

Voice of Masonry, in which the Philadelphia Lodge is not mentioned, the last of which appears to have been established in 1733. The *Keystone* claims two years prior to that time for the Philadelphia Lodge, but in Bro. Hughan's list there is a blank opposite No. 79, which is supposed to be the *Keystone's* oldest American Lodge. The same thing occurs with Albion Lodge, No. 17, Quebec; hence the claim in favor of the latter place is equally as good as that of the city of Brotherly Love.

It appears that Philadelphia is credited in the "Pocket Companion" of Dublin, for 1835, with the number left blank, just as Bro. Tisdale says he found the blank opposite No. 17 filled in with Albion Lodge, Quebec. Bro. Hughan is evidently desirous that Philadelphia should have the honor it claims; at any rate he has decided against Quebec, and now leaves Philadelphia in a like predicament, on account of the blank. He very readily set down Albion Lodge as having been established at a period much later than 1731, but can now only express the hope that he will yet succeed in discovering a roll of Lodges with 79 filled in with the years 1831-2-3. It is so far satisfactory for the "Ancient City" that its claim stands just as good as that of the Quaker City. The researches of Bro. Hughan are to be commended, but we rather think he will fail to settle the point in dispute.

MOTHER SOLOMON LODGE.

SOME American Masonic journals affected, a short time since, to make merry over the Lodge established in Jerusalem by Bro. Rob. Morris, under a charter from the Grand Lodge of Canada. They hinted that it was an useless affair, notwithstanding it had been shown that it was making good progress. It is seldom any intelligence comes from the Holy City with regard to the Lodge, but we are glad to see by a recent number of the *Keystone* that Bro. Rolla Floyd, who took an active part in the formation of the Lodge, is on a visit to the United States. The *Keystone* says:

"We had the pleasure of a call from Bro. Rolla Floyd, P. M. of Mother Solomon Lodge, Jerusalem, on Tuesday last. Bro. Floyd, we are glad to learn, will sojourn in our city for a couple of months, prior to returning to the Holy Land. Some sport has been made of this Lodge by certain members of the Masonic press, but when we mention the fact that out of three hundred applicants for initiation and membership, only twenty one were elected this proves a degree of care in examining into the material proposed, and rejecting rough ashlar, that would do credit to some of our Lodges at home. We believe that Bro. Rob. Morris did a wise thing in starting this Lodge. In December last the present Mayor of Jerusalem was elected, and entered by Bro. Floyd. All the leading races and religions are represented in the membership, which is truly cosmopolitan and Masonic. Continued success to Mother Solomon!"

What do the sneerers at Mother Solomon think now? It is too bad that a brother should be ridiculed as Bro. Morris has been in connection with this Lodge. He performed his duty as a Mason, and as our contemporary says, did a wise thing in starting a Lodge in the Holy City. There can be no doubt that the Lodge is destined to do a good work.

FREEMASONRY is a progressive science, and knowledge is the mainspring which keeps the whole train in beautiful motion.