

oiples of a broader and more generous regard—men who have pledged to each other their faith, and among whom the pitiable jealousies, rivalries and envious feelings that represent a low order of life, ought to be wholly unknown. What can be more unlovely—more unmasonic—than the exhibition too often seen of petty malevolence, expressed in sneering words, spoken of one who has attained an honored place by reason of his abilities or his merit? And yet we have to notice such an exhibition very frequently now within Masonic organizations; for there are those who can never think well, or speak approvingly, of those who seem to surpass themselves in any way, or who are advanced beyond the level which they occupy. Poor, envious souls! They deserve pity as well as condemnation. They are consumed by a passion which abates happiness, and binds the life to very low conditions. They may do the work of destruction, and succeed for a time in obstructing a brother's advance; they may even destroy reputation and obscure the noblest character, but after all, the worst they do reacts upon themselves. They become more narrow in their thoughts and affections—more selfish and resentful, until having their minds permeated by the spirit of envy, they fall into a most wretched state, and become objects of compassion to all who judge them as they really are.—*Repository.*

LAUVISH EXPENDITURE.

Freemasonry does not tend to a mean and niggardly economy. The trend of the system and the organization is toward a generous outlay of means in whatever movement is undertaken. The members of the Craft, as a rule, are open-hearted, free-handed men, who are disposed to a liberal expenditure of their means. Thus it comes about that spacious, well-fitted apartments are secured for the use of Masonic

Lodges, and all the arrangements made by such bodies are generally for comfort and convenience, no over-close restriction of means being required. In benefactions and the expression of Lodge hospitality a generous spirit is commonly manifested. It is the genius of the Institution to do things on a broad scale, and to furnish adequate means to ensure the desired result.

All this may be well; and yet it is possible for a Masonic organization to encourage a too lavish expenditure of its resources. It does this when it provides for its own members festivities that call for an outlay which can be illy afforded; or when, in the exercise of an over-generous hospitality, it provides feasts and receptions for others, thus imposing a heavy tax upon those who act the part of hosts on such occasions. It would be every way better many times if the rule of a wholesome economy were observed, preventing some Brethren from paying out sums quite likely beyond their means, and allowing larger appropriations for charitable work.

A correspondent in a recent number of the London *Freemason* gives figures relating to the expenditure of the banqueting room that are certainly calculated to arrest the attention of those who have the best good of the Fraternity at heart. He quotes from the reports of a well-known Lodge for the four years last past, and says: "I find that the gross income for those years (including visitors' fees but not including balance carried forward) was £1257 18s., of this sum Grand Lodge dues absorbed £105 8s.; the working expenses of the Lodge, (Secretary, Tyler, insurance, music, printing, postages, &c., &c.,) £99 4s. 1d.; jewels for four Past Masters £42; a wreath and vote of condolence £5 17s. 6d.; grants to Masonic Charities and to a distressed brother, and dues and donations to the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge £52 15s., and hotel bills £909 18s.