

Masonic.

97.—CAN the mason look at this symbol, *budding, blossoming and bearing fruit*, in a day, and not reflect on the progress of our nature from *youth to manhood*, and from manhood to trembling decrepitude? Soon do the buds of infancy bloom on the cheek of youth, and, as soon, are the blossoms of time succeeded by the fruits of eternity—*Monitor* 135.

Scripture.

97.—And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the Lord said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand. That they may believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee—*Ex.* iv, 2-5.

Masonic.

98.—THIS sacred treasure, *long lost*, but happily found by an ancient brother, is worthy of the strict perusal of every one, whether a *brother* or a *stranger*—*Speculative Mas.* 207.

Masonic.

98.—And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two