

members were thoroughly true and faithful;—but we should recollect that there is no institution under heaven, which may not be damaged or prostrated, by apathy or treachery, except indeed a special interposition of Providence prevent. Let me exhort the fraternity, by means of this address, to more fidelity, and charity, and purity, and zeal and perseverance, in the cause, and not to allow that which should be so dear to them, to be cruelly injured by their mistakes or unconcern.

To this intent, brothers, we should seek to remove and keep away causes of discord. Let us not look to those points on which we differ, so much as on those on which we may enthusiastically agree;—let us exercise mutual forbearance and courtesy, thankful to the merciful “Giver of peace, and Lover of Concord,” that so many elements of harmony remain to us, and that we may have so much usefulness and happiness thereby.

In judging from the returns, and what may be expected concerning Divisions which have not transmitted returns, we have the pleasure of knowing that considerable increase in the Order has taken place, during the present term. What might have been realized, if we were all zealous as we should have been, and if we had those measures of advance in operation, which are requisite for the healthy sustainment of every generally diffused institution?

The meeting of the National Division, recently held in South Carolina, and over which our respected fellow Colonist, brother Hon. S. L. Tilly, M. W. P., presided, appears to have been an occasion of great cheerfulness and harmony, and from which much good is expected to result.

I have to continue the opinion expressed in the Report of the April Session, that the Divisions generally, in the city, are more active, more earnest, more safely circumstanced, than on former occasions. Room for much improvement, in many particulars, appears,—but that so much has to be reported is cause of congratulation and thankfulness.

Experience mentioned in a former report, respecting the courtesy of brother officers and of Subordinate Divisions, during my visits, and on other occasions, has been continued, and calls now, as then, for acknowledgement and thanks.

Brethren, as the eras of commencement, and protracted routine, and discussion of form and detail, have, to a great degree passed away, opportunity occurs for introducing some additional features at the weekly meetings of Divisions. Allow me