

hour of his distress—that Masonry overrides the boundaries of States, allows of no political or religious differences, and that its very nature and constitution are adverse to the idea of any such renunciations of the paramount duties of the craft, in all countries and under all circumstances.

We add a few particulars in relation to some of these lodges, showing the extent and character of their losses. The minutes of Union Kilwinning Lodge No. 4, were more than a century old; those of Orange Lodge No. 14, very near a century. These are all gone, and the loss is irremediable. A portion of the minutes of Richland Lodge No. 39, are supposed to be safe, as they were confided to the keeping of a Masonic writer, with a view to the preparation of a history. He will probably, from this notice, perceive the propriety of restoring them to the Lodge as soon as possible.

#### XIX.

Among the items of loss, which are particularly lamented, that of the famous sword of State, called "the Cromwell Sword," belonging to the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, is particularly deplored. This was an antique of peculiar interest and value. Its history, as given by Dalcho, may be given here, as particularly calculated to gratify the curious, as well as the Masonic reader. It was a large, elegant and curious two-edged weapon, in a rich velvet scabbard, highly ornamented with Masonic emblems, and with the arms of the Grand Master. It had been presented to the Grand Lodge by the Provincial Grand Master, after the installation of the grand officers, was given as a consecrated sword, and received with reverent assurances, to keep it safely, so far as human effort could accord safety. The weapon had been long in the possession of the Grand Master's family, and was said to have once belonged to Oliver Cromwell, a legend to which some degree of probability may be given, from the fact that the Provincial Grand Master was a descendant of Sir Edward Leigh, who was a member of the Long Parliament and a Parliamentary General in the time of the Protector, from whom, perhaps, he received it.

The farther history of this sword may as well be given here. From the time of the presentation it continued in the possession of the Grand Lodge, and was borne by the Grand Sword Bearer, or in later times, the Grand Pursuivant, in all public processions. At length, at the conflagration which, in the year 1833, destroyed so large a portion of the city of Charleston, and with other buildings the Masonic Hall, the sword was, with great difficulty, saved by brother Samuel Bayle, the Grand Tyler, with the loss of the hilt, the scabbard, and a small part of the extremity of the blade. In the confusion consequent on the fire, the sword thus mutilated was mislaid, and for a long time it was supposed to be lost. In 1852, a committee was appointed by the Grand Lodge to make every exertion for its recovery, and at length, in the beginning of the year

1854, it was accidentally found by the Grand Tyler, in an outhouse on his premises, and was by him restored to the Grand Lodge in its mutilated condition. The lost piece of the blade was ingeniously replaced by a cutter in the city of Charleston, and brought to New York, was returned with new hilt and velvet scabbard, and was used in its appropriate place during the centennial ceremonies of that year.

With such a history, and blended with such tradition of its origin, we need not feel surprised at the universal and keen feeling occasioned by its loss.

[CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.]

[Communicated.]

#### Hints from History.

The plague ravaged the city of London in 1666, but the visitation of 1665 was far more disastrous.

De Foe, the author of Robinson Crusoe, has left us a history of this last pestilence, written in his singularly clear and felicitous style.

The pestilence broke out in January, and only ended with December. It prevailed with most violence from June to October; one thousand victims perished daily. There could be no regular burials, but huge pits were dug, into which the bodies were cast, sometimes covered with a sheet, but for the most part, almost naked. During the prevalence of the disease, 200,000 persons fled from the city to other parts of England. Men's minds became diseased as well as their bodies. There was great recklessness and demoralization among the lowest classes of society, but this extended at last to many from whom better things might have been expected. De Foe says, "the power of avarice was so strong in some, that they would run any hazard to steal and plunder, and particularly in houses where all the families or inhabitants had been dead and carried out, they would break in at all hazards, and without regard to the danger of infection, take even the clothes off the dead bodies, and the bed clothes from others where they lay dead. But these robberies extended chiefly to wearing clothes, linen, and what rings or money they could come at, but not to a general plunder of the houses."

When the Yankee pestilence, as I may call it, prevailed in Columbia, they improved upon this, they plundered the houses and then burnt them. They took with violence, watches and jewelry from the persons, even of females, living and not dead.

When Louis the XIV ravaged the Palatinate with fire and sword, his inhumanity called forth the execrations of Europe, and left a deep stain upon the fame of the great King. But what was the Palatinate compared with the territory of Georgia and the Carolinas laid waste by the more inhuman Yankee! Hardly a small county in extent.

However averse our people have been to a

re-union with the Northern race, the feeling has become intensified by the brutal conduct of their armies, and the plain design of their Government to blot out the present proprietors of the South and repeople the land. Thinking people are beginning to comprehend that the true issue is subjugation and extinction, or success and eternal separation. Let them ponder it well.

—SENEX.

OFFICIAL BONDS and communications for the Secretary of State, forwarded to Chester C. H., Post Office Box 29, will be promptly forwarded to the proper point. April 6.

#### Proclamation.

I, T. J. GOODWYN, Mayor of the city of Columbia, S. C., call earnestly upon the citizens to aid the municipal authorities in the preservation of order, peace and law. The laws made and provided for their maintenance will be strictly enforced. It is, therefore, earnestly requested that any and every encroachment be promptly reported to the proper officers. It is a source of deep regret to the executive that a laxity of morals exists among some portions of our inhabitants, inasmuch as they are daily trespassing on the rights of others, whose enclosures are not secure by proper fencing; also, on the shade trees on the public streets. The law in these instances, as well as all laws for the protection of public and private property, will be enforced.

It has also been reported that parties are bringing into the city spirituous liquors for sale. It is much to be deprecated that this source of traffic should exist at such a time, when our inhabitants stand in daily want of food. Severe measures against the retailing of liquors must be resorted to, in order to stop the spread of this grievous evil; trusting on an All-wise Providence to sustain me in this our time of affliction, and relying on all good citizens to assist the authorities in maintaining order in our city.

Given under my hand, this fourth day of April, 1865.

T. J. GOODWYN.

April 6

#### Stolen.

FROM my lot opposite the Presbyterian Church, a large MAHOGANY DINING TABLE and a WASH-POT. A suitable reward will be paid to any one who will give information to lead to their recovery.

April 13

ANDREW CRAWFORD.

#### Pictorial and Gift Books.

A SMALL collection of PICTORIAL and GIFT BOOKS, beautifully illustrated, suitable as mementoes of friendship and affection, and as rewards of merit and excellence in academies, including the writings of some of the most famous poets. Apply at this office.

#### Writing Ink.

A FEW bottles of uncorrosive WRITING INK, for sale at this office. March 28