

**THE LIFE, LABORS AND TRAVELS
OF FATHER J. J. UPCHURCH,
FOUNDER OF THE ANCIENT
ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN**

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J. J. UPCHURCH & SAM. BOOTH

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С. Я. Уфимцев.

THE
LIFE, LABORS AND TRAVELS

OF

FATHER J. J. UPCHURCH,

FOUNDER OF THE

ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF,

TO WHICH ARE ADDED

POEMS & EULOGIES BY PROMINENT MEMBERS OF THE ORDER.

REVISED AND EDITED BY

SAM. BOOTH, P. M. W.

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A "FATHER'S" BLESSING.

STEELVILLE, MO., August 30, 1886.

TO MY CHILDREN OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED
WORKMEN:—

AS I grow in years my heart seems to expand with gratitude to the Creator that I should be selected before all others to promulgate and put in practice the principles of our noble Order,

I am truly thankful for the thought that has been the means of organizing an Order that has carried relief to thousands of the widows and orphans of our deceased brothers. Poverty and degradation have been driven from their doors, and the standard of Hope and Protection erected in their stead.

Men are made better by assembling together in our Lodge rooms, where the true principles of fraternity are taught. We meet on a common platform of equality as all brothers should, and try to instill into each other's minds high and noble aspirations.

Now, let me, as the Father of the Order,—and it may be for the last time,—make an earnest request that all arouse from the lethargy we have fallen into. Let us go to work with renewed energy in building up our

beloved Order to that standard she is destined to attain, both in numbers and acts of charity.

Let me impress upon your minds the importance of using every honorable means to induce good and true men to unite with us in protecting the widow and orphan from the cold charities of a heartless world.

Let us try to educate them to look forward to a high and noble purpose.

Do this, and you have, in a great measure, fulfilled the noble design of the Creator in placing man upon earth.

This work has been written, believing that my fraternal children would like to know more of my early history, trials, etc.

It has been my earnest wish to produce a work both interesting and entertaining, that when I have passed away my children can take up the book and say, "This is the record of our Father, the founder of our noble Order."

I have tried to make a true statement of facts, and I trust and believe that the members of the Order generally will read and not judge too harshly this, my humble effort. *Your Fraternal Father,*

A. S. Phelps

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