

bor as thyself." Upon this broad platform, all creeds can stand, and every sect, denomination, and nationality join hands in administering to purposes of human benefaction.

FINES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE AT FUNERALS.

Among the amendments to the by-laws of the subordinate lodges which came up for approval, was the following from one of the city lodges :

"And there shall also be paid as dues by each member, upon the death of a member of the lodge, the sum of \$1; providing that those members who attend the funeral, or who, in consequence of illness or absence from the city, shall be unable to attend, may be excused by the lodge from such payment."

I was pleased to give this amendment my approval, believing its effect would be to bring many of our brethren, who have been direlict in the performance of their duty in not attending Masonic funerals, to a realizing sense of its importance. Let us remember it is the last sad tribute of respect we can ever render to the departed, and no trivial excuse should keep us away.

MASONIC SYMBOLS IN ADVERTISING.

This Grand Lodge has in former sessions fully indicated its disapproval of advertising Masonically one's business, and I think the time has arrived when some decided action should be taken to prevent Masons from using any Masonic signs, names or emblems in their private business enterprises, either as individuals or an association, which may induce the public to believe that such enterprises were conducted, maintained or sanctioned by the Fraternity. The only conceivable object Masons can have in thus parading their connections with the Order is to obtain credit or patronage which otherwise they would not possess. Such conduct is clearly unmasonic, and destroys the beauty and objects of the Order.

It is notorious that there is in this city a private corporation called the Masonic Savings and Loan Bank. From its name, the location of its office, and the fact that all its officers are Masons, it is popularly believed, and not without reason, that the institution is not only a part of the Order, but that it is maintained for the benefit of and guaranteed by the Order. It must be evident to all that if misfortune, however honestly they may be managed, should overtake these private enterprises, not only would odium be cast upon the Fraternity, but it would injure it to an unimaginable extent. To prevent this possible calamity a law should be enacted forbidding every Mason from using Masonic names, signs, or emblems in his private business, or to be used by any corporation or association in which he is interested, and a severe penalty should be fixed for the violation.

THE LAMBSKIN APRON.

In my general instruction to lodges I have recommended the practice of presenting to each initiate a lambskin or white apron with the name of the owner, the date of his initiation, passings and raisings inscribed thereon. I would earnestly request the practice of this custom by all the Lodges of this jurisdiction. This emblem of innocence and badge of a Mason, which is given to the candidate, is put away among the cherished articles of the owner, and is never seen by him without causing the most pleasurable emotion to thrill his bosom. Brother Mackey says: There is no one of the symbols of Speculative Masonry more important in its teachings, or more interesting in its history, than the lambskin or white apron. Commencing its lessons at an early period in the Mason's progress, it is impressed upon his memory as the first gift he receives, the firm symbol explained to him, and the first tangible evidence which he possesses of his admission into the fraternity. Whatever may be his future advancement in the 'royal art,' into whatsoever deeper ocean his devotion to the mystic institution or his thirst for knowledge may subsequently lead him, with the lambskin apron he will never part." To show how much good has been accomplished by the practice of presenting the lambskin apron to the initiate, I will relate the following incidents which came under my observation :

AN INTERESTING INCIDENT.

A certain man, before leaving his home in the East, had been made a Mason, but since coming to the Pacific coast, had not visited a lodge, but had fallen upon evil paths, and been led into dissipation. One day he was looking for some articles in his trunk, when he came upon a broken package which, when opened, was found to contain his lambskin apron (for the lodge wherein he was made a Mason had made it a custom to present each member with this emblem of Masonry). The sight of the spotless vestment, more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle, aroused a flood of recollection in his bosom. In imagination he was carried back to his old home where he had been honored and respected; to the time when he stood in the north-east corner a just and upright man, where it had been given him strictly in charge thus ever to act and walk. He asked himself how he had fulfilled the charge? Had he walked as an