

of a positive fact and a perpetual commendation of them to the help and succour of the well circumstanced."

Another charge made by Canon Knowles, was that "The prayers of its formularies are un-Christian, *i. e.*, not offered in the name of Jesus, our Lord." Canon Bagot met this as follows:—

"There are Christian Degrees, but the three chief Degrees of Masonry are founded on Deism. Long before the sun of righteousness arose with healing on His wings there was a conviction of the human heart, a voice as it were crying in the wilderness for light, sympathy, order, and power. Masons at the present day represent many generations of thoughtful men who have felt the same. Masonry brushes aside the surface distinctions which separate us one from another, and goes down to the central identities in which we are all alike. The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Humanity are resigned. With respect to un-Christian formularies, Masonry professes to enhance all who acknowledge the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and the obligation of the moral law. Is this an unworthy, immoral, or irreligious requirement? I myself am an English churchman, I believe the Church in this land to be the appointed means under Her Divine Head for the spread of God's truth, that he has lodged His commission with her and stored within her the sacred gifts of His Holy Spirit. But there are many who repudiate such claims, and who differ widely from my views. This goes not, however, prevent my working with them on common lines of Christian philanthropy and reformation."

"Let us not forget what Masonry is," says Howland. "It is not pleasure alone, nor a trade, nor a profession. It is a joyous duty, a noble manhood, a charitable life. It is not an outward display, symbolic charms, glittering hosts. Masonry is an inward possession. It is not a matter of gain, but of giving; not one of hoarding, but of diffusing."

## Craft Tidings:

CANADIAN.

Bro. Dr. T. W. J. Burgess, formerly a member of King Solomon Lodge, Toronto, has been appointed medical superintendent of the Protestant Insane Asylum, Montreal.

Bro. David McLellan, of Hamilton, well-known to the fraternity in Ontario, has been elected to the mayor's chair in that city.

Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, Hamilton, has accepted the secretaryship of the Hamilton Club. Bro. Mason's geniality will make him an acceptable officer of that social organization.

Bro. William Roaf, D.D.G.M., Toronto, voluntarily retires from the City Council, this year.

M. Ex. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter, has re-nominated R. Ex. Comps. R. L. Patterson, of Toronto, and W. Forbes, of Grimsby, to be Grand Representatives of Maryland and Illinois, respectively.

The Marlette (Mich.) *Leader* observes that at the Masonic installation meeting of Marlette Lodge, 343, on the 27th ult., a grand time was promised. About 300 invitations have been issued. To the toast of "Annexation" the names of "Hon." R. P. Smith, of Strathroy, Ont., and Mrs. W. B. McGill appear.

Rev. Bro. T. Talloch, of Dresden, preached the annual sermon to the Masons of that town, in the Presbyterian church on the 29th ult.

Bro. Rev. T. R. Davis, chaplain of Victoria Lodge, Sarnia, preached an appropriate sermon to the brethren, on the Sunday following St. John's Day.

Past Grand Master Henderson, Kingston, has been elected president of the Frontenac Bar Association, and Grand Master Walkem, one of the committee.