

Till we have reflected on it, we are scarcely aware how much the sum of human happiness in the world is indebted to this one feeling—sympathy. We get cheerfulness and vigor, we scarcely know how or when, from mere association with our fellow-men, and from the looks reflected on us of gladness and enjoyment. We catch inspiration and power to go on, from human presence and from cheerful looks. The workman works with added energy from having others by. The full family circle has a strength and life peculiar to its own. The substantial good and the effectual relief which men extend to one is trifling. It is not by those but by something far less costly, that the work is done. God has insured it by much more simple machinery. He has given to the weakest and poorest the power to contribute largely to the common stock of gladness. The child's smile and laugh are mighty powers in this world. When bereavement has left you desolate, what substantial benefit is there which makes condolences acceptable? It cannot replace the loved ones you have lost. It can bestow upon you nothing permanent. But a warm hand has touched yours, and its thrill told you that there was a living response there to your emotion. One look, one human sigh, has done more for you than the costliest present could convey.

The late Mr. Alexander, architect of Rochester bridge and other fine buildings in Kent, was once under cross-examination in a special jury case at Maidstone, by Serjeant, afterwards Baron Garrow, who wished to detract from the weight of his testimony. After asking his name, the Serjeant proceeded:

"You are a builder, I perceive?"

"No, sir, I am not a builder; I am an architect."

"Ah! well, builder or architect, architect or builder; they are much the same, I suppose?"

I beg your pardon, sir, I cannot admit that. I consider them totally different."

"Oh, indeed! perhaps you will state wherein the great difference consists."

"An Architect, sir, prepares the plans, conceives the designs, draws out the specifications—in short, supplies the *mind*; the builder is merely the bricklayer or the carpenter—the builder, in fact, is the *machine*; the architect the *power* that puts the machine together and sets it going."

"Oh, very well, Mr. Alexander, that will do; and now, after your ingenious distinction without a difference, perhaps you can inform the court who was the architect of the Tower of Babel?"

The reply, for promptness and wit, is perhaps not to be rivalled in the whole history of rejoinder:

"There was no architect, sir—and hence the confusion!"—*Kentucky Freemason.*

JURISPRUDENCE.

At a regular meeting the Secretary informs the Lodge that the Semi-Annual Returns are ready to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary, and a certain sum wanted. Should a motion be made that the required sum be forwarded, or what action should be taken by the Lodge?

ANSWER.—A motion is unnecessary. It is the duty of the Master to see that the returns and the amount due Grand Lodge, are promptly forwarded to the Grand Secretary.