

they turned to the past, to see in what paths our fathers walked, and one result of their enquiries is that the Grand Lodge had already granted permission for the use of apartments in the Masonic Hall by the A. and A. S. Rite. There are to be occasionally found in our organization those who would make Masons rather "bond" than "free." Like the Pennsylvania Committee, from whom we have above quoted, "we believe in the largest liberty on the part of Freemasons in attaching themselves to societies other than our own," and feel that it is flattering to Masonry and "a recognition of the high character of our Fraternity when any association of men requires for membership the intelligence, the integrity, the trustworthiness which is presumed from membership in a Masonic Lodge." Ancient Craft Masonry is, or ought to be, as free from prejudice, intolerance, envy, and all that makes men slaves when they idly dream of freedom, as any of the higher orders founded upon it. No more than these latter does it seek to bind its initiates by anything beyond or stronger than their obligations, the sacred ties of brotherhood, the laws of God, and their allegiance to honor and duty. Nevertheless, we are personally tempted to the indulgence of a feeling akin to regret that the Supreme Councils of the higher Degrees, whose success is so largely dependent upon the recognition almost universally accorded them by the Grand Lodges, do not in return invariably exact from petitioners for their mysteries membership in all the Degrees, not only of Ancient Craft Masonry, as now practised in a Master Mason's Lodge, but as originally conferred in exemplification and continuation of the Master's Degree, and of late years known as Capitular Masonry, the nearest and next of kin to the Symbolical Degrees.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has 380 subordinates, with a total membership of 38,545, as against 37,831 at the end of the previous year.

The Annual Communication, held on the 27th December, 1888, was presided over by Grand Master JOSEPH EICHBAUM, who, in the course of an interesting address, referred to the laying of various foundation-stones during the year by the Grand Lodge, and also to what has always appeared to us to be the unfair and unreasonable practice in this jurisdiction of disciplining initiates of subordinate Lodges for the failure of Lodge officers to make the

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