

THE DIONYSIAN ARCHITECTS were a fraternity of builders in Asia Minor, linked together by the secret ties of the Dionysian Mysteries, one thousand years before Christ. The existence of this order in Tyre at the time of the building of King Solomon's Temple is admitted, and it is fair to suppose that the Dionysians were sent by King Hiram to assist Solomon in the erection of the Temple. About B. C. 300 the Dionysian Architects were incorporated by the Kings of Pergamos, at Teos, and they continued to exist thereafter for some centuries.

STRICT OBSERVANCE LODGE, Hamilton, appears to have "struck it rich" in so far as members and work are concerned. At Tuesday's session, which was opened at 1.30 p. m., the M. M. Degree was conferred upon no fewer than nine Fellow Crafts, which occupied until 6 o'clock. At 7.30 the routine business of the Lodge was transacted, and at 8.15 the Brethren received R. W. Bro. Murton, who delivered an interesting historical lecture upon the Third Degree, touching upon the work of the Irish Ritual, as exemplified in that city a short time ago by St. John's Lodge, 209a, of London. While casting some doubt as to the work done being ancient Irish, as claimed, the R. W. Brother paid a high compliment to W. Bro. Cooper and the officers of 209a who assisted him on the occasion, declaring they were more than workmen—they were artists, indeed, to do the work in the manner it was exemplified.—*London Free Press.*

It is with feelings of deepest regret that we chronicle the awfully sudden death on Saturday morning last of Mr. J. F. Williams, a highly respected resident of this place. He had been attending to his business as usual on the Friday, 5th August, previous to his death and had not complained of being unwell. About ten o'clock he closed the store and went home, going

to bed at eleven. Between one and two o'clock on Saturday morning he suddenly rolled over in the bed, awakening his wife, who spoke to him but received no reply. She quickly procured a light and found him writhing in the agonies of an apoplectic fit. Drs. Pettigrew and Ford were immediately called in, but medical aid proved of no avail. He never regained consciousness. About four o'clock death relieved him from his sufferings. Deceased came here from Deseronto about a year ago, and during his short residence among us made a host of friends. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church. He was also a member of the Masonic Order and at one time Master of the Bradford Lodge, A. F. & A. M. The bereaved relatives have the sincere sympathy of the entire community in their sad affliction. The remains were followed to the C.P.R. depot on Monday by a long procession of sympathizing friends, where they were placed on the noon train and taken to Perth for interment in the family plot in Eastwood cemetery. The suddenness of the death has cast a gloom over the whole neighborhood. A man in the prime of life, stricken down without a moment's warning, furnishes a subject worthy of grave reflection.—*Norwood Register.*

PEERS IN CRAFT MASONRY.—The Grand Master of the youngest or smallest regular Grand Lodge, A. F. and A. M., is officially the Peer of the G. M. of every other regular Grand Lodge throughout the world.

M. W. BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND'S Masonic statistics for 1886-87, give 605,408 members of Craft Lodges in the United States and Canada, including 29,284 affiliated Craft Masons in the Dominion. This gives an increase of those "raised" during the past year—U. S., 26,265; Dominion of Canada, 1801.