

## "UNITED AT LAST."

*(From the Sydney Freemason.)*

"United at last!" With Right hand extended,  
We press to each other a clasping to gain;  
For the days of disunion are happily ended,  
And the way of our future is open and plain.

"United at last!" Glad footsteps approaching  
To form a strong column of mutual support;  
We fear not the risk of unconscious encroaching—  
The sting or the pain of unkindly retort.

"United at last!" At the hour of our kneeling  
To God, the Great Architect-Master of all,  
The prayer of our hearts will be earnest appealing  
That on our loved Order great blessings may fall.

"United at last!" Our heart's pulse expanding  
With pure throbs, loving, fraternal and strong,  
Shall gently and surely exert its commanding,  
And keep the whole casket from thinking of wrong.

"United at last!" Our aims will be bolder  
To shield from all evil a brother's fair fame;  
To cover his foibles from scornful beholder  
With the mantle of virtues attached to his name.

"United at last!" With our "Wisdom" entwining,  
The *Craft* shall go forward in Honor and Might;  
The banner of Virtue triumphantly shining,  
Shall lead us from Error and guide us to Right.

"United at last!" "Strength" brings us elation,  
By casting away all our weakness and fear;  
Planting firmer and deeper the mystic Foundation  
Supporting the Fabric so stately and dear.

"United at last!" Fair "Beauty" dispensing  
The charms of her presence to cheer and refine,  
Shall clothe with new lustre the era commencing  
With this our rejoicing and power to combine.

"United at last!" With all done in "Order,"  
May "Harmony" keep all the working in gear,  
Hold the "Centre" intact, and complete every border,  
With "Peace" smiling sweetly to bring up the rear.

"United at last!" In the "Compasses" bounding,  
May we keep all our living unspotted and fair;  
Avoiding all discord so harsh and confounding,  
May we meet on the "Level" and part on the "Square."

"United at last!" Shewing higher and brighter  
The "Star in the East" sheds beneficent ray,  
To render our journey more cheerful and lighter,  
Till emerging from gloom to ineffable Day.

"United at last!" Let us thankfully tender  
Our homage to one we are proud to select;  
For whose kind helping those titles we render—  
Our "Keystone of Union!" "Grand Master Elect."

"United at last!" Long may it continue—  
The "Union" of Wisdom and Brotherly Love—  
Till we pass the bright "Portals" to join the "Retinue"  
Of Him who presides in the Grand Lodge above.

## A USEFUL SUGGESTION.

Bro. W. H. Cox in the South Australian *Freemason*, gives a few thoughts as to how to increase the attendance at lodge meetings. First, let the W. M. divide the work. The W. M. taking the obligation, a P. M. the charge, S. W. the lecture on the tracing board, J. W. charge the initiating, S. D. the working tools, and sometimes even a brother from the floor of the lodge taking a part. This creates a greater interest among the officers who are taking part and the brethren who are listening, as the different voices and styles of the speakers cause variety. Second, an unwritten law that the Lodge close punctually at half-past ten o'clock.