting to the top forced an entrance through the hall window, took the jewels, went to the top of a neighboring hill, and there, on June 9, 1834, with a few brethren, in due and solemn form opened a lodge.

This is probably the only instance in this jurisdiction (R.I.) where a lodge met, as was the custom in ancient times, "on high hills." Those were times that tried the souls of Masons. In many localities lodges suspended work, but this persevering brother, by his unfaltering energy, kept the light burning upon the altar of Masonry, and zealously held the lodge together.

The "Keystone" says:—"A number of eminent Freemasons participated in the Lesqui-Centennial of the "State of Schuylkill," the oldest social club in the United States," which celebrated its anniversary on Monday last at the Fish House, on the Schuylkill. Bros. Hon. H. M. Hoyt, Governor of Pennsylvania; Hon. Samuel G. King, Mayor of Philadelphia; P. G. M. Hon. H. M. Phillips, and Rt. Wor. Grand Master, Hon. Samuel B. Dick, were present as guests. Among the regular toasts was one, 'To the ancient fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons,' to which Grand Master Dick ably responded." We draw the attention of the "Masonic Advocate" to the above paragraph and the one preceding it, in which Bro. J. C. Batchelor, M.D., Grand Secretary, is thanked for copy of Proceedings, &c.; and two paragraphs below allusion is made to the eloquent eulogy delivered at a Lodge of Sorrow by Rev. Bro. D. H. Tiffany, D.D. Will the "Masonic Advocate" explain how and why "Titles, except as conferred in a legitimate Masonic way, are of no value to Masons in this country (U.S.), where men and women are measured by standard of nobility of worth, not blood"? Here we have a host of American Masons having "Hon.," "M.D.," "D.D.," attached to their Masonic titles, yet the "Masonic Advocate" gravely tells us "such expressions as 'His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England,' grates harshly on the ears of those who have been taught that as Masons we 'meet on the level.'" Isn't there an adage, Brother "Advocate," about people in glass houses being warned not to do something?