

make it, the order would never have flourished as happily and beneficially. But Masonry founded, as it is, on the best principles of morality, and aided by Christianity, there can be no doubt of its perpetuity.—*Loomis Journal.*

A Masonic Lodge is in contemplation at Bagdad, in Mesopotamia, the supposed primitive abode of man, where there is, already, quite a number of Freemasons, among whom are some Persian Mussulmans. The Chief Minister of the Shah of Persia, the Commander-in-chief of his army, and many other of his highest functionaries belong to the order. It is believed that a Lodge will soon be founded at Teheran, the capital of Persia, if, indeed, one does not already exist there, under the Grand Orient of France.

Another Lodge (English) is about to be founded in Jerusalem, the ancient city of Kings David and Solomon. The Consul of the United States of America has taken the initiative in its formation. Besides a goodly number of resident Brethren there, Jerusalem is annually visited by travelers of all faiths and nationalities, who are Freemasons; thus the great Order of Universal Brotherhood, after making the circuit of the entire world, returns to the scene of its primitive creation, and the Temple of Solomon will once more shed light upon the footsteps of Freemasons. The Jerusalem Lodge is to contain as much of the ancient fragments of the "Lodge of Solomon" as can be collected together. The cedars of Mount Lebanon will furnish its working tools; Joppa and Baalbek will lend their aid in the reconstruction of the edifice; and Hiram, King of Tyre, live in the memories of those who humbly imitate his faithful career in life, as well as in his faith. Notwithstanding the misconceptions existing among many Mussulmans of Turkey regarding the principles of Freemasonry, it gradually recommends itself to their better opinion. It tends very much to dispossess them of their great animosity against men of all other religious bodies than their own. It is to this hostility that may be attributed the slow progress made amongst Mussulmans in mental culture and improvement, even in the arts and sciences of other peoples and countries. Everything, therefore, which tends to dispel it, must be a great advantage to them; and it is only when it has been removed, and religious hostility fades away before the genial light and warmth of one Universal Brotherhood, that there will exist not only harmony between the Moslem and men of all other faiths, but a sincere sympathy among them.—*London Freemason.*

The Palestine Fund has dispatched its autumn expedition to the Holy Land, to make a complete and minute survey of the whole country west of the Jordan, from north to south of the Holy Land proper, of the same nature of the Ordnance of England and Wales. Not only the natural feature of the country, but every town and village, saint's tomb, sacred tree, or heap of stones—every spot, in short, to which a name is attached—will be faithfully plotted in the map, and its name written down in Arabic. The survey is estimated to take four years, at the annual cost of \$15,000. The Masonic value of the results already attained by the explorations made under the auspices of the managers of the Palestine Fund, has been very great.