

who has not made provision for the change. Death has darkened many a dying hour with thoughts of the unprotected fireside, around which cluster the dearest affections ; thoughts perchance of the loving wife and little ones to be left to the cold charity of a hard practical world. He that " provides not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, has denied the faith, and is become worse than an infidel." How happy he who in such an hour is comforted by a knowledge that his love, forethought, and diligence, has provided for such a trying time, and how happy every member of our fraternity who is privileged to be a partner in the good work of bringing peace and strength to the bed of languishing, and comfort and sustenance to the bereaved. " Pure religion, and undefiled before God and the Father, is this : To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep unspotted from the world." Love ministers to the necessities of its fellows. It relieves the distressed, binds up the broken heart, soothes the sorrowful, supports the weak, and raises up those who are bowed down. Cherish these virtues, and you shall receive your reward. Brothers and Sisters shall grasp you by the hand, and because you have patiently persevered and humbly labored for the success of the right, the blessings of the poor, the widow and the orphan, more precious far than rubies, shall attend you through life ; their prayers shall buoy you up in sickness, their hands shall plant flowers about your last resting place, and He who numbers the hairs of your head shall crown you with life immortal beyond the grave.

[THIRD ODE.]

P. C.—[*Stepping down to the Altar.*] Dear Brother
——, you have heard the teachings of this Degree.