

so he spoke of the Grand Secretary as the most skilled and accomplished Freemason in Scotland at the present day, and referred in eulogistic terms to the labour and zeal which he had expended in bringing Grand Lodge into its present healthy condition. As to the Grand Cashier, he was able to serve them better as the years went on, and his salary would still be within range of that of his predecessor. The motion was adopted.

The late Emperor William and the Emperor Frederick III. were Freemasons; and, as is generally known, the various Lodges are in touch with one another all over the world. A first duty of Freemasons is the maintenance of peace, the avoiding of strife by deed or word. Whether Napoleon III. was a Mason or not is not certain, but neither the German Emperor nor his son seemed to be able to avoid the war with France in 1870. The French and German Lodges were in constant correspondence with one another, and the French Lodges more especially endeavoured to bring the campaign to an end by writing to the Emperor William on the subject, to remind him that the shedding of blood was contrary to the humane principles of Masonry. But the war was fought out to the bitter end, and the result has been that French and German Lodges are on cool terms. This does not mean that a French Mason would not visit a German Lodge, and *vice versa*; but the cordiality that formerly existed has been destroyed for the time being. This shows how even persons with the best intentions are powerless when circumstances, such as those of the war of 1870, are against them.—*Vanity Fair*.

Time was within the memory of many before me, when a Masonic magazine or journal was a questionable venture, and where it was undertaken the matter forming its pages was largely confined to generalities, under the head of Masonry. The time of mental

inertia has passed away forever. In the craft to-day, the bright Mason is the Mason who reads, and it is no longer sufficient to be well posted in the esoteric and ritualistic work of the institution, but the Masonic student must be able to answer the interrogation, "what is Masonry?" "What of its history?"—*Address by Bro. Innes, G.M. of Michigan.*

Miscellaneous.

A BEAUTIFUL MASONIC POEM.

BY COL. SAMUEL SUMNER.

In ancient times when Israel's king that famous
fabric reared,
In which his glory and his might so manifest
appeared,
He, in his wisdom, first gave heed to Heaven's
great law to man,
And order, beauteous and sublime, through
all the forces ran.

No sound of axe or metal tool through all the
time was heard,
No craftsman broke the harmony by one dis-
cordant word,
For so the work was portioned out by Solomon
the wise,
From corner stone to capital no discord could
arise.

Eleven hundred men, twice told, as master
masons wrought,
And eighty thousand fellowcrafts the quarried
marble sought;
While entered as apprentices were seventy thou-
sand more,
Who, through the progress of the work, the
heavy burdens bore.

A vast fraternity they were, a labor vast to
share—
Who always on the level met and parted on the
square—
And three grand masters gave the rules by
which the work was done;
The King of Israel, the King of Tyre, and he
the widow's Son.

The columns and plasters were of Parian marble
wrought,
The timbers from the famous groves of Lebanon
were brought;
Of cedar, fir and olive wood the stately walls
were made,
And all within, and all without, with gold was
overlaid.