

things to continue, and we would, in all kindly feeling, suggest to the heads of both that they would be doing a material service, not only to the Institution, but to the Province, by forming an united whole. We know that attendant on such a consummation, would be a rapid increase in their numbers, and a consequent increase of the powers of doing good; we write more freely as not being connected with either, and, as regarding both equally entitled to our approbation; and we are sure that what we have said will be received in good part.—*Cobourg Star*, 28th May.

(From the Covenant for April.)

UNIVERSAL ODD-FELLOWSHIP.

THERE are now, I believe, no less than five distinct Orders of Odd-Fellowship—some of which vie with the Manchester Unity in extent, and excel it in their rapidity of increase. The Grand United Order, or Sheffield Unity, has commenced establishing Lodges in the United States, and is advancing more rapidly in that work, than the Manchester Unity can ever hope to do. Indeed, the present troubles in the latter Unity, gives it work enough to do at home, without expending its energies and resources in an aggressive movement abroad. But the main object of the present brief article is to suggest an idea near to my own heart, and to elicit, if possible, a plan for its fulfilment from those who may possess the requisite knowledge and wisdom. It is briefly this:—

Is it not possible to devise and carry into effect, a plan for a general union among all these various Orders? something which, while it shall make *Odd-Fellowship itself*, strictly universal, may yet allow to each Order its own separate organization, and local jurisdiction, and characteristic peculiarities in work, lectures, and charges? The great general *principles* of each Order, are believed to be the same. These, then, may be acknowledged by all the Orders as Universal Odd-Fellowship. There are certain *objects* which all the Orders, respectively, have in view, and which might be mutually reciprocated under certain safe-guards and restrictions. These might be acknowledged by all the Orders, and constitute the *general objects*, duties and obligations of Odd-Fellowship, in the universal sense. Then certain means might be devised, by which the principles and objects, thus acknowledged as universal, might be carried out; and a universal S. G. T. and P. W., together with a T. P. W., to be renewed every three or five years, might be mutually agreed on, for communication between the members of the different Orders. I give a brief sketch, the details of which may easily be filled out, and which almost any one can readily see, might be made universal, if each Order would agree, that an Odd-Fellowship should be mutually constituted, that is, *common to all*. All the difficulty is—how shall this be done? Where shall we begin? In what manner can we proceed, so as to secure the co-operation of all in instituting a Universal Odd-Fellowship, and in keeping up the necessary means and measures necessary to secure the accomplishment of its *mutual objects*?

Our brethren in Canada are naturally anxious to secure a re-union of our Order with the Manchester Unity. I heartily wish it could be fairly effected; but judging from the divisions in Great Britain—the government of that Unity so widely different from ours, and repugnant to us—as well as from our reformed charges and lectures, and their alterations in the unwritten work—I confess I have no hopes of such a re-union. But the establishment of certain principles, objects, measures and form, by *each*, which shall be *common to all*, and the institution, by such separate action, of a strictly *Universal Odd-Fellowship*, seems to me feasi-

ble. Am I deceived? can it not be effected? And if it can, what are the steps necessary to begin and conclude it?

A. B. G.

WE present our readers with the substance of a Pamphlet lately published in New York, which has enlightened the uninitiated on the subject of Odd Fellowship. It has gone through an Edition of 40,000, at 7½d per number, a remarkably low figure for such an amount of information as it contains. The credulous public will perceive that the ceremonies are at least very exciting; and as the obligations are of the most innocent and elevating character, there can be little doubt that all who read it, will be induced to join our ranks, and ride the Goat.

ODD FELLOWSHIP EXPOSED.

An Exposition of the Signs, Tokens, Passwords, and Grips, belonging to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as practised in the Lodges of the United States; with the form of Initiation, and an Explanation of the Five Degrees. By an Expelled Member.

PREFACE.

I feel at a loss in what way to present this work to the public, from the fact that there having been a vast number of publications purporting to be exposés of the "Independent Order of Odd Fellows," that they will not know which to believe. But in reading this, you must form your own opinion, and then, if you satisfy yourself that it is correct, I would advise you by no means to join them; if to the contrary, you can, if you choose, join them—then you will know which is correct.

The presenting of this work to the public for their inspection, has not been of momentary impulse, but long have I thought of doing so, even before I was expelled.

I have often, while pondering on the scenes enacted within those "sacred walls," been almost distracted, and my friends have asked me what ailed me; at times, they have thought me insane. As soon as I made my mind up to publish them I felt at once at ease, and now feel like a new made man.

With this I leave you, and if it has any influence against this wonderful lever of political and civil influence, I am well paid.

Yours, &c.,

THE AUTHOR.

Before commencing on what is called the *work* of the Order, I will describe the manner in which I was first introduced into the room, or rather rooms, for there are three connected with and belonging to each Lodge. The first is called the ante-room, the second is the scene-room, the third is the hall, or general place of business.

On the night when I was initiated, I was met on the stairs by two persons, one of whom gave a knock at the outside door, and a little wicket was opened, at which was placed the ear of a man, to whom one of my guides whispered, and we were admitted.

At the first sight of this man, who was clothed in a habit which covered him from head to foot, and from the back of which hung a long tail, which gave him a resemblance to the pictures I have seen of Satan, and who is called the *Guardian*, I started back; but the man behind me, with a sudden push, sent me directly into his arms, and I found myself clinched by two iron hooks being fixed firmly in my back, while the fellow slid out from under my arms, and uttered so horrid a shriek, that the blood curdled in my veins, while