

THE CRAFTSMAN;

AND

CANADIAN MASONIC RECORD.

Bro. J. J. MASON, 18*, }
Publisher

'The Queen and the Craft.'

} \$1.50 Per Annum,
in advance.

VOL. V. HAMILTON, ONT., FEBRUARY, 1871.

No. 5.

THE GARDEN OF IREM.

—
BY A. T. FREED.

—
"The old order changeth, giving place to the new."—TENNYSON.
—

Zohair sat at the entrance to his mansion. It was not yet dark; but the heat of the day was past, and Zohair enjoyed the cool evening breeze as well as those who were less wise than he.

Zohair was a philosopher. "Half of man," said he, "is his tongue, and the other half is his heart: the rest is only an image of flesh and blood."

As Zohair sat at the entrance to his dwelling, on the evening in question, he looked pleased and contented: his eyes beamed gently and benignantly on the stone wall of the serai across the way; his hands were folded upon his knees; and his whole being seemed to denote placidity of temper, entire and unalloyed satisfaction with himself, and peace and good-will toward the whole world.

And as he sat engaged in the contemplation of the gray stone wall of the serai, or sometimes, perhaps, raising his eyes to the branches of the date trees which stood around the fountain within the inclosure, and through which branches the stars now began faintly to glimmer—as he sat thus, his attention was called to a small party which came leisurely down the street; and, after a moment's pause at the door of the serai, passed within. This party consisted of a lady seated upon a camel, which was led by a tall, swarthy servant, armed to the teeth; and a little, old man, with a long gray beard, who rode upon an ass, and whose chief occupation appeared to be to keep a sword, somewhat longer than himself, from dragging on the ground or tripping the beast on which he rode.

We have said that Zohair was a philosopher. We should have said first that he was a man given to hospitality. For though all who knew him confessed that he was a philosopher, many who had never seen him had heard of his generous hospitality. It was worthy of admiration in Zohair to be a philosopher; but his benevolence and goodness made