

to submit peaceably and loyally to the supreme legislature of their country. The true, upright, and intelligent Mason, is bound by every tie, both human and divine, to resist all such inroads upon the peace, prosperity, and happiness of his country.

In his character as a citizen, law requires the Mason to pay all due respect to those who, in a civil capacity, rule over him; it also enjoins upon him the duty of diligently pursuing some useful avocation, that he may live creditably among his fellow-citizens, acting honorably towards them, that he may be honored in return. To the support of a provision so wise and so just, the Masonic institution gives its most holy sanction, and inculcates these lessons with promptness and fidelity.

When the law of the land warns men to avoid intemperance, and those excesses which unfit them for their duties as citizens, fathers, husbands, brothers and sons, a law based upon the divine code found in that volume which we are all taught to respect and obey, the voice of Masonic law is heard reiterating the lesson, and urging its importance.

From the very nature of the constitution of human society, if men would pass peacefully and happily down the stream of life, it is but reasonable that they should seek to promote the general good of the society in which they live, and to cultivate all those social virtues which render life pleasant, and smooth down the asperities of those adverse scenes through which, at some period in our experience, we must all inevitably pass. To the performance of these duties the spirit of Masonry whispers in the ears of its votaries a friendly reminder, and it would be well for us all if we would listen to and obey the voice.

We have hastily glanced at but a few points, tending to show the harmony existing between the laws of Masonry and the laws of the land. These views might be still further

extended, but enough has been said to show that so far from there being any conflict between them, the Masonic law but reiterates the spirit of the laws of the country in which we live, and presses home upon our hearts and consciences the importance of a strict conformity thereto; so that those who declare that the object of the Masonic institution is to subvert or overthrow the laws, cannot fail to perceive the great injustice of advancing such a charge.

It is not in the power of man to contrive any obligations of loyalty more sacred and binding, than those which the Masonic institution imposes, and he who by disloyalty violates them makes shipwreck of peace, honor, friendship, and everything which the human heart instinctively holds dear and sacred upon earth. Wherever disloyalty has been found, there Masonry has been present to raise the barrier to oppose its progress, and to unfurl the banner of union and obedience to law; and whenever the peace of the country is threatened by foes from within or without, there will this institution be found to guard the sacred portals of the temple of liberty against the evil designs of those who would attempt to cast down her pillars of strength and beauty.—*Reproduction.*

---

### GOOD SENSE.

There is a theoretical side to Freemasonry. There are abstract questions worthy of consideration. The system has a scientific basis, a philosophical and historical character, calling for extended and technical investigations, and the application of many rigid tests. There are precedents and habitual formulas, landmarks and teachings of a various order, all of which need to be regarded in representing the institution and shaping its course. There is likewise a practical side to the fraternity, having regard both to the system and the organization; hence there is a de-