

ideas, is simply one who is not unrolling the parchment. It is a custom of the Jews on their Sabbath, in the synagogue, that a member should pay for the privilege of unrolling the Sacred Law. So, too, the Mason, who could uphold the law of his institution, must pay for the privilege: not in base coin, but in labor and research, studying its principles, searching out its design, and imbibing all of its symbolism and the payment thus made will purchase a rich reward.

BEHIND THE BACK.—Freemasonry, borrowing its symbols from every source, has not neglected to make a selection of certain parts of the human body. From the back an important lesson is derived, which is fittingly developed in the third degree. Hence, in reference to this symbolism, Oliver says; "It is a duty, incumbent on every Mason, to support a brother's character in his absence equally as though he were present; not to revile him *behind his back*, nor suffer it to be done by others without using every necessary attempt to prevent it." And Hutchinson, referring to the same symbolic ceremony, says: "The most material part of that brotherly love, which should subsist among masons, is that of speaking well of each other to the world; more especially it is expected of every member of this fraternity that he should not traduce a brother. Calumny and slander are detestable crimes against society. Nothing can be viler than traduce a man *behind his back*; it is like the villainy of an assassin, who has not virtue enough to give his adversary the means of self-defence, but, lurking in darkness, stabs him whilst he is unarmed, and unsuspecting of an enemy."

The common course of things is in favor of happiness as the rule, misery the exception. Were the order observed, our attention would be called to examples of health and competency, instead of disease and want.

An honest reputation is within the reach of all men: they obtain it by social virtues, and by doing their duty. This kind of reputation, it is true, is neither brilliant nor startling, but it is generally most conducive to happiness.

To bring forward the bad action of others to excuse our own, is like washing ourselves in mud.

At Rest.

M. W. Bro. Philip Swigert, one of the oldest and most distinguished members of the Craft in Kentucky, has gone to rest. He died at Frankford, Ky., on the 31st December last. Aged nearly seventy four years.

On the 19th February, 1872, aged 35 years, W. Brother Donald Bain, P. M., The Belleville Lodge, No. 123, Belleville.

The brethren of his Lodge paid a last tribute of respect to his memory by escorting his remains to the Free Church burying ground of that place, and there deposited them with masonic ceremonies.

Brother Simeon Ashley, of the Township of Thurlow, an honorary member of The Belleville Lodge, No. 123, was interred with masonic ceremonies, on the 25th February, 1872.