

and partly national to one entirely federal. According to this theory, no measure can become a law, unless it has received the sanction of the house of representatives, which represents the people of the States in their national character...

Maryland Gazette.
ANNAPOLIS:
THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1826.

MASONIC.

The festival of St. John the Baptist, was commemorated in this city on Saturday last, by Annapolis Lodge No. 71. On this interesting occasion, the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and a number of visiting brethren from Baltimore and Prince Georges, attended.

Tyler with a drawn sword. VISITING BRETHREN. Two Stewards with white rods. Entered Apprentices two & two.

W. Master { Br. G. Earnest, } Senior { Bro. J. H. H. }
Deacon { jun. purple sash } Deacon { baton }

STANDARD OF FAITH. Carried by Br. James Holland. Entered Apprentices, two and two. Fellow Crafts, two and two. Master Masons, two and two.

THREE GREAT LIGHTS. In triangle. Carried by Brs. T. Wootton, V. Severe, J. D. Moran.

SILVER VESSELS. with Oil and Wine. Carried by Brs. John Claytor, and Robt. Bryan.

CORNUCOPIE. Carried by Br. William M. Walters.

HOLY WRITINGS. Carried by Br. W. R. Thompson. Revd. Chaplain.

BROTHER RAFFERTY. Treasurer and Secretary Jewels of Office & Rolls. Junior & Senior Wardens, Purple Sashes, Jewels of Office and Columns.

STANDARD OF CHARITY. Carried by a Brother, Officers of Windsor Lodge No. 83. Committee of Arrangements.

GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND. Bro. H. Lushy, G. Tyler, with a drawn sword. Past Masters two and two, Purple Sashes and Jewels of Office.

GRAND STANDARD. Carried by Bro. Small, Rt. W. D. G. M. M. Bro. W. Steward.

Purple Sash and Jewel of Office. Junior G. Deacon, Purple sash and Jewel of Office. Senior G. Deacon, Purple sash and Jewel of Office.

GRAND SWORD-BEARER.
Purple Sash and Jewel.
Two G. Stewards, white rods and Jewels.

The procession having been formed in Gloucester st. by Br. Geo. Keyser, G. M. commenced its march to St. Anne's Church, by moving down Green St. to Church-St. up Church-St. to West St. where the line counter-marched; and when the front of the procession, reached the door of the Church it halted, faced inward, opened order 15 feet wide, and uncovered, the M. W. G. M. followed by the Grand Lodge and the rest of the Brethren, then passed into the Church in reversed order, and their several stations were assigned them by the Marshals.

A PRAYER. By the Rev. Br. Chaplain, then the first two verses of 52d hymn were sung, on the conclusion of which, the following

ADDRESS.

was pronounced by Br. Charles T. Flusser, P. M. A. L. 71. When I cast my eyes around me, and behold this congregation, composed of so many individuals, distinguished alike by the high dignities, which our order has thought them worthy of receiving, and by the respectful consideration bestowed upon them by all within the sphere of their acquaintance; of so many of my Masonic Brethren, alike my superiors in the particular science which is to form the subject of my address, and in every other acquisition that improves or adorns the human understanding; when I behold this respectable concourse of uninitiated visitors, crowding into this extensive and sacred edifice, many of whom are probably desirous to gain some information upon a topic, which may not unfrequently have attracted their attention; while others drawn hither merely by curiosity, will scrutinize, with piercing ingenuity, every word and every gesture, which may lead even to a partial discovery of the secret which has so long been kept from profane approach; I shall not be deemed uttering ought, but the very truest sentiment of my soul, in acknowledging that I feel, and deeply feel, my inadequacy of doing justice to the subject, either enlarging the views, or in fixing the conceptions of my Masonic Brethren, respecting any point of our common pursuit; or of gratifying, to any degree approaching satisfaction, the expectations of those whom curiosity may have invited within our portals. The duty, however, has been assigned me of delivering this Address, and if the Orator should fail in the attempt, he prays, may he confidently trusts, that the obedience to orders, which the masonic constitution so imperatively enjoins, will prove sufficient apology to those who dwell not within the bounds of the order, As to the members of the fraternity, what should I expect from them, on every occasion, in every situation, but the utmost and kindest forbearance?

