

Text—"Hebrews." III c., 4 v.

"He that built all things is God."

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR, WORSHIPFUL SIRS, BRETHREN:

It is with sincere regret that I have to announce that the Bishop of Columbia is unable, through illness, to speak to us to-day. I have been asked, as Chaplain of United Service Lodge to take his place.

In all religious institutions there are affiliated bodies which lay special emphasis on certain truths, and perform special duties; associations for mutual benefit, guilds for deepening the spiritual life.

These are not religions but the handmaids of religion.

A Religious Faith must be based on a revelation from God. Our reasoning faculties cannot prove the existence of God, although as a matter of inference it is almost indisputable.

This fundamental truth, together with the other articles of the faith, which we who are Christians prize above all things, are based on the revelation of himself which God has made by His Son.

The question we will consider this afternoon is this: Is Masonry a Religion or an aid to the Religious Life?

Undoubtedly the latter. It is based on the *volume of the Sacred Law*, the revelation which God has made of Himself to man.

It selects out of that volume certain fundamental truths and it sets forth, illustrates and emphasises these truths in such a manner that they become peculiarly acceptable to men of mature age, of intelligent and thoughtful minds, and above all of pure intentions.

It is careful not to dogmatise on matters which separate the various branches of Christendom from each other, while it unites in one brotherhood those who endeavour to carry out practical precepts of the Divine

