

lent itself to this cabal. Our present system with regard to the election of Grand Master has worked well in every instance, and the Grand Lodge of Canada has just reason to be proud of those distinguished brethren, who have presided over her. Who more honored and beloved than those who have crossed the river and whose names are yet green in our memory—Wilson, Harington, Simpson? Truly they were rightly denominated our pillars of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty! And what Brethren in Canada are respected more than Stevenson, Henderson, Kerr, Seymour, Moffat and Spry? Yet all these men could climb the ladder and serve in subordinate positions, and were not ashamed to occupy the chair of Deputy Grand Master. Now, however, forsooth, a new regime is to be introduced and the Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, after serving faithfully and well is to be put on one side and some nabob to be elected before whom we are all to bow for our natural lifetime.

Now, we believe the majority, the very large majority, of the Craft are diametrically opposed to this *ad vitam* principle. There are dozens of men in Grand Lodge worthy of the first position who have served faithfully and well for years, and as the Deputy Grand Mastership has heretofore been regarded, and very properly, too, as the proper stepping stone to the Throne of the Grand Lodge of Canada, we should deeply regret to see the system altered at this or any future time. When we elect a Deputy Grand Master in the Grand Lodge of Canada, the brethren actually select their future Grand Master.

We are not now electioneering by any means for the present brother, who so ably and impartially presides over our Board of General Purposes, but we are advocating a system which we believe to be the best that could be adopted for this country.

In a young country like ours it is inadvisable to introduce any such thing as a permanent system with regard to the first officer of Grand Lodge. To come down to point of facts, there is no one Mason in Canada so pre-eminently superior to others as to entitle him to any such distinguished honor. The sooner, therefore, this Toronto ring gets rid of this last croquet the better. There should be no such thing as a canvass for any office in Grand Lodge, and least of all for the Grand Mastership. We know that the present Deputy Grand Master would not deign to stoop to such a course,—his record is before the Craft, and we hold that under the circumstances, should Grand Master Spry decline re-election, the position should be given, as has generally been the case heretofore, to the next in office.

At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, held in the city of Wilmington, on the 3rd and 4th days of October, 1888, the following brethren were duly elected and installed Grand Officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—

Grand Master, M. W. John E. Saulsbury, Dover.

Deputy Grand Master, R. W. George A. Maxwell, New Castle.

Senior Grand Warden, R. W. William C. Baggerley, Wilmington.

Junior Grand Warden, R. W. Archie S. Reed, Wilmington.

Grand Secretary, R. W. William S. Hayes, Wilmington.

Grand Treasurer, R. W. George W. Johnson, Wilmington.