

A MODEL W. MASTER.

To be a Model Worshipful Master, should be the ambition of every Freemason whom his brethren have honored by placing him in the east.

It is pre-supposed that he who is thus so highly exalted among his fellows, is well fitted by natural endowments, education, worth and Masonic knowledge and zeal, as to become a worthy ruler and chief of worthy Masons.

To him thus fairly equipped to fill acceptably the office of Worshipful Master, the position is one of immense possibilities. There are few such like in the Masonic, or in the outer world even. A Worshipful Master must, in the broadest sense, aim to become, and to be, a skilful and successful ruler of men, as well as of Masons. This requires such a degree of ability, tact, suavity, knowledge and experience, as is not possessed by many and acquired only by the few. In a successful W. M. the *suaviter in modo* and the *fortiter in re* must be happily commingled and skilfully applied in practice. A W. M. is a responsible and constitutional ruler, accountable only to his superiors, but having all but autocratic powers, which must be exercised according to the express letter but in the true spirit of the law, and happy is he who successfully governs without seeming so to do.

To few are the means and opportunities for the acquisition and application of Masonic and other knowledge so great as to the Worshipful Master of a Lodge of Freemasons. His powers of memory and the exercise of his judgment, will be taxed to their utmost in the faithful and acceptable discharge of his important duties. A broad and all but unlimited field for the acquisition of knowledge is opened before him, and the opportunities for its communication to others are almost in-

numerable. Add to this also, the bewitching charm of acquiring and imparting Masonic knowledge.

A W. M. has also the unspeakable advantage of having sympathetic co-workers and approving fellow-laborers. None bestow the approving smile or mete out more responsive applause upon work well done, or duties well performed than loyal Freemasons, and on the other hand, none feel more keenly the effects of the want of official knowledge and zeal, or the ill-performance of official duty, than they.

In short, few, if any positions in life afford such rare and valuable opportunities for self-culture, and for the getting and imparting good than that of Worshipful Master, and in fact the same may be truly said in a very high degree of any other office in a lodge of Freemasons, most of which should be deemed to be but apprenticeships preparatory for the highest position which the brethren can bestow upon worthy, zealous, well-qualified and faithful brethren. May the number of those ever increase, who deservedly merit the title of Model W. M.'s, Wardens, Deacons, or other officers in the lodges of our Ancient, Honorable and Model Fraternity.

EMPEROR WILLIAM, of Germany, who has just celebrated the 90th anniversary of his birth, was made a Mason in 1840, shortly before the death of his father, Frederick William III. of Prussia, in a special lodge in Berlin, by the authority of the three Berlin Grand Lodges, his father stipulating that he should not join any one lodge, but belong to every lodge in the kingdom, and assume the protectorate of them all, which he did. He came of a family of Freemasons, his father and grandfather, William III. and William II., both being members of the Craft. The Crown Prince is also an active member of the Order.