

of the Christian Constantine—has sunk into the arms of the victorious Turk, and become the sacred city and metropolis of Ismail. The Moorish crescent has pushed back the Christian cross from the Mediterranean to the Pyrenees, and in turn the conquering cross has driven the crescent to the sea, and been planted by the Christian Knights of Masonry upon the sacred walls of Jerusalem. New worlds have been discovered and opened to the admiring gaze of men, and our own continent, from a trackless wilderness, has risen by the magic of events to a power and population that transcends belief.

Throughout most of this wreck and reconstruction of the past; throughout most of this alternate chaos and order; throughout most of these mutations and revolutions, which history, in her great moving panorama, has presented to our sight; throughout most of these dissolving views, appearing, disappearing, and re-appearing on the tablets of time, like the tracings of phosphorus on a whitened wall; before many of the ancient dynasties had perished; before most of the nations and governments of the modern world had had their birth, Freemasonry existed and has flourished, and to-day, after the lapse of centuries, it exists and flourishes, striking its roots into every land of civilization and distilling from its spreading branches over the people of many nations the precious and healing dews of its benevolence and good works.

We must cherish and preserve it, and do our part to perpetuate it. To do this we must emulate the virtues of those honored fathers whose death we mourn; we must preserve our vows inviolate; we must execute without departure the obligations we have assumed, and we must show to the profane world, by our actions rather than by our professions, that we keep the faith that we profess.—*Grand Master, Bro. Wm. B. Taliaferro, of Virginia.*

ADVICE TO YOUNG CRAFTSMEN.—You have lately entered a most ancient and honorable society, and we trust in no unworthy spirit; if so, we counsel you to proceed no further. If, however, you are actuated by a feeling of increasing your knowledge and your usefulness to your fellow creatures, work unceasingly. Seek instruction from those who are duly qualified. If in doubt on any point go at once to them. They will ever be ready and willing to assist you in your endeavors. Be not afraid; it is their duty, the duty that they love. Being well skilled, *they can give you all information*; being actuated by the genuine feelings of our order, they will teach you the duty you owe to God, your neighbors, and yourselves; they will strengthen your faith, encourage your hope, and lead you in the practice of charity, and develop the beauties of the inner man. Remember, you are not to be Masons in name; you must be Masons in deed and in truth. You must show forth to the world at large what are the true principles that guide a Mason's life, that all men may know that to you (as Masons) the burdened heart may pour forth its sorrows, the distressed may press their plea for relief, that your heart is guided by Justice, and your hand extended by Benevolence.—*Scottish Freemason.*

Its a Masonic crime to discuss the result of the ballot in the Lodge or out of the Lodge. When the result of the ballot is declared, there should be an end of all discussion and all action until a new petition is presented. To borrow a term it should be a *finality*. Such was the practice among the fathers. But now the practice is, as soon as a negative ballot is declared, the friends of the candidate begin to consider who the objector was. They discuss the matter with themselves, if not with others. All the acts of the suspected brother are canvassed. They see a deep meaning in the most common acts. "Trifles light as air," are to them, "confirmation strong as proofs f'reholly writ." Sinister motives are not un-often attributed to him. They feel estranged from him at once.—*P. Gr. M. Drummond, of Main.*