

was an active Knight Templar, and his love for the principles of the Order and public spirit was proven by the final disposal of his fortune of about \$400,000, which he accumulated since the war.—*Texas Freemason.*

LODGE ETIQUETTE.

In the lodge room, and especially while the lodge is at labor, the utmost decorum should be observed. The officers should be addressed by their full title, and the worshipful Master is never to be called merely "Worshipful," but always "Worshipful Master."

Nothing that is not permissible before the highest dignitary of the world should be done while the lodge is at labor. If you would not sit in your shirt-sleeves or smoke in the presence of the President of the United States or the Prince of Wales then do not do so before the worshipful Master, who is one of the most dignified and honorable personages in the world. Your intimate friend, once seated in the East in a Masonic Lodge ceases to be "Bill," "Jack" or "Pete," but is for the time being a man to command the most profound respect.

If the Worshipful Master has a proper conception of the importance and dignity of his office, he should enforce this respect, and his intimates should not for a moment accuse him of getting "swell-head" on that account.

Nothing destroys that peculiar, indefinable charm so entrancing about lodge ceremonials, as the want of proper decorum. In those lodges where free and easy manners have crept in, let them try the practice of dignified lodge etiquette, and its beneficial effects on the interest in lodge meetings. Its influence will be found elevating and beneficial, both to individual members and the general welfare of the lodge.—*Texas Freemason.*

MASONIC FEELING.

An intimate relationship exists between Freemasons. A feeling of con-

fidence. A chord of sympathy, A kind of family kinship that draws one near to the other, and establishes a bond of union strong and abiding. It comes from the fact that all have dwelt under the same canopy, have tasted the sweet waters of the same fountain, and have a language of their own. How beautiful is a relationship so tender, a kinship so extensive! How dreadful that this beauty should ever be distorted or marred by the unworthy! How painful that the confidence which the secret chord of sympathy establishes should be abused! A bad Mason is like the renegade son of a noble father. The good name of the household is injured by his act of insubordination and reckless living. The proud father is hurt to the innermost heart, and he bows his head in shame, not for any action of his own, but that one bearing his name should bring it into disrepute. Often the gray hairs come too early and the broken heart wears out the body in its youth. And so the great family of Masonry is hurt when one of its members goes astray.—*New York Dispatch.*

KNIGHT TEMPLARY IN ENGLAND.

The publication of the official Calendar of "The Great Priory of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta in England and Wales for 1895-1896," and the probability that the "Convent General" will soon cease to exist, appear to me reasons for taking a brief glance at the Order as respects its connection with the Craft in this country.

When the Knight Templar's Degree was first worked under the wing of the Craft, it is impossible to decide; but from 1779 we meet with it in England, and from 1780 at Bristol, in which year, however, it was not a new creation, but the governing Body was then termed "The Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment of the Order of Knight Templars of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitallers and Knights of Malta," etc., the "Charter