

THE HERITAGE OF ALL.

Thus saith the Lord: "You weary Me
With prayers, and waste your own short years!
Eternal truth and cannot see
Who weep and shed your sight in tears:
In vain your wait and watch the skies—
No better fortune thus will fall!
Up from your knees, I bid you rise,
And claim the earth for all.

"Behold in bonds your mother earth,
The rich man's prostitute and slave.
Your mother earth, that gave you birth,
You only own her for a grave:
And you will die like slaves and see
Your mother left a fettered thrall?
Nay? live like men and set her free
As heritage for all!"

—Gerald Massey.

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THE UNIFORM RANK.

We have a word to say to the young man, and that word is, join the Uniform Rank. If you want good reasons for doing this they are not far to seek. How do you look at the matter? From a personal standpoint, or from the standpoint of furthering Pythian interests? Say it is the latter broader standpoint. The only medium through which our order can to any extent advertise itself to the outside world from which new recruits are drawn is the Uniform Rank. If you have the interests of the order at heart you can help to advertise it.

It is a fact that a well-uniformed and well-drilled body of men attract attention. A parade passing receives a goodly share of criticism from all bystanders, and the most kindly criticism is always the lot of the best equipped and drilled men in line. Than the uniform of the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias, there is none more handsome. There are some more flashy and many that are incomplete, but that the Uniform Rank is neat and attractive. You can assist in the work of advertising the order by donning this uniform.

Are you socially inclined. The Uniform Rank is where you get a rare opportunity to indulge in social pleasures. Watch a group of Uniform Rank men and you will soon learn that they are having a pleasant season of social intercourse. Go with them to an encampment and you will find yourself among whole-souled brothers, willing to share their pleasures and to increase your enjoyment. It matters not from whence they come, these Knights seeing you in uniform greet you warmly and treat you as they would a brother.

Some of the young men are saying: "I would like to belong to the company, but it costs so much money I cannot do it." Did you ever know of anything worth having that could be obtained without work? If you wanted a bicycle or a watch, or both, you would probably get them. Did you ever try an installment plan? You want to join the Uniform Rank? Lay away a few dollars now and again, a few as you can, and very soon the coveted privilege of being created a Uniformed Knight will be yours, and you will never miss the amount it cost, and will get fully as much pleasure, or more, out of the sum than you would had you spent it for something else.

Then there is the consideration of patriotism. Our country is a glorious one, and has been peaceful for many a year, but that war is not the very remote contingency we fondly imagined the present war with Spain has proven. The war has also shown the value of a well-drilled body of men, who could speedily become part and parcel of an army capable of doing any duty by which they might be confronted. Very many of those who have gone to the front are members of our order and became familiar with the movements of the drill manual in the armory or company of the Uniform Rank.

At the present time the possibility of usefulness in the service of our country is impressed upon us with peculiar force, and it is to be hoped that the young men of our order will willingly prepare themselves to be available on short notice for service as soldiers. The Uniform Rank gives young men in the Order of Knights of Pythias a splendid opportunity to prepare for usefulness under pleasant conditions.—Keystone Pythian.

:o:

YOUR DUTY.

No good man, no brother with a pure heart or with right intentions, will desire to be excused from his duty. Those who cherish respect for fraternity and its teachings will esteem attendance at the lodge meetings a privilege rather than a burden, a pleasure rather than an irksome task. There is no test that more clearly reveals the amount of regard which members cherish for their lodge or the welfare of the Order and the carrying out of its principles than their habits of attendance at stated meetings. Were all as negligent as some in this respect, the lodge room would be deserted and the great good which is being accomplished by our beloved Order would cease.—Fraternal News.

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The Knights of the lodges of Chicago have decided to construct, on modern lines, a first-class hospital exclusively for sick and disabled Knights of Pythias of that City.

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