It will be a task, I hope not disagreeable to my brethren, nor yet unacceptable to others, who have this day honoured us with their presence, to enter upon a short exposition of the leading principles of our association, and to take a glancing view of its most prominent features. The subject, then, of our inquiry shall be, what are the objects of the Masonic Fraternity; or rather, what is the Masonic Institution? It may be proper in this place, before we enter, more deeply upon the chief topic of our contemplation, to premise a few words respecting the probable origin of a Society, which for many years past, both by the number of its members, and their distinction in morals and intellect, has occupied a very elevated stand in public estimation. And here we shall merely state, that Masonry traces its rise far back into the remotest antiquity, even for centuries beyond the period of the royal son of David; that it has been connected most distinctly with Solomon, and his illustrious associates, in the erection of his magnificent temple; that it has been discovered among the secret associations of ancient sages, in the holy mysteries of Memphis in Egypt, and those of Eleusis in Greece; and that there exists but little doubt of its affinity to many of those chivalrous orders, which during an age of monkish superstition and mental darkness, of gloomy fanaticism and contemptible credulity, relieve the tired view of the historic enquirer by a brilliant display of many feats in the field, and of submissive, patient benevolence in the secluded cells of the hospital. Gallant knights! who even amid the martial clangor of arms, and the retiring duties of the sick-bed, found both zeal and time to collect and bring back into their benighted European homes, many of the most important relics of mental greatness, which had been preserved through ages of barbarism, in the voluptuous capital of the Eastern empire, or concealed near the desecrated fane of the Holy Land. But no matter to which of these, we may trace her origin, or whether she

claim relation to all of them, she need not blush for her parentage. The cultivation of the arts, the spreading of the sciences and of active benevolence, lie ever within the sphere of her origin; they have descended to her to the present day; they have been purified, improved, and expanded by the divine influence of a more enlightened religion; they have spread from among the few individuals who once were partakers of the secret, among thousands and thousands of the best of every clime, of every creed, of every grade; appearing discord, fortifying virtue, spreading charities, dispelling errors; cherished by many, hated by none—save tyrants and their miserable minions. No, it imports not what her origin be, whether it lie concealed within the doubtful morning-mists of science which hover over the patriarchal ages; whether she came to us from the sacred precincts of the Idumean temple, from the astrologic vaults of Egyptian wisdom, or the graceful porticos of Grecian refinement, what she now is, whether she now is to be sought or shunned, shall be the subject of our present enquiry.

The point of view, my friends, in which Masonry first and chiefly presents itself, is that of a philanthropic association. Its fundamental principle of active benevolence, displays itself throughout every one of its degrees; to this principle every book, that even hints towards the society, bears witness. Its operation confines itself not merely to the members of the association, it spreads abroad over the whole extent of the human family; wherever grief is to be allayed, injury to be redressed, oppression to be relieved, or indigence to be succoured, it becomes the most imperative duty of the Free-Mason to lend the brotherly hand of assistance. Need I look for proof of the musty record?—No! I have living testimony before me. Are there not those amongst you who can bear witness to what I assert; are there not those amongst you who have been quickened and restored by the mild instrumentality of Masonry? Is there one individual amongst you all, who has not heard or known of a distressed sufferer relieved, a friendless widow assisted, a forsaken orphan nurtured, a desolate stranger, upon a hostile shore, as a brother received, a ferocious enemy stopped in his murderous career, even during the sanguinary turmoil and the reckless excitement of the battle, by the irresistible influence of Masonry? Yes, Masonry and Charity, hand in hand, descend into the loathsome recesses of poverty and distress, into the captive's solitary cell; they visit the humble cottage of the forsaken and cast-out; nor do they slun the covered hiding-place of the trembling victim of persecution. They visit all these; and whither soever they turn their steps, scalding tears are dried up, bleeding wounds are staunch, chains are unlocked or shattered, and quaking fears inspired with renewed confidence.

