

## COURTESY.

What a cheap offering at a manly shrine is the extension of a little courtesy! How pleasing it is when brethren meet with a courteous reception from their fellows! And yet how often is one of the leading principles of our glorious Institution violated by those who have taken an obligation to strictly adhere to the tenets of the Fraternity. We are aware that it would be folly to expect a strict adherence to courteous behavior on the part of some individuals; nevertheless, we have a right to expect that in a Fraternity claiming to propagate the glorious principles of morality and virtue, there will be found none so devoid of good feeling as to disregard the instructions imparted to them at their initiation. When a "profane" enters the portals of a Masonic lodge, to receive "light," he cannot but be impressed—if he possess manly spirit—with the solemnity of the proceedings, and no excuse can be offered for him if he willfully disregards, in after life, the beautiful lessons imparted to him on his first appearance at the East. Of course, the fact that all men are not equally favored with good natural ability and pleasing manners—that some there are who cannot entirely eradicate the old leaven in their nature—must not be overlooked; still, we have a right to demand that every man who aspires to be deemed a worthy Mason—more especially when attaining an official position in a lodge—will deport himself in a manner becoming a representative of the Craft. It is the want of courtesy—the absence of moral and intellectual refinement in some Craftsmen—that occasionally tends to disturb the harmony in Masonic circles, and officers of lodges cannot be too anxious, in their intercourse with other brethren, to adhere to the principles they have, of their own free will, undertaken to uphold. When brethren hear of the prosperity of a lodge they, naturally,

turn a thought to the reason of the enviable position of that body, and there is only one conclusion they can arrive at in the case, and that is the unquestionable urbanity, gentlemanly behavior, tact, and energy of its principal officers. Can it be expected that a discourteous man will have the power to draw around him men of intelligence? Will an uncultivated Secretary be the means of improving the numerical position of a lodge he officiates for? Certainly not. And yet there is repeatedly to be seen at the foot of an advertisement convening a meeting of a lodge the words:—"Visiting brethren cordially invited." It is nothing better than a sham on the part of brethren who invite visitors to attend their meetings and then treat them with a sullen indifference. Brethren, do you wish your lodges to prosper? If so, be careful in electing your officers. It's your duty, brethren, to elect men who give promise of a desire to "strictly obey the moral law," and be courteous to those with whom they may be brought in contact. Bear this in mind, and your lodges will prosper, while Freemasonry cannot but gain an ascendancy far above the moral, social, and intellectual positions of the "profanes" whose constant aim is to seek its downfall.—*New Zealand Freemason.*

M. W. Bro. Louis Ziegler, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming Territory, was recently presented with a magnificent cane by the members of Spokane Lodge, No. 34. Bro. Ziegler is an honor to the Craft in the Far West.

THE *Keystone* on the fourth ult., commenced its Vol. XIX. Long may it prosper. Its erudite editor, Bro. Clifford McCalla, is one of the ablest and most pleasant Masonic writers of the age, and we consequently always welcome the *Keystone* to our sanctum. May it long prosper.