

imaginary, or else the refreshment should be imaginary also. But who

"Can cloy the hungry edge of appetite
By bare imagination of a feast."

No more can a lodge live upon imaginary work.

One thing is certain. There are no "riotous feeders" in Freemasonry. The Gavel is ever before their eyes. We have witnessed stormy scenes at profane banquets, but never at Masonic ones, where the discipline is perfect. There, there is amusement that amuses, a measure of abandon matched with a measure of conscious responsibility to observe the proprieties of the occasion. There is complete social and fraternal unity. The company is as one man—what pleases one pleases all. All are happy, because all are finding their hunger for social enjoyment satisfied. The language which Lord Bacon applied to the *profane* cannot be brought against Freemasons. He said: "We love to see a well-worn apron; but then let it be soiled with the marks of honest work, and not merely stained with wine and meat, that have fostered inglorious ease." The Freemason's apron is never stained by dissipation. It is for labor, not refreshment, and refreshment is for rational enjoyment, not for revelry or excess.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR.

We are very glad to observe that the Order of the Eastern Star is rapidly gaining in membership throughout many of the States of the Union. The M. W. Grand Matron, Sister Martha W. Travis, has been kept quite busy constituting chapters since the annual session of June last. Some of her official duties comprised the constituting of Canisteo Chapter, No. 64, at Canisteo, July 30; Ivy Chapter, No. 55, at Utica, on August 2; Bethlehem Chapter, No. 67, at Amsterdam, on September 26; Empire Chapter, No. 68, at Canton, November 3, and Syracuse Chapter, U. D., at Syracuse, on December 11. She also has issued dis-

pensation for new chapters to be formed at Rome, Watertown, Ogdensburg, and Staten Island. The Grand Matron evidently takes much interest in the welfare of the Order, and at the end of her term, next June, her works will prove that the members, by selecting her for the highest office of the Order, did not make a mistake.

THE SOCIETY CALLED FREE-MASONS.

A correspondent of the *Detroit Tyler* has forwarded to that journal an extract from the *Gentlemen's Magazine* of 1737, which will interest and amuse our readers.

Foreign Affairs in March, 1737.

From *Paris*—The sudden increase of the Society of *Free-Masons* in *France*, had given such offence, that the King forbid their meeting at any of their lodges, nor would the States of Holland suffer them.

Foreign Affairs, April, 1737.

From *Paris*—That Copies of an apologizing Letter, wrote by a *Free-Mason*, was made public, alleging, "That the views the *Free-Masons* propose to themselves are the most pure and inoffensive, and tend only to promote such Qualities in them as may form good Citizens, of zealous Subjects, faithful to their Prince, to their Country, and to their Friends. That the Name of *Free-Mason* is far from being an insignificant Title; That the Duty it prescribes to those that bear it, is to endeavour to erect Temples for Virtue, and Dungeons for Vice.—That he is by no means afraid of violating the Secret imposed upon them in publishing; That their principal Design is to restore to the Earth the Reign of *Astrea*, to revive the time of *Rhea*, and He assures the *Fair* that the whole Brotherhood is full of Respect and Veneration for them; but that these Sentiments are not exempt from Fear; and that this Fear obliges the *Free-Masons* to exclude the Sex from the