But Masonry is also essentially a religious association. This assertion will appear, to those who have understood that difference of creed has no influence in the admission of our candidates, and that religious discussions are not permitted in our Lodges, a paradoxical proposition; but it is in our power to convince them of its propriety. The origin of all religions, whether divine or human, is to be traced to the desire, which all men entertain, of fitting over the cause of our existence; and the fears which torment us, of death and dissolution. The former leads to the belief in a Creator, the latter to the hope of a future existence. From these two sources the principles of every creed are derived; they lead to the sublimest morality, and to the most exalted hopes; and they display themselves under a thousand various modifications, in every religion that has ever been proposed to the world. But this very belief in a first cause, with all its infinite attributes of wisdom, power, justice and mercy, this very belief in a future existence and accountability, together with the code of sublime morality which hence inevitably springs, form the ground-work and superstructure of the Masonic edifice. They regulate the life of every true Mason, and ensure to him the happiness sung in days of old by the Mantuan Swain:

"Felix, qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas, Atque metus omnes et inexorabile fatum Subjicere pedibus, strepitumque Acherontis avari."

Within our rites then, the religionist of every sect shall find the base of his own creed; stripped, to be sure, of every outward and fortuitous appendage, yet essentially allied to his own belief; as springing from the same source and pursuing the same objects, the adoration of the true and living God, and the ultimate happiness of the whole human race, in the moral perfection of every individual. Hence it is, that Masonry excludes none from participation in its benefits, who are not willing to subscribe to the belief in a Supreme Author of the Universe, and the necessity of a pure, moral life. Persecution and fanaticism are unknown to her; she converts rather by the mild instrumentality of descending wisdom, and conciliatory example, than by the terrors

of the Auto da fe, or the austere rigour of sarcastic declamation and uncharitable exclusion. Within her unsullied walls, many of the fondest visions of the Philanthropist are realized; for from her altars ascends, from every creel on the globe, in every tongue that is spoken on its extensive surface, a pure and undebilitated worship to the throne of Supreme Mercy. But though Masonry holds out the right hand of fellowship to all men, yet has she ever flourished most, when deriving in creased strength and energy, from the benign influence of an enlightened Christianity; It matters little whence she may have drawn her code of morality, in times before the Redeeming Advent of the Son of Mary; it matters little to what authorities she refers in this respect in countries upon which the mild light of the Gospel has never shone; in Christian countries, in America, her moral code is at the present day singly and exclusively drawn from the sacred writings; they are laid down as the rule of Masonic conduct, they are the first great light in Masonry.

