

of Babel: whether it had its origin in the Dionysian, Essenian, or Pythagorean philosophical schools of antiquity; whether in the Egyptian or Hebrew mysteries; whether it passed by Moses from the Egyptian mysteries to the Jewish nation, and thence to the Greeks and Romans; whether the cradle of the Craft may be found in the building of the temple by Solomon, at about ten hundred years before the Christian Era; or whether it may be found in the College of Builders, established three hundred years later by Numa Pompilius—can make no less glorious the principles which underlie the great superstructure of speculative Masonry, or change in any degree the duties and obligations which the Mason of to-day owes to his God, his country, his neighbor, and himself.—*Grand Master Osborne, of Nebraska.*

GRAND LODGE ROOM OF NEW YORK MASONIC TEMPLE.

THE New York *Courier* of February 7th, says:

The handsome Grand Lodge Room of the Masonic Temple was inaugurated on Tuesday evening last, in the presence of a large number of persons, including the Grand Officers present in the city, and many members of the Craft. The Grand Lodge Room is fitted up so that it can be used as a lecture hall, when not occupied by the Grand Lodge, and will seat 1000 persons. The dimensions of this fine hall are 86 feet in width by 91 feet in depth, and the double row of pillars which support the ceiling are surmounted with Ionic capitals heavily festooned. On either side of the hall the large arched windows give light by day, and the spaces between are ornamented with Ionic pilasters, corresponding with the main pillars. The wainscoting is of fine inlaid and highly polished woods, and the ceiling is frescoed and decorated in a rich and handsome manner. The platform for the Grand Officers is large and occupies one-third of the eastern end of the Grand Lodge Room; and in one corner is a recess intended for the Grand Organ, which, when erected, will cost about \$12,000. It is expected this organ will be ready about September next. Bro. Napoleon Le Brun, the Architect, has succeeded in overcoming the defects in the acoustic properties which caused so much annoyance at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge.

A STRANGE LODGE.

We have an old *Freemason's Pocket Companion*, issued from Ayr, Scotland, in 1792. The imprint is "Ayr: Printed by John & Peter Wilson, MDCCXCII." In it is contained "An Exact List of Regular English Lodges, according to their Seniority and Constitution." There are in all 141 Lodges named. No. 56 reads curiously thus—"56. St. Rook's hill, near Chichester, in Sussex; once a year, viz., Tuesday in Easter Week; constituted in the reign of Julius Cæsar." What does this mean? A Lodge meeting but once a year, and that Lodge constituted by Julius Cæsar! We have not heretofore known Gen. Cæsar as a brother. Will our good English brother, Wm. James Hughan, favor us with some Masonic light upon the Lodge which was numbered 56 on the Register in 1792?

According to the same Register, Lodge No. 111 was warranted to work at "Boston, in New England," and No. 124, at "Savannah, in the Province of Georgia." There is also given the Lodge List of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The highest numbered Lodge is 108. Mary's Chapel, whose history has been so perfectly written by Bro. D. Murray Lyon, heads this list. There is considerable history in these old lists that Freemason's on this side of the water cannot readily understand, and we should be glad to have "more Light" from the other side.—*Keystone.*

TWICE BURIED.

In the Spring of 1862, a transport laden with confederate prisoners, bound for Rock Island, stopped at Quincy, and landed the body of one of their number, John H. Horn, of Huntsville, Alabama, who had died on the passage up from Cairo. He had been wounded and captured at Island No. 10. Feeling that he was mortally hurt, to the post surgeon at Cairo he had made himself known, and asked that he might receive a Masonic burial. This request the post surgeon made known to the surgeon in charge on the transport, also a Mason, and he, on landing the body here, sought out a brother and made known the wishes of the deceased. It was election day, and the Master of the lodge having jurisdiction, Bodley Lodge, No. 1, being one of the judges of election, could not give the matter his personal supervision, nor could he leave his post to find his officers. Immediate interment being a necessity, he requested several Masons whom he saw near the polls to secure a coffin, take the body to Woodland Cemetery,