

principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth fill them. The barrel, if allowed to remain empty, becomes dry, and in time will fall to pieces. The forms and ceremonies of the various degrees in Masonry, if allowed to remain empty shows, will dry up and fall to pieces. There is too little of the meaning of the ceremonies understood by the great mass of the fraternity. Every degree, from the first to the last, has some beautiful moral lesson, and, as in England, every road leads to London, so in Masonry every form should lead to the great central truths of Faith, Hope, and Charity. Of what use are the forms if they do not convey some thought to the mind that will be lasting? The more of the senses we can bring to bear upon a lesson in virtue and morality, the deeper will be the impression made, and the more lasting the results. The ear hears the word of wisdom, the eye sees the beauties fully pictured in form and ceremony, and the feeling is made to receive the impression of the lesson.—*N. Y. Dispatch.*

A BIG JOB.—At the last session of the Grand Lodge of Washington Territory, the following was adopted:—“That the Grand Master elect and Grand Secretary, with three others, to be named by the Grand Master at an early date, shall constitute a Special Committee to investigate the manner in which the various jurisdictions in America have treated the question of rituals and work, and report to this Grand Lodge at its next session, such matters relating to the usages and means adopted by such other Grand Lodges, to settle the vexed question of uniformity of work, together with a brief history (so far as proper to be written) of the work in general use by the jurisdictions on the Pacific coast, and more eastern jurisdictions, together with such other information and recommendations as the committee may find proper to submit upon the subject.

THE MASONIC PRESS.—The Masonic press cannot rely upon the means of gain and sustenance that the popular press does. The importance of the Masonic press, as an institution, can scarcely be over-estimated. It occupies a higher and more tranquil sphere of journalism than that of the secular press. Its influence, however, must not be forgotten in the estimate of the social forces. Unobstructive in its utterances, when compared with the clamorous voices of the political newspaper, its tones, nevertheless, fall upon calmer hearts, and sink deeper into the convictions and life of society. As a medium for communication of moral and Masonic intelligence—an educator, refining and elevating—a fireside mentor, quickening the intellect, expanding the heart, and bearing treasures to myriads, the Masonic journal wields an influence which cannot well be dispensed with, and one that no other moral force can well supply. The duty of the Mason is therefore plain. He has a duty to perform in extending the circulation, and in widening the influence, of the Masonic press. He should not excuse himself from this duty. If he is a Master or officer of the lodge, he may recommend it to his members. If he is not an officer, he can urge its claims whenever an opportunity occurs. The fraternity should awaken to the importance of a more general and decided effort in behalf of the Masonic newspaper and Masonic literature.—*N. Y. Sunday Times.*

IN the Masonic lodge all are alike, and meet on one common level.

A MAN cannot be a good Mason if he is not loyal to his country and its flag.

CHARITY is one of the great principles of the Masonic Order. To be a good Mason a man must be charitable.