Masonry appears next as a Republican association. The recognition of the natural equality of man forms one of its leading principles. By this natural equality neither Masonry, nor myself, alludes to the visionary schemes of some philosophers, who, led away by an inconsiderate zeal, would have destroyed every distinction which virtue or vice, merit or crime, public confidence or acknowledged infamy, establish among men. Nor do I mean that the barbarian equality which would indiscriminately commingle the elevated and accomplished of taste, with the rude and churlish of feeling. No, it shall never be said of our craft, that unmindful of every principle of harmony and propriety, it would place together, in ludicrous array, and offensive familiarity, the rude relic of Bœotian coarseness with the finished sculpture of the Athenian chisel. Our candidate's obedience to our constitutional superior, and respect for them; it inculcates the deepest veneration towards those, who by a life of virtuous and scientific improvement have become benefactors of the human race; but it tramples under foot the fictitious exaltation, claimed in the virtue of the surviving remnant of feudal barbarism; and it denies to wealth any farther consideration than that to which it is entitled by its more extended powers of beneficence. Masons are wont to consider each other as equals, and they may not bestow upon mortal man that adulation, which is the part only of the crouching sycophant, or the abject slave. Every Mason is taught to revere in himself the glorious image of his Maker, placed in this world to pay reverence to none, save the Supreme Arbitrer of his fate, and those upon whom authority is lawfully conferred. Hence it is, that our art has drawn down upon itself the hatred of tyrants, and their myrmidons; hence it is, that the benevolent Autocrat of all the Russias, and the enlightened Monarch of Spain, have banished our brethren from their dominions; hence it is, that the scourge and the prison, exile and death, have been denounced and carried into execution against the adherent to our order. Yet where is he can say, he has seen the Mason's face to blanch, when threats and pains united to shake his firmness? Where is the tongue, can bear witness to his apostacy, when modes of lingering death displayed before his eyes the studied pomp of awful ceremonial? No, there is that immutable principle within the Mason's breast which elevates his spirit above the dull control of earthly circumstance, which keeps his brow serene, amid the assaults of persecution, and inspires with never failing constancy amid the yawning horrors of the grave. He knows that his expiring sighs shall not be breathed in vain, to the silent breeze of heaven that fans his mangled form; he knows, that when his body has long since yielded to the slow progress of dissolution, and his scattered ashes have mingled with his mother earth, there shall spring up from the very soil which has been enriched by his mortal remains, a full and glorious harvest of redemption to all mankind. He knows, that the force of his example shall descend to generations yet unborn, and sleeping within the oblivious womb of pre-existence; that the mention of his worth shall breathe into their souls a kindred enthusiasm, and fire them to deeds of noble daring, which will yet achieve the disenthralment of man. Yes, my brethren, though tyranny may, like the haggard pestilence, breathe her baleful exhalations o'er the flopping valleys of the earth, and convert the rivers of life into fountains of dissolution; though she may, like the phœnix-warrior revealed in the mystic vision, mount her pale steed, and shake her raven locks, and flaunt her gem-studded crown, and hurl her well aimed darts, and career in insatiate triumph o'er the mountain heaps of her slain, amid the silent immensity of her desolation; the hour may yet come, (and it will) the dark hour, when the howling land-pest drives the giant forest as a "frail vessel of clay dashed against a rock," when the scathing thunder-bolts of heaven shall lay low the relentless slayer, and with unquenchable flames consume his shattered diadem. May be, we then shall find that the bolt of truth and strongest power was forged

ed at empyrean fires, within the secret laboratories of the Masonic craft. No matter at what period the centuries which now lie enshroued, may have found that the maddening intoxicating draught within Masonic Lodges, is a considerable influence in the impending reforms; while we may confidently hope, that the doctrines of obedience to constitution and law, and are there inculcated with equal energy will tend most powerfully to guard the disciples of freedom from rushing into that anarchy, which is but the forerunner of renewed despotism. But the question asked, may be, is: How can an institution designed to subvert established governments, and to disturb the political discussions are forbidden within the precincts of the Lodge? There is that in the alchemy of Masonry, which contrary to its fabled archetype, converts even the poorest gold into some heavy, less valuable metal; forces a political existence upon a society, for which it never was designed, and compels powers into action, against itself, which were intended solely for the secret circles of the craft. Well may despots repeat themselves the memorable words of Shakepeare,

"We but teach 'Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return 'To plague the inventor: this even has justice 'Comments the Ingredients of our poison'd chalice 'To our own lips."

The liberty and equality of the Lodges were designed by the founder of Masonry to operate merely with Masonic halls. There we see, for successive ages, the highest dignitaries of the state, and its humblest subject-ings and citizens, meeting upon the broad basis of equal rights, and distinguished only by the different degrees of their Masonic merit. In this manner, as through ages of Heathen darkness and the most abject superstition, the purest ideas of the unity of God, and of moral obligation, had been preserved in our halls; so it was at a later age, that the inquirer into truth discovered the bases of those political regulations, the validity of which had been tested by the most enlightened, the best governed, and the happiest of nations. But Masonry had undertaken to force upon society a large that form of government which had been found so conducive to order and harmony within her own sanctuaries. If her code was made to operate without its original sphere, it was because the investigations of enlightened individuals easily discovered it, given without penetrating into the archives of Masonry; because when discovered, its beneficial effects appeared so obvious, as to compel, the moment they were proposed, the assent of every reasonable and unprejudiced mind. But the instant it was known, that the Masonic code coincided with that which was the result of the profoundest reasoning upon political science, the ban of arbitrary governments was immediately directed towards us. The persecution and proscription became the order of the day; then the dungeons of the Santa Casa were filled with Masons; then they tracted extorted groans, blood from Masons, and the gibbet which lay bleaching upon the globe were the bones of Masons. Thus happens, that war, eternal war, proclaimed between the Masonry and oppression, in which the victory ultimately must be ours; for, on our side, mental illumination and eternal truth on the other, bigoted darkness, the never-ceasing falsehood. But look ye! Masonry succeeds in Freedom's chosen home; how silent and peaceful she rears up her mighty edifices; how her many pillars stand strong and firm; how her glorious portals open to the sculptured magnificence of the temple, finished in every part, a lifting its vaulted dome high up in the heavens, whose brightest sunbeams dwell and linger with delight upon the glittering cupola, and displays off the resplendent structure. Heaven's bright lustre strikes not off the outer walls of the Temple, but deep it penetrates within its lofty arches and pillared halls, and diffuses a vivifying power over all who but approach its holy precincts, its centres, within the innermost tabernacle, its empyrean flames.

