

given, or very often a verse of the national anthem is then sung, and the cheers follow the song.

Q.—A brother who is on half dues to his mother lodge joins another lodge and allows himself to get in arrears, and in the meantime goes back and becomes a member on full dues to his mother lodge. He is notified and suspended by lodge No. 2. Can he still be a member of his mother lodge when he is suspended by lodge No. 2?

A.—He can still be a member of his mother lodge, but not in good standing.

If a Mason who is a member of two lodges is suspended by one, he is suspended from both, and he is not in good standing in either lodge.

### Masonic Symbols.

#### THE TWO PILLARS.

The two pillars of bronze stood in the porch of the Temple, on each side of the great eastern gateway, and were nearly forty feet in height and nearly seven feet in diameter (see Kings and Jeremiah), pomegranates supported by net-work ornamented with wreaths, and in imitation of the sacred vessels of the lotus, formed the capitals. The lotus and the Egyptian lily were sacred symbols to the Hindoos as well as to the Egyptians. These columns were hollow, and the one in the South, called Jachin, was the receptacle of the working tools of the Apprentices, while the Northernly column was called Boaz, signifying "He shall establish," and "In it is strength." These columns were entirely Tyrian in the idea, and were placed in the entrance to the Temple by Hiram Aba, in imitation of those columns in front of the Temple of Malkarth (signifying "Cloud" and "Fire," in the city of Tyre.

There is a grand and concealed truth veiled in the pillars of Cloud and Fire, and has been handed down by the wise and prudent of all ages and countries from the remotest antiquity, by the sages of India and of Egypt, the philosophers of Greece and Rome, the inspired writers of the Hebrews, the Fathers of the Christian Church, and in the Book of Mahomet. This Love of God and Love of Neighbor is the one universal point of Faith held of all men since the creation. There is one God in whom we all believe, who wills that we should love one another, and such is his command. All true religions centre on this one common ground.

This is not only the faith of Masonry, but is Masonry. We believe in God, but

we bind no man in our brotherhood as to any particular mode of worshipping Him.

This Love of God and Love of neighbor was the foundation, and is and will be the capstone of the Arch in our institution. In so far we can claim its extreme ancient origin, and need not to clothe it with all the external pomp and circumstance of an actual and authentic history.

#### THE GLOBES.

The inapplicability of the modern globes surmounting the pillars of the porch, containing delineations of a present academic nature; and as well, the placing upon a keystone letters of the English language, are a sad commentary upon an institution claiming ancient origin and ancient derivation of its mythical emblems and symbols. Let a purer and more acceptable interpretation be supplied to a scholarly initiate, or relegate the emblems to the dead past as uninterpretable, or to the modern ignorant image-makers.

#### THE WINDING STAIRS.

(I. Kings, vi. 6.) "The nethermost chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle chamber was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad, for without in the walls of the house he made narrow rests round about, that the beams should not be fastened in the walls of the house," and Josephus says: "The King had also a fine contrivance for an ascent to the upper room over the Temple, and that was by steps cut in the thickness of the wall." It is thus evident that the middle chamber was no part of the Temple proper. All chambers were built outside of the walls. The winding-stairs, as described in the Masonic historic legend, did not exist in the Temple.

Dr. Oliver says of an old "Tracing Board," 1745, the steps are semi-circular and seven in number. Dr. Mackey says some tracing boards of the last century had but five steps. The Prestonian lectures, beginning of this century, say that the number is thirty-six, thus: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11. The Hemming lectures also say so, omitting the 11. The United States rituals reduced them to 3, 5, 7.

Astronomically, there are three for the summer months, or signs of the E. Apprentice, two more signs for the F. Craft, and two more for the M.M., accomplishing 3, 5, 7, and corn, wine and oil were the reward for labor. Thus we calculate from Aries, 21st of March, to Scorpio, 21st of October, and the reward is for planting, growing and harvesting.

The signs are Aries, Taurus, Gemini, 3—planting; Cancer, Leo, 2—growing; Virgo, Libra, 2—harvesting; 3, 5, 7, supplying corn, wine and oil as wages.