

Brother Reed expresses a similar opinion under "Georgia," the Grand Master of that jurisdiction having decided that "a ballot for degrees *once declared* by the Worshipful Master cannot be reconsidered, no matter if a brother cast a black ball by mistake. The secrecy of the ballot is inviolable under all circumstances."

Brother Reed well and wisely says :—

"We dissent from that ruling because we do not believe in punishing innocent parties with the mistakes and blunders of any one, when it is possible to avoid it ; and certainly when fair, just, open and manly opportunity is afforded to correct an error, justice and common sense demand that it should be done. There is no violation of the spirit of that law, which for harmony's sake, demands the inviolability of the secret ballot."

Under "Idaho," Brother Ziegler dissents from the holding that "a Brother dying while charges against him are pending, is not entitled to Masonic burial," and we agree with him in preferring to believe a Brother innocent until he is proven guilty. He qualifies as "strong words, well spoken," the expression in Idaho's Report of Foreign Correspondence that "burying a Brother with Masonic honors, whose life had been notoriously bad and licentious, is a lie upon its face, and an insult to every moral sentiment of the Lodge." So it is ; but if the Lodges were all true to themselves and to the teachings of Masonry, they would not wait for Death to remove unworthy members from their ranks, but would bury them alive beneath the obloquy of expulsion; and amid the rubbish of unworthiness and of ill-wrought material. We hold very strong views upon this subject, and have given them fuller expression under "Illinois."

Like ourselves, Brother Ziegler is an uncompromising opponent of the principle of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates. Under Illinois he says, in reply to the late lamented Brother Gurney :—

"It is a universal law of nations, founded upon the best results of experience and practice, 'that one parliament cannot bind another, nor can one legislature enact a law or adopt a rule that a succeeding legislature cannot repeal.' Now in all honesty and candor, we ask how is it possible that we in our Masonic jurisprudence (which we boast of being the very essence of justice and equity) tolerate a law that sends forth the fiat from one Lodge, or perchance a single unscrupulous member as it in the majority of cases appears, that shall be, and is forever binding upon another Lodge. All past experience and rules of equity to the contrary notwithstanding, Brother Gurney, with all due respect to you and your age, but we are forinst your pet theory, that Masonic heresy, *perpetual jurisdiction*."

On this same subject our distinguished brother is particularly severe upon our British Columbian brethren. After referring to their opening of a black list to contain the names of rejected applicants who can never thereafter be balloted for, except by the lodge which rejected them, he says :—