with ceremonial, and which... of its moral and benevolent... around it of combrous and frivolous... of an intelligent community... This objection is one which has been... made against many of the... ancient religious institutions... Roman and Greek Churches have... with it, nor have some... Protestant establishments es... and so far as respects Mason... can only combat it with the... arguments which have been used... Were man altogether... no can doubt... themselves to admit and necessary... the great principles... society; that then, the use of... a number of devices and symbols... which they operate within that... in which no reasonable man... connection between symbols and... expressed by them, pervades the... of human knowledge; and... science of Mnemonics is... upon it. The only thing... against here, is the... by unnecessary and tasteless... which, so far from leading... association of symbols with ideas... can only obscure them... whether this be the case in Masonry... but Masons, who know the... their symbols, can decide; if a... undertakes to judge of this... himself in the situation... of Latin words, which are in... and moral obligation, had been... preserved in our halls; so it was... here, that the inquirer into truth... covered the bases of those political... regulations, the validity of which... their minds against it; let them... subject, that though to beings, endue... high mental qualities alone, the... adaptation of the splendid symme... of the Goddess, who adorns the... halls of the Medici at Florence,... offer a pure and uncontami... and enjoyment; yet would it even... not judicious critic find fault... graceful drapery which, ad... imitating itself to the feeble c... of general humanity, conceal... rt hal reveals, the matchless... of Hebe, the goddess of eternal... I have endeavoured to deline... Masonic fraternity, to expand... its general purposes; and, what... may be the secrets which... exclusively to the initiated, can be of no other than of a be... and enlightened nature, for... are calculated to carry into exe... the principles which we have... laid down. He who comes within... with an expectation of hav... revealed to him some astounding... of secret, who believes that... ure up within our recesses the... converting powder of Hermetic... day, or the cabalistic combinati... of Rosicrucian mysticism, will find... self surely deceived; but he who is... becoming a more useful... member of society, who wishes to ex... the sphere, and multiply the... of his moral influence, shall not... disappointed.

One word more, and I have done. If they appear strange, perhaps harsh, or far from the first foundation of... the fairer, brighter part of... species should have been precluded... participation in its mysteries. A... society whose objects are so eminently... of humanity and benevolence, peculiarly fitted to engage in its... the co-operative exertions of that... sexes, whose bosoms are the... sanctuaries of every charitable... But if we consider that Ma... traces its origin into times and... in which the mild agency of... was considered as a very ineffe... vehicle and assistant towards the... establishment of general happiness, we... shall not be astonished at their exclu... from the mysteries at that particu... periods; and when we contemplate... as society improves and the great... importance of the female sex be... more prominently conspicuous, and... more expanded domestic duties, and more exquisitely refined sensibili... of feeling, withdraw them impera... from every association which... induces arduous exertion with mysteri... agency; we may be sure that, with... leading them with additional du... all mankind will allow, they have... all they can owe to society at... when they adorn, cheer and in... the grateful circles of their homes... and alleviate those Jo... which they are often the deepest that... the human heart, no relief is... to be found save in the consoling... of female affection. But... women may not become im... members of our craft, the pro... of their happiness and ho... is laid equally and most em...