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THE CLOJDED CANOPY.

The clouded canopy or starry-decked heaven is a symbol of the first degree, and is of such important significance that Lenning calls it a "fundamental symbol of Freemasonry." In the lectures of the York Rite, the clouded canopy is described as the covering of the Lodge, teaching us, as Krause says, "that the primitive Lodge is confined within no-shut-up building, but that it is universal, and reaches to the heaven, and especially teaching that in every clime under heaven Freemasonry has its seat." And Gadické says; "Every Freemason knows that by clouded canopy we mean the heavens, and that the clouded canopy teaches how widely extended is our sphere of usefulness. There is no portion of the inhabited world in which our labor cannot be carried forward, as there is no portion of the globe without its clouded canopy." Hence, then, the German interpretation of the symbol is that it denotes the universality of Freemasonry, interpretation that does not precisely accord with the English and American systems in which the doctrine of universality is symbolized by the form and extent of the Lodge. The clouded canopy as the covering of the Lodge seems rather to teach the doctrine of aspiration for a higher sphere.—*National Freemason*.

The "Evergreen" for December, contains a well executed engraving of E. Sir Knight Robert F. Bowes, Grand Commander of Knights Templar for the State of Iowa, together with a biographical sketch of his masonic history. It also contains a tabular statement of Grand Lodges, Chapters &c. The particulars therein set forth so far as Canada is concerned are inaccurate.