

again; and of this we may be sure, if Masons are but true to themselves, it must become a mighty factor in the world's future. The policy of nations may be ill-judged and abortive; the influence and power of Masonry can never be misused, and, to greater or less extent, can never be exerted in vain. We may, and must be, the truest and most loyal subjects of our Sovereign, and the most faithful citizens of the State, and yet rise superior in our moral influence—yes, and in our spiritual power with God Himself—to all governments and dynasties. Let this be the aim and object of every one of us, to make the world ring with admiration of our Craft, to make it God's right hand on earth for the spread of everything that is good, to make Masonry the Apostle of Christianity, to help to build that spiritual temple which is even now being raised, stone upon stone, pinnacle towering above pinnacle, until the whole fane is completed, and the voice of the Archangel decrees that "time shall be no more."

NOTE.—It has been suggested to me, that the tendency of the above address is to show that all Masons outside the Christian Church must necessarily be untrue to the traditions of the Craft. But I have no such intention. Believing Masonry to have been established centuries before the Christian era, I am quite prepared to admit it may have a perfect existence apart from Christianity; but it must be understood I was speaking not to Masons at large, but to Lodges of Christian Masons, and to them I said that Masonry deepened and intensified, if it were possible, their Christian obligations.

Grand Masonic Banquet at the Mansion House.

On Monday, 25th ult., the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Francis W. Truscott, who is Master of Grand

Masters' Lodge, No. 1, London, and also Senior Grand Warden of England, gave a dinner to the M. W. the Grand Master, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. The company invited, and who were present, to the number of three hundred, included H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, Past Grand Warden; Prince John of Gluchsburg, (who has been appointed to the honorary rank of Past Senior Grand Warden,) and most of the present and Past Grand Officers, and the Provincial and District Grand Masters. The brethren were in full Craft clothing, and the Hon. Artillery Company, of which the Prince of Wales is Colonel, formed the guard of honor. The City of London Band furnished the music. All the invited guests were received in state by the Prince of Wales, and the Lord Mayor, and that ceremony being over, they proceeded to the Egyptian Hall, where the banquet was laid. The scene presented by the banquetting room, says the *London Freemason*, "with its guests 'clothed' in the elaborately embroidered purple and gold aprons of Grand Lodge, the crimson collar, symbolic of Past and Present Grand Stewards, and the less gorgeous but extremely chaste light blue and silver of the 'Craft,' heightened as the effect in the majority of cases was by the handsome jewels illustrative of the respective rank of the brethren in 'Blue' or 'Arch' Freemasonry, afforded a *tout ensemble* rarely to be witnessed."

After dinner was over, all the waiters and others in attendance who were not Masons, were excluded, and the room was "close tyed."

The first toast was, as usual, "The Queen and the Craft," drunk with Masonic honors, as were all the succeeding toasts of the evening.

The Lord Mayor, in proposing the health of the Grand Master, said:—

BRETHREN,—Our loyalty as Masons is not limited by the toast which we have just now celebrated. We also owe allegiance and we gladly and dutifully render