

It was a custom formerly, when operative Masons were at work, if anybody was desirous of distinguishing Freemasons from others, he took up a stone and asked what it smells of. A Freemason would immediately reply, "It smells neither of brass, nor iron nor steel, but of a Mason."

We hear that an English lodge in Montreal recently initiated a candidate, took his note for the initiation fee, and then sued him at law a few days afterward for the amount. The brother, we are told, paid it to avoid trouble, but protested that the brother who proposed him, had the funds in his hands to pay the initiation fee.—*Freemasons' Journal*.

CIRCUMAMBULATION.—If this long word be reduced into its simple meaning, it expresses only a going around, or walking around. It refers to the processions in the heathen temples on stated occasions. It is asserted that these processions always moved from east to east, singing hymns, that is to say, they went from east to west, and then from west to east again, ending where they began in the east, and so imitating the course of the sun. But though this rule was common, it had some exceptions, though no doubt the very frequent use of the ceremony gave rise eventually to the word. It is probably more correct to say, that the habit of circumambulation is a relic of heathen worship, though there is no meaning of course in its special use any longer. In certain ceremonies of Freemasonry, a modified form of circumambulation or processional is used, though simply on Masonic principles. Any attempted explanation of our present system, as based on any old-world ceremonial, is, in our opinion, idle in the extreme. We may observe that circumambulation, in its processional phases, is common to several Christian churches, as much as it was to the heathen temple worship. There is an innocent use and lawful adaptation of all such ancient forms.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia*.

We have been favored with an early copy of the "Allocution," as it is termed, of the veteran Mason and Templar, Col. W. J. B. MacLeod Moore, G.C.T. As Grand Master of the Canadian Knights Templars, Bro. Moore has annually unfolded his views on Masonic Knighthood in relation to the craft, and has ably defended his particular theories on the subject, when they have been called in question by other students. He is, without doubt, one of the ablest writers in Knight Templary, and is such an enthusiast in the study, that though now far advanced in years, he is as eager and competent as ever to prepare and deliver his annual addresses to the fratres, who are proud to acknowledge his rule and delight to receive his fraternal instruction.—*London Freemason*.

A GREAT many of the craft justly pride themselves on the ancient and honorable character of Freemasonry. Some of them vainly try to solve the problem whence this great institution came, and by whom it was originated. It is an evolution of the ages, for in it we find conserved the great and immortal truths which have blessed men in the past. We behold the light of the sun and realize its blessed effects, but we must plow and sow and reap, or not fully enjoy them. So it is with Freemasonry. Its light must be a part of our life. Its great principles must be cultivated in our souls and appear in all our conduct, or we will fail to enjoy our Masonic rights and privileges, and to perform our Masonic duties. The great work is laid on us of skilfully employing the great principles of Freemasonry in Master building for eternity, and that is our great concern. Not the past, but the future, is ours to guard and improve, and for that purpose we must utilize every moment of the ever-living present.—*Ex.*