

absolution. His family owned a lot in the Catholic cemetery, and hither they went with the corpse, but the cemetery authorities would not permit the burial in consecrated ground.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota on January 15th declared a penalty of expulsion against members holding relations with the Cerneau schism, thus asserting the supremacy of Symbolic Masonry over the "higher" degrees and rites.

The contract for the new Masonic Temple at Buffalo, has been let at \$130,541 to Bro. Chas. Berrick, of that city. The entire cost of the building will be approximately \$150,000. Work will begin by tearing down the old Temple Beth Zion as soon as the contracts are signed, and it is expected to have the new temple ready for occupancy by the first of May, 1891.

In Alabama there are 483 clergymen members of the Craft.

FOREIGN.

Bro. Robert Freke Gould recently delivered an eloquent and able lecture on the Antiquity of Masonic Symbolism in Glasgow, Scotland, in which he argued strongly that the present symbolism was introduced in the splendour of mediæval operative Masonry and not after its decline.

The London *Freemason* states that in Spain they have "mixed lodges" which give the degrees to wives of Masons. A Spaniard in London recently avouched for his wife as a regular Mason.

Gen. Fonseca, head of the Brazilian provisional government has been elected to the grand Mastership of all the Brazilian lodges of the order of Freemasons.

Past rank was not recognized till the 21st of November, 1724, when it was agreed that Past Grand Masters were to have a vote in the Grand Lodge of England.

The Australian Grand Lodge permits its subordinates to regulate the number

of black balls necessary to reject a candidate for initiation and it may be one two or three.

Miscellaneous.

THE SECRET TO FREEMASONRY.

The story is told of a Mason's wife
Who plagued her man most out of his life
To learn the secret—whatever it be,
The mystic word of Masonry.
Says he, "Now Mary, if I should tell
The awful words, I know full well
When you got mad, my darling dear,
You'd rip them out that all might hear,"
Said she, "Edward, never—never,
What you tell, I'll keep *forever*.
Tell me, Edward, and never more
Will I scold you, or slam the door.
I'll try to be good with all my might,
When you stay out late in the night."

No man, save he were made of wood
Would dare resist a pledge so good.
"Mary," he says, "my woe, my weal,
Hangs on the words I now shall tell."
"Ned," she answers, "you may depend,
I'll keep all safe till time shall end."
Whispering low, he says, "*Pork and Beans*,
The awful words by Masons screened."
Since then not a week passed away
But she got mad and thus did say
In angry voice, that all could hear,
" "*Pork and Beans, I've got you there!* "

THE LEGEND OF THE THIRD DEGREE.

One finds in Master Mason's Lodge,
The truths of hoary centuries lie;
The lore he learns, an heritage
From all the ancient mysteries.
Light from an age of night and doubt,
Of eyes so blind they would not see!
Man's mightiest hope, in ages dark,
Our Legend of the Third Degree.

Brethren, I hope we learned it well—
This lesson that the past can teach;
That into every word and deed
The potency of its power shall reach;
That we shall lay our actions square,
Building for immortality;
Keeping in sight God's kindest truth—
His Legend of the Third Degree.

When unto men the end shall come,
The things of earth forever o'er;
When I shall find, where'er I turn,
Death waiting for me at my door;