

It is very gratifying to note by our Australian exchanges that the lodges, still remaining under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, propose to surrender their warrants and unite with the Grand Lodge of New South Wales. A motion in the District Grand Lodge of New South Wales, E. C., has also been made to a somewhat similar effect, but was ruled out of order by the District Grand Master. Colonial Masonic independence is sure to triumph in the end, and the chances are that the lodges in Victoria, under Sir L. Clarke will yet unite with the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction.

CHILDISH MASONRY. — We see it stated that the French Masons in San Francisco, Cal., of La Parfaite Union Lodge, No. 17, of that city, under the Grand Lodge of California, on November 5th inst., baptized thirty of the children of its members. Did they escape squalls? We have no patience with such a childish performance. The "Orator" for the babies was Jules Simon. He is beyond envy. And this was called "Free and Accepted Masonry." We should like to hear from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California on this subject.—*Keystone.*

The so-called 'Temperance Lodges' in England now number twenty. It is questionable, however, in our mind if a charter should be granted for "teetotalers" alone, any more than for Methodists, Episcopalians, shoemakers, tailors, Jews or Mohammedans. Of course, in Great Britain there are military lodges, which is correct enough, as otherwise our soldiers would not practice the rites of the fraternity, but in this country these even are not required, and while we are opposed to the use of stimulants, we are equally opposed to allowing our institution to be transmogrified into a "teetotal" or "total abstinence" society.

Bro. T. B. Whytehead, our distinguished friend and brother of York, might boast most excellent Masonic lineage. The first known "minute" of the old York Lodge, under date of March 19, 1712, notes the fact that "John Whitehead" was "admitted into the Honorable Society and Fraternity of Freemasons." This Bro. John Whitehead was sheriff of York in 1717. His brother, William, was Lord Mayor in 1784, and his brother, Thomas, who was Mayor of Scarborough in 1786, was the lineal ancestor of Bro. T. B. Whytehead.—*Ex.*

Our thanks are again due to Ill. Bro. Robie, of Indianapolis, Ind., for a number of interesting Masonic items. We notice by the *Masonic World* that certain Egyptian Masons are opposed to our distinguished brother allying himself with the Rite on account of his opposition to it in former days. What has that to do with it? Is a man never to be permitted to change his opinion? We hold that the promulgation of such a doctrine is entirely unworthy of the broad and liberal principles upon which the Supreme Rite of Memphis claims to be based.

Sir Kt. H. D. Moore, 32^d, editor of the *Masonic Review*, has courteously favored us with "an address to the Craft for Brother Masons of Columbus, Ohio." It fully explains the recent expulsions from Scottish Rite Masonry alluded to in the last issue of *THE CRAFTSMAN*. It is the old, old story. Brethren protesting against the monarchical system of government of the Scottish Rite; protesting and then after withdrawal being expelled. There is no power on earth that can expel a man from a body to which he does not belong. We have seen it done before and have no sympathy with any such clap trap. It is this system of intolerance that has revived Cerneauism and is daily adding to its strength numerically and otherwise.