

The Rev. Michael Cuffe, a Roman Catholic priest, who holds the appointment of chaplain to her Majesty's forces at Chatham, recently refused to read the prayers of his church at the funeral of a non-commissioned officer who happened to be a Freemason. He has published in the *Times* a "justification" of his conduct, and it amounts to this: "The Catholic Church does not allow her clergy to read the burial service over the bodies of those who die out of her communion. The late Armourer Sergeant Johnson died a Freemason. No Freemason is a Catholic. No Catholic can be a Freemason—the moment he becomes one he secedes from the church."