

It is therefore more incumbent upon every Master and Warden to *study* the laws of his Grand Lodge and the history and usage of Masonry throughout the world. The laws of his own State he can always get from his Grand Secretary; and the laws of other States, together with Masonic history and general usage, he can get from any intelligent Masonic journal and in the reports on foreign correspondence.

How many Masters and Wardens subscribe for such a paper? Alas! too few. When called upon by circular or agent they reply by act or in so many words, that they "know it all."

These are the kind of representatives who give the casting vote on all sorts of useless motions, and lumber up the proceedings and statute book with superfluous resolutions, and in all probability vote down essential propositions. They do this, because they do not read, and will not understand the question at issue.

A Freemason must be a reasoner and a thinker if he expects to be of any use in a Grand or subordinate Lodge, and he cannot be either unless he is a reader.

The Masonic jurisprudence of this age, on account of the vast proportions of the institution, is becoming a study worthy any reflective mind, and it cannot be expected that every one will be able either by inclination or faculty of mind to master it all, but, yet each should, to the very best of his ability, endeavour to accomplish all he can by close application to the opportunities afforded him.—*Gouley's Freemason*.

RUSTY MASONS

It is no credit to any Masonic jurisdiction to have its members refused admission to a foreign Lodge, after examination; and if this rejection be habitual, it is an absolute discredit. It is possible that an individual Mason, when abroad, may be what is daintily termed "rusty;" for it is impossible to prevent some men without brains, or industry, or both, from obtaining admission into the Fraternity; and, besides, the haste with which they may have been hurried through the Degrees, may account for it; but when the *majority* of Brethren from any one jurisdiction pass into the examining-room and out again, to have the Committees in each case report that "he cannot work"—this shows there is something radically wrong, not only in the Brother, but in his Mother Lodge. There is a screw loose somewhere in the Masonic machinery. There has been undue haste in his "making"—the kind of haste that makes waste.

There are certain men who never will make Masons, because they "have no head for it." They might attend every communication of their own Lodge, and as many more of other Lodges, and yet be none the wiser. Their heads are sieves, which let words of wisdom fall through like so much water, and retain only those which it would be creditable never to have heard. Such men will be found everywhere; but they do not give character to any section or any Lodge. It is fortunate that it is so; and we cannot attribute any indifferent report as to the character of the Brethren made in any jurisdiction or Lodge, to this cause. We must seek some other. There is another, and we regret to say we do not believe it is peculiar to any particular Grand Lodge—at all events there are several that are guilty of shortcomings in this respect. The cause is this: suitable proficiency is not positively