

number. Each Lodge being obliged to assist with funds, not only its own members, but also travellers belonging to foreign lodges, we were bound to seek this means of preventing the rogueries which would inevitably follow the ordinary modes of introduction and acknowledgment. Certain signs and mystic words teach us to recognise one another wherever we may be. A note or a letter may be stolen—the wolf may assume the clothing of the shepherd, but he can go no farther. Curiosity does not carry us so far as to make it a case of conscience in a soldier who does not declare his countersign, or in the guardian of a treasure, who will not reveal the means by which it may be carried off from him. Why should it be otherwise with us?

Another grave objection is, that we take oaths. It is a sufficient answer to this to declare that it is false—that we take no oath. Honor is the only tie which secures the discretion of the members of our society; and I ought to add, to its advantage, that the word of honour is not administered except with the guarantee that we shall require from the new member nothing repugnant to his religious principles, his political opinions, or his family duties. All political and religious discussions are strictly banished from our assemblies, because they tend to divert us from the noble object that we strive to attain. Nevertheless, the society considers religion as the basis of all sound morality.

It remains for me to reply to one last objection. It is, that these associations produce a spirit of exclusion and attachment to cliques. I ask what association tends less to promote the spirit of exclusion than this, which invites the whole human family, without national or religious distinctions, to partake its benefits and advantages? Do they thus reproach national societies, and the many religious societies, evidently more exposed than we to the reproach? They do not; for malevolence decides, but does not compare. No one is offended when a man reaps the fruits of the seed which he has placed in the ground; yet they think it strange that he who contributes to the maintenance of a benevolent institution, should alone reap the advantages it affords.

The ties of family and friendship are not broken by Odd Fellowship, but are drawn still tighter by it. A good Odd Fellow cannot but be a good father, a faithful husband, a submissive and affectionate son, a constant and devoted friend, a virtuous citizen and an enlightened patriot. I believe I should fail in the duty I owe to this assembly, if I answered all the crowd of foolish objections that some oppose to our society. I have but one more duty to fulfill; it is to express the sentiments of gratitude suggested to me by the sight of the most charming ladies of this city, by their presence here to-night, encouraging our society to pursue the noble task it has begun. This is the highest encouragement that we could expect.

CLOSING ODE.

Strangers we thank you all.
For this your friendly call,
On us this night,
Long may you happy be,
In truth, Sincerity,
Honor and Prosperity.

Good night! and as you go,
Bear hence, and fully show
Stamped on your Breasts,
The seal of Friendship pure.
And love through life t' endure,
And truth, which still secure
With honour rests.

The addresses were listened to with the utmost attention, and repeatedly applauded. They were happy and successful efforts, and those which were in vindication of the Order, sweepingly disproved the objections and idle accusations of its opponents.

During the evening the Band of the 93rd Highlanders played some delicious pieces, and the English and Canadian Glee Clubs—the former under Bro. F. H. Andrews, of Albion Lodge, whose excellent direction

they did ample justice to—sang some delightful compositions. The old glee, 'The Red Cross Knight,' was charmingly and effectively given, and commanded a loud encore.

The intellectual feast concluded, the supper room was thrown open, and here again the same excellent arrangements for the comfort of the company were visible, and felt by all. The refreshments, provided by Br. Scott, were in profusion, and defied the merciless attacks of the hungry and even the pockets and appetites of some of the youngsters to clear them away. That uninebriating drink "Odd Fellows Particular," as we suppose we must style lemonade, quenched the thirst of the guests, and even promoted hilarity, although minus the ingredient necessary to convert it into punch.

The evening's entertainments, on the whole, went off well and to the satisfaction of all, and will doubtless have the effect of multiplying the Order.

The Odd Fellows of the Ontario Lodge, Cobourg, subscribed the handsome sum of £45 15s., towards the relief of the destitute in Ireland and Scotland.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the ODD FELLOWS' RECORD.

QUEBEC, May 1st, 1847.

SIR,—I beg to enclose for insertion in your paper copies of Letters received from Messrs. D. Latouche & Co., of Dublin, and Adam Black, Esq., Lord Provost, of Edinburgh, acknowledging the receipt of £183 13s. 9d. Sterling, for the relief of the destitution of Ireland and Islands of Scotland, being the amount subscribed by Albion Lodge, No. 4, and Mercantile Lodge, No. 19, I. O. O. F.

I am, Sir,

Your obdt. servant,

J. MUSSON, Jun.,

Sec. Albion Lodge, No. 4.

DUBLIN, 18th March, 1847.

SIR,—We are in receipt of your favour, of 23d ult., remitting Gibbon, Glynn & Co. £122 9s. 2d., which in course shall be placed to the credit of the Irish Relief Association, as a contribution from the Members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of B. N. America, residing in Quebec, for which we return you our warmest thanks on behalf of our suffering countrymen.

We are, Sir,

Your most obdt. servants,

D. LATOUCHE & Co.

Mr. Wm. Bennett,

Chairman Relief Com., I. O. O. F.

EDINBURGH, March 19th, 1847.

SIR,—In the name of the suffering Highlanders of Scotland, I have to thank you and the Members of Albion Lodge, No. 4, and Mercantile Lodge, No. 19, for the liberal contributions you have made, for the