

Kings, princes, statesmen, heroes, bards, who  
 squared their actions true,  
 Between the Pillars of the Porch, now pass in  
 long review.  
 O, brothers! what a glorious thought to dwell  
 upon:  
 The Mystic Tie that binds our hearts, bound  
 that of Washington.

Although our past achievements we with honest  
 pride review,  
 As long as there's Rough Ashlars, there is work  
 for us to do,  
 We still must shape the Living Stones with  
 instruments of love,  
 For that eternal Mansion in the Paradise above,  
 Toil as we have toiled in ages past, to carry  
 out the plan—  
 'Tis this: The Fatherhood of God, the Brother-  
 hood of Man.—*Square and Compass.*

#### MISPLACED CONFIDENCE.

Probably there is one thing that causes more trouble among Masons and brings Masonry more into illrepute among the profane than anything else, and that is misplaced confidence and broken faith among Craftsmen themselves. There is no use beating about the bush in this matter. It is well known to Masons, and is much talked of by those outside of the Institution, and the day is not far distant when it will be taken up by the Grand Bodies and summary action taken upon the offenders. Occurrences of this kind have become altogether too frequent of late years for the good of the Institution. Scarcely a Lodge can be found but which contains someone who has been ill used by a brother Mason. Some sharp practice has been performed, promise broken or misleading advice given, by a brother Mason, against one who had a right to expect entirely different usage at his hands.

Election to a Masonic Lodge is one of the best character recommendations any man can possess, providing the committee was properly performed its duties, and the brethren vote intelligently. And there is no gainsaying the fact that our Lodges are, as a rule, composed of the best men in the community. But it does not follow that they are all of that class, neither can it be helped if some fall from grace and

do things they should not, but a strict weeding out of this class of people would have a salutary effect upon others, and would increase the public respect for Masonry an hundred fold.

Freemasonry is a brotherhood a family, wherein we are taught to help each other, to keep sacred a brother's secrets, and should we hear a brother's character wrongfully traduced, we should speak up in his behalf; should we deem him to be in danger, we should forewarn him; in fact, we should have full confidence in one another. But can we always rely upon receiving just treatment from our Masonic brethren? We regret to be compelled to answer in the negative.

Backbiting and petty jealousies among Masons should never be countenanced. There are some who seem to take great delight in spreading unsavory reports concerning their brethren. Such persons should have a quietus put upon them whenever they indulge in such reprehensible and un-Masonic conduct. Masons should pull together and not permit anything to come between them.

At times it seems to us that the "broad mantle of Masonic charity" has grown so old and threadbare that it sadly needs repairing, or, perhaps, 'twould be better to have an altogether new one made.—*The Masonic Record.*

#### MONETARY QUALIFICATIONS.

There are some among even the leaders of the Order who seem to think that the standard of Freemasonry can be raised by the imposition of higher fees, and hence it is we occasionally hear of Lodges desirous of improving the tone of their composition adopting the expedient of raising their dues, or a new Lodge will be started with ambitious apparently higher than those of its neighbours, and in order to secure some sort of superiority they settle the fees of initiation and the annual subscription at amounts in excess of others in their immediate neighborhood, or in