

operations of art, directed by the discoveries of science. Such are some of the beneficial effects, which would be experienced, were the principle of brotherly-love to extend to all the minds of men. On such a world the Supreme Being might look down with calm complacency. But, such a picture, as I have faintly sketched, has never yet been realized beyond the imagination. To the eye of any superior angelic intelligence, while he passes our globe in his flight through space, scarcely anything could appear but a vast cloud of moral darkness with here and there a few radiations of love and truth emerging from the general gloom. The plains of Thessaly, Waterloo, Borodino, Balaclava, Sedan, Plevna, Gettysburg and a host of others all over the earth, where so many thousands of human beings were sacrificed, also the places, where as many helpless non-combatants were ruthlessly massacred, all bear witness to the melancholy fact, that malignity and hatred still hold sway over large parts of the different nations of the earth and in spite of all the efforts of love and beneficence.

Throughout the universe the same general principles must run through all moral precepts. In the decalogue as we have it, some changes will exist for other worlds according to the circumstances of the inhabitants. The law relating to a seventh-day rest, for instance, and the one respecting marriage may not be at all necessary in some celestial places ; but the general principles must exist in all. It would be subversive of all order and harmony to have such commands as these issued to any creatures :—"Thou shalt hate thy Creator, and thou shalt hate thy fellow-citizens." The mind recoils in horror at the idea of such laws. The grand principle of love must necessarily govern every faculty of the mind and every active exertion among all intelligent beings, if they be found existing in a state of happiness. It follows then, that the man, in whose heart this principle is predominant, is qualified for associating with the pure intelligences of all worlds : and by this same grand and governing principle, he is related to the highest order of beings in the most distant spheres, and his happiness is perpetually secured ; because no intelligent being in any part of the universe, in whom this principle of love is pre-eminent, can ever be disposed to disdain to associate with any other of whatever rank or order, who is actuated by the same affection ; otherwise, the love would be changed into malevolence and harshness and overbearing haughtiness. But so long as love rules unhampered in the human heart, it must secure happiness in all places and at all times through a law established by the Great Being and founded on his perfections.

Free-masonry deals particularly with this grand, all powerful, all absorbing principle of love in all its various ramifications ; and this principle must be the life of all systems of religion, which are of any real value. Our fraternity would have gone to pieces long ago, like many others, had it been bound together with any other bond than that of brotherly-love. I can best illustrate this bond by showing that this tenet of the moral and intellectual world bears a striking analogy to the