

With the view to keep awakened and in operation the "blessed charity" of our Quebec brethren, we give them one of several cases which fell under the notice and operation of our New York city brethren :—

"One Saturday evening, August 4th last, two women appeared before the Board, and stated that Mrs. Mary J. Marquis, an aged lady, was lying very sick at No. 29 Second street, and that she had no medical attendance. They presented a certificate dated April 4, 1817, to the effect that Elijah Marquis was a mason in good standing, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. A committee was at once appointed with full power to wait upon the venerable lady and relieve her necessities, should their investigations warrant it. They called on her the day following, found Mrs. Marquis dead, the public dead-wagon in front of the door, and the officials about to deposit the remains in a rough box for removal to the 'Potter's Field.' The dead-wagon was at once discharged, and the brethren proceeded to the task of arranging for and giving the widow of a mason a proper and decent burial. An examination of the apartments of Mrs. Marquis and her widowed daughter discovered a place miserable in the extreme. The entrance was through a tortuous hall-way, in and out of filthy passages and rooms occupied by human beings in the depths of poverty and degradation. The room in which the deceased was found lying, in the rear of the tenement, was about ten feet square, and its entire furniture consisted of two chairs, a table nailed to the wall, a broken stove and three trunks, not a bed, no crockery, nothing to cover the rough dirty floor, and not a thing to disprove the thought that starvation was the immediate cause of death. Poor, uncouth, partially-clad and (possibly) depraved women were huddled together, stricken dumb in the presence of the dead. In this tumble-down rookery, a disgrace to this wealthy city, and a monument of shame to the owner, lived and died a woman who a few years before had occupied a high social station, and who had been the possessor of sufficient means to secure comforts and even luxuries. Through the energy of the Board, backed by the liberality of our lodges, this poor unfortunate woman, the widow of a mason, dead more than forty years, was given decent burial in the plot of the Board of Relief at Cypress Hills Cemetery. Through their instrumentality, the Church of the Stranger was opened, and appropriate funeral services was rendered."

What a terrible scene!! and yet the like exists in our midst, and by the ministrations of our Charitable Committees we trust they are alleviated to a greater or less degree, and just here, with the above fresh to our notice, we ask our brethren to double, treble, or quadruple, if need be, their contributions to all the charities in connection with our Grand Lodge and order generally.

In the table given, shewing the location of lodges from which applicants for relief hailed, we are pleased to observe that only thirteen