

so, as deficiency of that far nobler and greater quality—moral courage. Numerous are the really good, who are deterred from doing what is right, for want of moral courage,—and scarcely less numerous are they, who are induced into wrong-doing from the same deficiency.

We have thus reprobated the too free use of the Black-ball; we have now to direct the attention of Odd Fellows in general to another evil, the too free use of the White. Brethren should be as cautious whom they vote for, as whom they vote against. It is to be feared, that the members of our Philanthropic Order are frequently influenced by motives which cannot but have a prejudicial effect upon its prosperity. For example: is a man of wealth, or of rank, or of public distinction, a candidate—a true Odd Fellow will not regard the weight, nor the number of his money bags,—nor will he think of the applicant's blood or lineage,—nor will he say, because this candidate moves in fashionable society, or is otherwise a man of note, I will use the White-ball! Such considerations should have little weight with a Brother of our Order.

The chief consideration, perhaps the sole, should be, the candidate's moral worth. In our opinion, a Brother should not use either the White or the Black-ball, unless acquainted personally, or from public repute, with the applicant's character. There are many men universally known to be most excellent members of Society: there are but few so universally known to be bad. In such cases there should be no hesitation about voting. We do protest, however, against the practice of voting for such reasons as the following:—"It is disagreeable to oppose a neighbour; or it would be highly unpleasant to be rejected one's self, therefore reject not others; or, it is unamiable not to vote for admission,—it would be ill-natured; or, he is a man of rank, or fashion, or wealth, or genius, and his admission will confer *éclat* on our Lodge." Such considerations should have little or no weight, unless accompanied by the substantial and solid one of good character. The humblest of our Order, if a good man, is a greater ornament to it than the most exalted, if not of moral worth.

H.

#### OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret that we announce the loss sustained by Albion Lodge, No. 4, Quebec, in the decease of three of its worthy Brothers, by the fearful catastrophe of the 12th instant, in that city.

As most of our readers are aware, during the exhibition of some Chemical Dioramas, on the evening of that day, in a building near the Castle St. Louis, the place accidentally caught fire; during the consequent rush of the audience to escape, the narrow entrance was choked up, and nearly fifty of the unfortunate people perished, by fire or suffocation. Amongst the number were many of the most respected citizens of Quebec, and we were especially pained to note the names of the Brethren of Albion Lodge, above alluded

to—Brothers A. Stewart Scott, Horatio Carwell, and Richard Atkins. It is a melancholy gratification to be able to record, as we do from authentic information, that every possible exertion was made by the Odd Fellows on the spot, for the relief not only of those Brethren, but of the other sufferers. The subjoined extract from the *Quebec Mercury*, of the 15th June, will show that their brotherly care was continued even when life had departed:—

"We would notice the very large attendance at two or three of the funerals, especially at those of Messrs. Scott and Carwell, both of whom being members of the Albion Lodge of Odd Fellows, were accompanied by the Brethren of the Order to their final resting-place. They marched in advance of the hearse, two abreast, all of them, with scarcely an exception, dressed in black, with white gloves on their hands, craped round their arms, and a leaf of evergreen in their breasts. When arrived at the place of interment, they formed in two parallel lines, the body with the mourners and the long train of citizens who walked in rear, passing between them to the grave. Before the burial service was concluded by the officiating clergyman, they again took up the order of procession, passing round the grave, each member dropping into it his leaf of evergreen, as a last token of respect to the memory of their departed brother. While looking on, we thought that this token of brotherly sympathy was at least one sweet drop in the bitter cup which the surviving relatives have been called upon to drink. Circumstances such as those which elicited it, may we never again witness in Quebec!"

We feel assured that the deepest sympathy will be felt by every Odd Fellow in the Province, for the bereaved relatives of their deceased Brethren.

#### ODD FELLOWSHIP.

AFTER the remarks which we felt it our duty to make a few weeks ago, in regard to the limiting of Charity by certain signs and pass-words of centralization, it might naturally be expected that we would not look with much favour on such organizations. Assured by members of both bodies of Odd Fellows in this Town, that we had not done them justice, we made it our business to read, with care and attention, their rules and regulations, to enquire fully and to listen attentively to all the information we could collect, and so prepare ourselves to give a more deliberate and mature judgment in the matter; the issue of our enquiry has been a conviction that the principles of Odd Fellowship are good, that the body is nothing more nor less than a kind of mutual insurance, and that it is calculated to confer real and substantial benefit on those who join it. Nor do the benefits cease with the life of the member, but are continued to his family, provide for sickness, sorrow and affliction, lighten the burthens to which we are all liable, and for an amount of subscription within the power of every one, secure against unforeseen misfortune and distress. There are many who fall, without any fault of their own, into troubles, who have no direct claim upon public sympathy; others, on whom misfortunes press, unwilling to make a public spectacle of their sorrow, suffer in silence; widows and orphans are often thrown on the cold charity of the world, and, in this country, how often is the sick bed of the stranger untended by a friend. For all these cases, we find the rules of the Odd Fellows provide, with a liberality too, unlimited by creed, country or politics; its action is universal, and we only see one cause of regret, and even that we hope soon to find obviated: we mean the existence of the two separate bodies. It is not for us to decide between them, to say which is right and which is wrong, but we may safely warn both, of the danger to the Institution of allowing such a state of