

to his side. But the larger charity which pervades the order teaches the true Mason to listen to the pleadings of the distressed wherever they may be heard, outside of the order as well as within, and to strive to do unto others as he would that others should do unto him. That is Masonry.

#### FEMALE MASONS IN SAN DOMINGO.

Bro. W. Wilson, M. Inst. C. E., writing in the London *Freemason* of his experiences in St. Domingo while preparing a report on the proposed railway on the Island, after having undergone various hardships and lost his horses and baggage in the mountains, says:—

Having got our clothes dried, we started on our journey on foot, carrying what was left, and after walking through a dense forest of prickly trees until next day, without any food or drink, we became quite exhausted, and saw no hope of getting to the end of our journey. While all sitting in despair, my interpreter said to me, "The other night at San Domingo Hotel I heard you talking to a gentleman, and I gathered from your conversation that you are a Freemason." "Yes," I said, "I am." Then said he, "I know there is a family of tobacco growers up among the mountains over there," pointing towards the hills, "who have been expelled from Cuba in consequence of their being Freemasons, and, if we can manage to get there, perhaps they would assist you with what you require to continue our journey." So after a long day's struggle through the forest, without food or drink, we succeeded in getting up to the house, and, upon inquiry, we found the proprietor, and explained to him the sad accident which had occurred, and the fearful state we were all in, and begged him to give us help. He supplied us with a little food and drink, but refused anything further. We were in such a fearful condition that it seemed quite impossible for us to proceed. I found that my guide

had not mentioned the Freemasonry. He now said to me, "May I explain to him that you are a Freemason?" I said, "Yes, do, do." And we went again up to the house, and, after a little delay, the proprietor appeared, and my guide told him that I was a Freemason, and that he had heard that he was one also, and, if so, perhaps he would render us the assistance we required. His answer (in Spanish) was, "No, I am not a Freemason, but my daughter is, and if she will assure me that you are a Freemason, I will give you the assistance you require."

"After a short delay the daughter was introduced to me. Dolores Torres was her name, and I shall never forget her, for she was handsome in appearance, and most kind and intelligent. She conducted me into a chamber, closed and fastened up the door, and put me through a most strict examination, and even corrected me in the termination of one word.

After she had completed her investigation she took me down and introduced me to her father, and told him that she had proved me to be a member of the Craft, and told him that he must provide me with horses and provisions and everything necessary to proceed on the journey. After a further stay of about two hours we received three horses and lots of good food and drink, and after an affectionate farewell we started off on our journey.

#### CANDIDATES FOR MASONRY.

Connected with the working of the Institution, perhaps there is no subject that has been more often referred to in the addresses of Grand Masters, reports of Correspondence Committees, and the Masonic Press, than the careful selection of material to be admitted to membership. The Craft have been admonished from time immemorial how important it is that care should be taken that no one be admitted without the most careful scrutiny; and yet it always has been, and most probably always will be, a fact that a large share of lodge