

them until a scalp is taken to accompany it to the Indian's last resting place, the great hunting ground, where the spirit of a slain enemy serves him in the most servile offices throughout eternity. For this purpose, though much has been said and written about the civilization of the Ojages, they yet organize mourning parties and go upon the war path, though otherwise they are peaceable.

Though at first thought it may strike the minds of our readers as almost incredible, there are Masons among the Osages. They were probably admitted to the secret rites and privileges of this ancient institution by the French, in early days, they being the first whites with whom they met. They retain a part of the Craft to this day. Col. J. M. Hiatt, a licensed trader for the tribe of this agency, who is a gentleman of culture and large experience, and an honored member of the Commandery, when alone on one occasion with a more than ordinarily intelligent Osage, found upon strict trial, though the Indian could not speak a word of our language, that he was a Master Mason, who prided himself in the mysteries of the Order.—*Indian Herald*.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

MASONIC CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

WE have observed for some time past that several of our United States contemporaries have been lavish in their praise of the charitable spirit manifested in Great Britain by the Masonic bodies there. Why they have been so long in speaking approvingly of the Masonic charities of the old country, can only be accounted for on the ground that attempts are now being made in the adjoining republic to follow the example set by England. The State of Kentucky stands alone in the organization of a Masonic Home; but we are glad to learn that others are likely to be established. We cannot see how our neighbors, with such a membership as they boast, have thus far failed to do something more than Kentucky shows in the way of Masonic charities. It is well enough known that Masonry is not a benevolent institution like others of more modern origin, yet it has done, and still is doing, a great deal in the way of charity. England has set a noble example by its Masonic institutions, all of which are nobly sustained. Of course Canada is too young a country to have similar institutions, still the time may not be far distant when she will follow in the wake of the mother land. There is nothing grander in the whole Masonic system of England than the institutions in which the children of departed Masons are cared for; and not only are the young, but the aged and infirm amply secured from penury and want. Those institutions are justly the pride and glory of the Masonic bodies there.

Masons in America may well look with admiration upon the noble efforts of our English brethren to provide for those whom heaven has deprived of their only support, and we do not wonder that they long for the establishment of like institutions in which their own poor and unfortunate may find the happiness they now seek for in vain. No steps have yet been taken, except in the case already alluded to, with the view of starting Masonic charitable institutions; some of our contemporaries, however, are taking up the subject in a manner to prove that they are not insensible to the good resulting from them, and we hope to hear ere long that numbers of them are in full working. It does seem strange that so much money should be expended in getting up Masonic displays while not a dollar is given towards founding a charitable institution. Very probably the cause of this is to be found