

friend, what I thought it my duty to sketch out for you. I would not use more tenderness if you were my own.

You will make me die with grief if the resolutions you so lately entered into in my presence should vanish. What encourages me is, that you are a man of truth, that you have a regard for me, and are fully convinced that I sincerely wish you well, and in the last place, that you have found a disorderly life to be an assemblage of vexations, torments and remorse. Harken to the voice of a Father crying to you from the bottom of the heart. There would be no happiness in this world but for the friends of God, and charging you to keep the promise you formerly made Him of living the life of a good Christian.

Convent of the Holy Apostles, Nov. 20th, 1750.

NOTE.—The original is in possession of Ill. Bro. B. D. Hyam, 38°, and the paper as well as the penmanship shows the age record.—EDITOR.—*Masonic Era and Analectic.*

GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA.

The proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, held at Winnipeg, on the 9th, 10th and 11th February, 1887, have just been issued, and we have to thank R. W. Bro. Wm. G. Scott, Grand Secretary, for a copy, from which we are pleased to learn that the craft is in a prosperous condition in the Prairie Province. Twenty-one Lodges were represented by their proper officers, and three by proxy.

M. W. Bro. Alfred Pearson, Grand Master, delivered an excellent address, from which we make a few extracts:—

"I hope brethren, you will not take it amiss if I speak very plainly to you about

something which is on my mind, and draw your attention to a glaring discrepancy which too often, occurs between the precepts of Masonry and the practices of many of those who belong to our institution. You all know well enough with how few of us it is the case, that to be a Mason is a passport at once as to our integrity and honor.

"Now, is this as it should be? A man's being a Mason ought to be a guarantee of his honesty and fidelity, not only with his brethren but all mankind. He's a Mason, should be synonymous with he's true as steel, actuated by all that is honorable, whose word is his bond.

"You and I know that such is, I am thankful to say, often the case, yet it is not always so. What is needed to enable us to attain this great end? Is it greater rigor in the examination into applicants' antecedents, or more of what I may term kindly mutual surveillance, or a more severe and strict pursuit of any whom we may find violating any of those sacred principles which we have at our Masonic altar sworn to obey and maintain. It does seem to me as if we ought to be to a certain extent our brother's keeper. A resolute upholding of the high moral standard of the noble tenets of our institution is, I think, what each one of us individually and collectively should set up before himself as his "Ultima Thule."

"Think carefully of this, and may the Most High grant, that from our deliberations there may spring a clearer conception of our duties as units in this great fraternity, and a firm determination to perform those duties even more faithfully in the future than in the past.

"No doubt many of you will have noticed that a certain great ecclesiastical dignity has of late been pouring out the vials of his displeasure upon our Order. Could that dignity but be made aware of the sublime morality of our teachings he would, I am confident, extend to us the hand of fellowship, and welcome us as worthy coadjutors in the work of raising poor suffering humanity to a nobler plane, and perhaps end by honoring himself by seeking admission to our ranks.

"Glad am I to be able to congratulate you as I do upon the wonderful strides Masonry continues to make the world over, but more especially is it the case in our own jurisdiction, despite the depression which we are still laboring under. The accession to our ranks outnumbers any previous year. For the credit of this satisfactory showing, "*palman qui meruit ferat,*" let him bear the palm who deserves it."

POWERS OF GRAND MASTER.

"Having given you a detailed statement