

As I did not understand the Danish language in which the sentence was delivered, I was greatly astonished at the change which took place in the demeanour of the criminal.—It had been evident from his whole bearing, that he had no fear of death, nor any feeling of compunction for the crime he had committed: but as the captain proceeded, he turned suddenly pale, threw himself on his knees and earnestly prayed for mercy. While we were wondering at the change, four men approached the corpse and raised it to its feet.

At the same time four more seized the criminal and eight others approached, with cords in their hands. All was now apparent and we could no longer wonder at the agitation of the prisoner.

He was bound back to back with the corpse, a prayer was made by the chaplain, and then, dead and living were launched into the sea.

Before the bodies had touched the water, we perceived an unusual agitation near the side of the ship, and we were not long in discovering the cause. An enormous shark darted like an arrow through the waves and greedily seized his double prey.

The piercing shriek of the criminal was lost in a gurgling sound; but I caught sight of his face as the monster seized him, and the image is still before me, sleeping and waking—the anguish of a thousand deaths was in his look.

ADDRESS

Delivered before the Members of Oriental Lodge, Stanstead, on the Evening of the 3rd February, 1847,

BY P. G. J. W. BAXTER.

MOST NOBLE GRAND AND BROTHERS,—It is with no ordinary feeling of embarrassment, that I rise to address you, upon the sublime theme of Odd Fellowship.

There is a combination of circumstances, which render it peculiarly embarrassing. First, it is no new theory, whose bright and sparkling virtues are to break upon your vision, (like some bright meteor) for the first time. It is a subject which has commanded the attention, research, and called forth the most thrilling eloquence, from some of the ablest and most distinguished men of our land; and when I reflect that my own feeble efforts are to be brought in direct contrast with men of high literary fame, whose commanding eloquence, force, and beauty of expression, when dwelling upon this sublime theme, have softened the heart, and moistened the eye of men, who, before, had looked upon the principles of Friendship, Love and Truth, with cold indifference.

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And when I look round upon my Brethren in this Lodge, and see the array of talent, men who have a facility of thought and expression,—aye, men who are not entirely unknown to fame, as public orators,—I say, Brethren, when I look upon all this, I feel that you have, indeed, imposed upon me a task.

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It is now more than eighteen months since a branch of our noble Order was established at this place, and I consider that well-merited praise is due to the three Brothers, who acted as pioneers, in laying the corner stone of this beautiful structure, in this part of Canada.

Brethren, they incurred responsibilities, both of a

pecuniary and personal character, of no small moment, with that fearless independence, which is a peculiar characteristic of every good Odd Fellow, regardless of the frowns of public opinion, and the idle jests of both friends and foes, they with indefatigable zeal founded an institution possessing elements calculated, perhaps above all others, to excite the prejudice and envy of the mass. They, knowing the sublime principles upon which Order was founded, and being actuated by the pure sentiments of Friendship, Love, and Truth, staked not only their money, but their reputation, upon the success or failure of this branch of our beloved Order.

Brethren, I was one of the fortunate number who were initiated into this Order, immediately after the institution of this Lodge. Prior to that time, I knew but little of Odd Fellowship, save and except that it was called a benevolent institution, but I had not the slightest conception of its strong and peculiar claims to benevolence,—I supposed its benevolence consisted in the cold and humbling charities, which, I regret to say, characterizes too many of our so-called charitable institutions. In this, I have been happily disappointed. I have found it an institution in which men of the most discordant opinions can unite, without sacrifice of private opinions, or dignity of character, in offices of kindly benefaction.

Its pecuniary benefits I consider dues, not charities. There is something in the nature of man which revolts at receiving charity of a pecuniary character, and more particularly from a public fund; and the founders of our beloved Order have wisely acted upon this principle.

There is ample field for charities,—aye charities the most pure, the most sublime, which the mind of man can contemplate,—charities which have not the taint of base lucre attached to them—charities which spring from the heart, the fountain of all generous actions.

To visit the sick, relieve the distressed, protect the widow, and educate the orphan, are the charities to which I allude.

Brethren, I do not believe there is a member among us, whose heart does not expand, when looking at the mottos distributed about our Lodge Room; they have a charm which operates upon the kindlier feelings of our nature. Whose manly heart does not thrill with pleasure, when he reads that beautiful motto—"Protect the widow and orphan"?

I have said that I knew but little of the principles of Odd Fellowship, prior to my becoming a member of the Order.

I admired it for what I supposed to be its social influence, and an Institution admirably calculated for social improvement, and I had long seen the necessity of an Institution of this kind, in this part of the country.

Brethren, we live in a cold climate, and previous to the establishment of Oriental Lodge, I had sometimes thought, our hearts partook too much of the nature of our climate; but thanks to the genial influence of Odd Fellows which has brought us together, and given us an opportunity for an interchange of opinions, and of becoming acquainted with the character and principles