

remainder under the "Supreme Council." As in Great Britain all the Degrees are not worked in full, but they give more than with us in their entirety, namely: 4 deg., 14 deg., 18 deg., 24 deg., 30 deg., 31 deg., 32 deg., 33 deg. The Apron of the M. M. is very handsome, and the specimen in my own collection is of white satin edged with crimson and richly embroidered, the lining being of black brocaded silk for use in the the 3 deg. The "Mother Lodge" still uses for its Diplomas a handsome plate dating from 1780, but the rest of the Lodges have modern Diplomas for 1 and 2 deg., and for 3 deg. of a different design. Masonic clothing is never worn in public in Spain, as Craft Funerals, Foundation Stone Laying, etc., are of necessity worn down.

The Book of Constitutions was completely revised in 1893 by a Committee appointed for the purpose, and is now a really admirable one, being so complete that a case can hardly arise that is unprovided for in its pages.

In Spanish Lodges the W. Masters are appointed by Grand Lodge, on recommendation of the members of each Lodge, and they usually hold office for an indefinite time, whilst the remaining officers are elected annually, but in some Lodges—notably in Bilbao—the W. M. also is annually recommended and appointed, thus giving more zest to the work, from the infusion of new blood.

It only remains to hope that at no very distant date the "Grande Oriente," the "Symbolic Grand Lodge" and the "Masonic Confederation 4 to 32 of Seville," will unite with the "Grande Oriente Nacional," and so Spanish Masonry will once more arrive at that state of unity so essential to its well-being.—*Scottish Freemason*.

MARRIAGE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Lincoln's marriage to Mary Todd occurred in Springfield, Ill., at the home of Mr. M. W. Edwards, where Miss

Todd lived. She was the belle of Springfield, and the story of Lincoln's interrupted courtship is well known. The marriage, although hastily arranged in the end, was perhaps the first one performed in that city with all the requirements of the Episcopal ceremony, Rev. Charles Dresser officiated. Among the many friends of Lincoln who were present was Thomas C. Brown, one of the Judges of the State Supreme Court. He was a blunt outspoken man and an old timer.

Parson Dresser was attired in full canonical robes, and recited the service with much impressive solemnity. He handed Lincoln the ring, who, placing it on the bride's finger, repeated the church formula, "With this ring I thee endow with all my goods and chattels, lands and tenements."

Judge Brown, who had never before witnessed such a ceremony, and looked upon it as utterly absurd, ejaculated, in a tone loud enough to be heard by all, "God Almighty, Lincoln, the statute fixes all that!" This unexpected interruption almost upset the old parson, who had a keen sense of the ridiculous, but he quickly recovered his gravity, and hastily pronounced the couple man and wife.

Craft Tidings.

AMERICAN.

Bro. Michael Nisbet, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, died at his residence in Philadelphia, May 7th, 1896, aged sixty-nine years. Bro. Nisbet was Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania in 1879 and 1880, and on retiring from that position was elected Grand Secretary and was continued in that office until his death. Bro. William A. Sinn has been appointed to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.—*Masonic Advocate*.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana owns her Masonic Temple and other real estate entirely free from debt, and has besides \$28,474.79 invested in bonds