

which had been lowered to its place, three times with the gavel, saying, "Well made, truly laid, well proved, true and trusty, may the Great Architect, who has so kindly blessed us in the proceedings of this day, enable those engaged in the building to complete it; and may it hereafter be preserved from ruin and decay, and be of lasting prosperity. I therefore strew corn on the stone as the emblem of plenty; I pour wine on it as the emblem of cheerfulness; and I anoint it with oil as the emblem of comfort and consolation." The Grand Master directed the various implements to be returned to the architect, saying, "Master Architect, the foundation stone being now laid, I present you with the implements applied to it, in full confidence that, as a skilful and faithful workman, you will use them in such a manner that the building may rise in order, harmony and beauty, and, being perfected in strength, may answer every purpose for which it is intended, to your credit and the honor of those who have selected you." The architect now presented his plans of the building, which were highly commended by the Grand Master. The treasurer placed coin on the stone for the workmen. The band playing "The Old Hundredth;" the conclusion of the ceremony being greeted with loud cheers. The Grand Master now re-ascended the platform, and briefly addressed the brethren. He recommended them to practice masonry in such a way as to show the world around that it was no idle profession. The officers and brethren had assembled to lay the corner stone of an edifice wherein they were to learn to act upon the square with all mankind, and be true to their principles. To them was committed the interests of freemasonry in this city; let them be careful, therefore, not to blend with it their weaknesses, nor stain it with their vices. With dignity, fidelity and respectability, they ought to support the character which they bore. It was their duty to walk circumspectly before the world, keeping their garments of truth unsullied, so that they might recommend themselves and principles to the confidence of all men. They were to let nothing enter their hearts, or exhibit itself in their conduct, which might cause the finger of scorn to be raised against them and detract from the dignity of their order; and no excess of passion or lust should ever be seen in their lives. To remove the veil which misinformation or prejudice has thrown

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