

opinion of that of which he had but little knowledge; and in denying that he ever insinuated Bro. Drummond was insincere in his statement, pays him the compliment of stating that what he did say was that he believed he did not understand what he was trying to say. To Bro. Vincil, in introducing a reply to his criticism of Bro. Vaux's review, our Pennsylvania Brother says "Do not try to succeed by dogmatic negation, in the habiliments of the harlequin. That is not 'Masonic clothing.'" And again "The effort was a painful exhibition of the premature birth of an imperfect conception." And yet again to the same Brother:

It was said by a Marshal of France, on witnessing the charge of the English cavalry at Balaklava, it was magnificent, but it was not war. So we modestly and fraternally wish here to remark, all this is wonderful, but it is not comprehensible. What it has to do with the question we do not know. Our ignorance is again an offence, and we suppose is triable by the court of criticism of which our beloved Brother is the judge of last resort.

The above specimens indicate the vigor and incisiveness of our good Brother's style. We are quite sure from Bro. Vaux's own protests respecting his purpose, that he is unconscious of any dogmatism. Yet the very appearance thereof detracts somewhat from the value of his opinions. We quote from him as follows in proof of the sincerity of his desire to avoid dogmatizing:

We do not always agree with some of the views our Brother expresses, but that may be evidence that we are in error.

It is not necessary to say that we have as decided opinions on the jurisprudence of Masonry as any other Brother who has devoted forty years to its consideration. Neither is it necessary to say that the expression of these opinions is free, we hope and believe, from any intent or purpose to dogmatize. Such a purpose, if apparent, detracts from the value of such opinions.

The exceedingly kind and generous notice with which he prefaces his review of our report on foreign correspondence for 1890, almost prepared us for what was to follow, and therefore it was rather provocative of a smile than otherwise, from one who has gradually become, by experience, conversant with Bro. Vaux's style, to be told that while we possess great qualities, and that he bows in due respect for our opinions, he is gratified in reflecting on their force, and the earnestness we manifest *in trying to believe them*. Were our expressions of opinion made in a more confident and