

FREDERICK THE GREAT AND FREEMASONRY.

The Freemasons' lodge at Aashen, which had been defunct for some time, was resuscitated and newly installed by her mother lodge, at Wetzlai, in the year 1778.

The Lector Greinesnan, of the Dominikaner cloister at Aashen and Sahuff, priest of the Kapuziner, excited in the cathedral the populace against the Freemasons.

When Frederick the Great received knowledge of the fanatic behaviour, which threatened the public safety, he wrote the following letter, dated Feb. 7th, 1778, to these public instigators:—

"My very Rev. Fathers,—Several reports, confirmed through the press, have brought to my knowledge with what zeal you endeavored to whet the sword of fanaticism against quiet, virtuous, and respected people called Freemasons.

"As a former honor-bearer of this respected Order I must, as much as in my power, hurl back this slander with which you affront them, and endeavor to draw aside the dark veil which presents you the Temple which we have erected for all nations, as the place of meeting of all vices.

"Now, my very Rev. Fathers,—would you bring back those centuries of ignorance and barbarism, which have been so long a disgrace to human intellect. Those times of fanaticism, to which the eye of human reason can only look back with horror; those times when hypocrisy was sitting between superstition and humility on the throne of despotism; put shackles on progress, and, without distinction,

burned all those at the stake who were able to read.

"You give the Freemasons' not only the odious name of sorcerers, but you accuse them of being thieves and lawless people, the fore-runners of Anti-christ, and you exhort a whole nation to exterminate that damned race.

"Thieves, my very Rev. Fathers, do not make it their duty, as we do, to assist the poor and orphans. Thieves, on the contrary, very often rob them of their inheritance, and fatten themselves on their spoils, in the lap of idleness and hypocrisy.

"A Freemason, when he returns from his place of labor, where he receives lessons for the benefit of mankind only, becomes a better husband in his family circle. Fore-runners of Anti-christ would most likely endeavor to destroy the laws of the Most High, but Freemasons could not do this without destroying their own structure, and how could those be a damned race who seek their glory in the indefatigable propagation of all virtues which make an honest man.

"FREDERICK."

SECRETS REVEALED.

Listen to Bro. Hugh McCurdy, a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, and note how, in a "remarkable address," at a banquet of the Scottish Rite, at Grand Rapids, he thus ranteth. We never saw such thorough "buncombe" before put forth as "Masonic," still, being uttered by a *thirty-second*, it must be something worth recording. Read it:—

"The gates of this city have been lifted up to let the Princes of Glorious Record come in—Plutos here pre-