

In our Masonic code of morality, temperance occupies a high place as one of the cardinal virtues; no man fulfils the obligations which he owes to the fraternity when he refuses or neglects to lead a sober and upright life. This principle is found imbedded throughout our ethics; but the common law of Masonry has never recognized any difference in avocation or business, and I fail to find any case where a saloon-keeper, simply by being such, has been deemed guilty of un-Masonic conduct, unless by virtue of some law or edict of the Grand Lodge to which he was subordinate. Under the law of this State it is not un-Masonic to engage in the selling of liquor.

The address of the Grand Master contains a concise report of his official actions during the year, and expresses his satisfaction at knowing that the Craft within his State was never more harmonious, never more prosperous, than now. We quote from him as follows:—

The angel of peace seems to have taken up her permanent abode within our Lodge room walls, and if discord has attempted to enter she has been rapidly driven back. Signs of awakening interest are seen on every hand. It is peculiarly interesting to note the increased attention being given to the principles, as distinguished from the work, of our society. Even now, the impression is too generally entertained that a "bright Mason" is he who with glib tongue can rattle off the ritual, while the brilliancy of his brightness is too often measured by the length of his memory. That officers and members should be learned in our ritual is essential to the interests of our work; but it should not be forgotten that the ritual is of modern date, while the principles it is used to illustrate are beyond the memory of man. To these principles, that appeal not less to the hearts than to the heads of mankind, Masonry owes its wonderful tenacity of life. The five points of fellowship constitute the golden rule of Masonry that, in a few words, embodies a code of ethics upon which the wisdom of man cannot improve; but in an age when novelty is fashionable, and to be popular is to be sensational, this simple code is in danger of being neglected for new-fangled notions, gotten up to please the eye or tickle the fancy. Let us take our bearings, and if we find we have drifted out of our course, correct ourselves while we may.

Choice words are the above, and fitly spoken. The legislation of the Grand Lodge at this Communication was entirely of a local character.

Bro. Duncan McGregor submitted the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, a document of 173 pages, divided into two parts. The first portion is a brief synopsis of the doings of the various Grand Bodies reviewed, including Quebec, and is supplemented by a number of quotations from the opinions and rulings of Grand Lodges, Grand Masters and Committees on Correspondence,