



Semper idem—Semper fidelis.

PUBLISHED BY BROTHER HILL, No. 2 PLACE D'ARMES, MONTREAL.

VOL. I.

JULY, 1860.

No. 3.

THE REVELATIONS OF A SQUARE.

CHAPTER II.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE.—BY ANDERSON.
1722—1740.

"The end and moral purport of Masonry is to subdue our passions; not to do our own will, to make a duty progress in a laudable art, to promote morality, charity, good fellowship, good nature and humanity."—ANDERSON.

"She is the brightness of the everlasting LIGHT, the unspotted Mirror of the power of God, and the Image of his Goodness."—SOLONOX.

In vain would Danvers with his wit
Our slow resentment raise
What he and all mankind have writ,
But celebrates our praise.
His wit this only truth imparts,
That Masons have firm faithful hearts."
SECRETARY'S SONG.

(Continued.)

"The success that attended the re-establishment of Masonry," my strange companion continued, "created a very great sensation, and raised up a host of opponents, who either envied the popularity of the Fraternity, or were desirous of diverting into some other channel; for the uninitiated were piqued at the respect and attention which it attracted so universally, and more particularly when the nobility began to interest themselves in its promulgation. Many were the consultations which were held in the Lodge on this subject. Dr. Anderson, Grand Warden in 1723, had now become an active colleague of Grand Master Payne and Dr. Desaguliers, who held the office of Deputy Grand Master, and was installed into the chair of Hiram Abiff in the same year; and with the assistance of other eminent Craftsmen, it was formally deliberated which of three proceedings it would be most expedient to adopt in this emergency. Brothers Lamball, Noyes, and Villeneau were of opinion that the most dignified method of treating the absurd publications of those cowans who distributed their anonymous effusions through the country, would be by silent contempt; others proposed ridicule as the most efficient weapon; while Brothers Desaguliers and Anderson thought that the interests of Masonry would be more

effectually served by some public and authorised statement of their proceedings,—by an avowal of the real objects of the Institution, and an explanation of the principles on which it is founded. And this course was finally agreed on.

"Accordingly, these two learned Brothers entered on the work with great zeal and assiduity. Bro. Desaguliers, in 1721, made a public profession of a Mason's faith, in an Oration, which was printed and distributed plentifully both in the metropolis and provinces; in which he enlarged on the re-organization of the Grand Lodge, and stated *seriatim* the peculiar benefits, both moral and intellectual, which may be derived from a regular attendance on the duties of a Lodge. And Bro. Anderson published a well-written pamphlet on the rise and progress of the Order, and its application to the practical sciences.

"In the same year, September 2nd, the Duke of Montague being Grand Master, and Bros. Villeneau and Morice, Grand Wardens, a Grand Lodge was holden at the King's Arms Tavern, St. Paul's Churchyard, at which Bros. Desaguliers, Payne, and Anderson, were ordered to examine the old Gothic Constitutions, and to digest them in a new and better method, and at the succeeding Grand Lodge, in December, a committee of fourteen expert Brethren was appointed to revise the manuscript when completed, and to make their report accordingly. In pursuance of this order, our worthy Bros. Desaguliers, Payne, and Anderson, commenced their proceedings by searching for manuscripts and authorities in every part of the kingdom where they were supposed to exist. They communicated with many Lodges under the Constitutions both of York and London, and in most cases were successful in the search, yet a few instances unfortunately occurred where certain fastidious Brethren took the alarm, and committed many valuable manuscripts to the flames concerning ancient usages, regulations of Lodges, Charges, and secrets,—particularly one written by Nicholas Stone, who was Grand Warden to Inigo Jones,—lest they should fall into the hands of our friends, and be submitted to public inspection in a printed form.

"At one of our Lodges, when this design was in progress, Bro. Payne expressed his indignation at the superlative folly of those misguided Brothers in no measured language; and it was seriously debated whether it would not be expedient, for the purpose of preventing a repetition of the offence, to move a vote of censure against them in the ensuing Grand Lodge for contempt. This was decided in the negative, as it was considered to be inquisitorial, and alien to the general design of Masonry, for the Grand Lodge to interfere with the disposal of private property.

"It was agreed, however, at the same Lodge, that the R. W. Master, Dr. Desaguliers, should move, that the ancient office of Stewards be revived to assist the Grand Wardens in preparing for the feast, and in other things appertaining to the annual general assembly of Masons. Bro. Desaguliers accordingly proposed the appointment of twelve Brethren for those purposes, and the motion was unanimously agreed to. At the same Grand Lodge it was reported by the committee that they had perused Bro. Anderson's manuscript containing the History of Masons, the Charges, Regulations, and Masters' song, and, after some amendments, had approved of it. In consequence of this favourable report, the Brethren requested the Grand Master to order it to be published, and its appearance produced a wonderful impression on the public mind, and insured the triumph of the Craft.

"At a Grand Lodge in the same year, the Duke of Buccleugh, G. M., seconded by Dr. Desaguliers, proposed a scheme for raising a fund for the relief of distressed Brethren, and a committee was appointed on the spot to consider what would be the most effectual means of carrying it into execution. This was the origin of the Fund of Benevolence, for which the Fraternity are indebted to the amiable disposition, coupled with the indefatigable exertions of Brother Desaguliers; and the operation of the project proved so beneficial to the general interests of the Order, that it was publicly announced in Grand Lodge, that ingenious men of all faculties and stations, being now convinced that the cement of the Lodge was love and friendship,