

Of MASONS, (priviledged by the Badge we wear,)  
 With all mankind upon the Square to live,  
 And in a Level cause of practice strive,  
 That every action may be so upright,  
 It would not shame, nor need not shun the light.  
 And may our HALIFAX, which now appears,  
 To all who view the work of many years,  
 And from Chaos may be justly said  
 In decent form to rear its towering head ;  
 May it in future time in structure vie  
 With ancient GREECE, or famous Italy,  
 That when our progeny admiringly ask,  
 Who first designed and plan'd this arduous Task,  
 Which in the Compass of an hundred years,  
 So lofty, Beauteous and superb appears ;  
 Their Sires may say C.—W.—S. was the man  
 Who this extensive city first began,  
 Be not amazed its progress was so fast,  
 And grew so great with such surprising haste;  
 What could not be expected he should do,  
 S.—G.—N.—R. so just and a M.—S.—N. true.

### POPE PIUS IX. EXPELLED FROM THE ORDER FOR PERJURY,

At the semi-annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Masons, Scottish Rite of the Orient, of Paterno, Italy, held in that city on the 27th of March, Mastai Ferretti was expelled from the order for violating his vows and for perjury. Mastai Ferretti is no other person than Pius IX., Pope of Rome. The decree of the Lodge at Palermo is published in the official paper of the order of Freemasons at Cologne, Germany, and dated March 27. It is preceded by the minutes of the lodge in which Mastai Ferretti, in 1826, was initiated into the order under the old Scottish Rite. The decree reads as follows:—

A man called Mastai Ferretti, who received the baptism of Freemasonry and solemnly pledged his love and fellowship, and who afterwards was crowned Pope and King, under the title of Pio Nino, has now cursed his former brethren and excommunicated all members of the order of Freemasons. Therefore, said Mastai Ferretti is herewith, by decree of the Grand Lodge of the Orient, Palermo, expelled from the order for perjury.

The charges against Mastai Ferretti were first preferred in his lodge at Palermo, in 1865, and notification and copy thereof sent to Rome, with a request to attend the lodge for the purpose of his vindication. To this the Pope made no reply, and for divers reasons the charges were not pressed until the Pope urged the clergy of Brazil to aggressive measures against the Freemasons in that country. Then the charges were pressed, and the second and third notifications sent, and, after a formal trial, a decree of expulsion was entered, and caused to be published. The decree bears the signature of Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy, Grand Master of the Orient of Italy.

WOMAN is not only benefited by Masonry, but has often recognized its Heaven-sent mission, by contributing its charities. A few years ago, Mrs. Elizabeth Davies, of Leamington, Warwickshire, England, gave \$2,300, divided among the Charity Funds of various Grand Lodges in this country.

At a Masonic Lodge held sometime since in Bombay, India, there were present nine native Brethren, three of whom were followers of Zoroaster, two of Confucius, and four of Mahomet, assembled together around one common altar, and engaged in the worship of one common God. What an illustration of the universality and unsectarian character of Freemasonry!

In 1830 an ancient Masonic brass square was found in the northeast corner of an old bridge, called Baal's Bridge, on the river Shannon, County of Limerick, Ireland. It bore the date, 1517, and upon it was engraved: "I will strive to live, with Love and Care, upon the Level, by the Square." The bridge itself existed as far back as 1705, and it is not known how long prior. The jewel being now 357 years old, proves that the Craft existed in Ireland at that early day, using the same instrument and guided by the same principles as still govern the Craft all over the world.

The Druids of Britain and Gaul, held their principal annual initiations at "low twelve" on the Eve of May Day. As Euripides observes, "venerable is darkness."