

Bro. Lowe apologised for coming in late and said it was not his intention to make a long speech. He spoke of the pleasure it gave him to be present.

Miss Maggie McDonald than sang "Sweet Jenny, the pride of Kildare," very sweetly, after which

Bro. Samuel Black was called upon for a few remarks, but that gentleman said he felt his inability to do the subject of Freemasonry justice that night, and begged to be excused.

Dr. Allworth sang "Take things as they come," in good taste.

Bro. Johnson spoke of an instance of a woman's curiosity in wishing to see into the working of Freemasonry. Afterwards she took two degrees in the order, being the only woman that was ever admitted into a lodge of Freemasons.

Miss Laura Mallott rendered a neat selection, after which Dr. Allworth sang that old song "The old arm chair," in fine style.

After a few brief remarks by Dr. Allworth, who again thanked the ladies for all they had done in aiding to beautify their hall.

The Rev. Bro. Ross dismissed one of the happiest gatherings ever held in Kingsville.

Masonic Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293, G. R. C., and the Degree of the Palm and Shell.

To the Editor of the CRAFTSMAN.

DEAR SIR AND R. W. BRO.—I note by the "Masonic Newspaper" that the Rev. Bro. R. H. Coleman, Supreme Chancellor of the Oriental Order of the Palm and Shell, "inducted a party of prominent Masons of New York into the Order, and each pilgrim Knight was made an honorary member of Royal Solomon Mother Lodge at Jerusalem." Now, Bro. Rob. Morris, in a letter some time since, informed me that this Order at present has a membership of about eight thousand (8,000.) Such being the case, I take it for granted that these brethren, in like manner, by the *ipse dixit* of irresponsible parties, are also honorary members of Royal Solomon Mother Lodge; I would, therefore, ask:

1st. Did the charter granted for Royal Solomon Mother Lodge by M. W. Bro. W. Mercer Wilson, empower Bro. Rob. Morris or any other Brother to confer honorary membership in said Lodge without the usual routine of proposal and ballot?

2nd. Does Royal Solomon Mother Lodge pay dues, according to the Constitution, to the Grand Lodge of Canada?

Trusting you will courteously inform the readers of the CRAFTSMAN, regarding this extraordinary proceeding, I remain,

Yours Fraternally,

ROBERT RAMSAY.

Ancient Lodges in Canada.

To the Editor of THE CRAFTSMAN.

DEAR SIR AND R. W. BRO.—In your CRAFTSMAN for May, inst., you seem to be in the dark as to the history of Ancient Lodges in Canada, and you desire to know if any of your readers can supply you with information as to what has become of them. Now, any of your readers who has the latest edition of the *General History of Freemasonry*, that is advertised on the last page of the cover of your CRAFTSMAN, can do this, especially as to the Lodges founded by the Ancients' Grand Lodge in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick prior to the Union in 1813, and since, up to 1847, (there being nearly one hundred pages of that book devoted to the history of Masonry in those provinces,) from the founding of the first Lodge by Erasmus James Phillips at Annapolis Royal, eight years before a tree was cut from the primeval woods on the site of what is now the city of Halifax, and when the whole of that and the adjoining province was yet known but by its original French name of "Acadia."

As to the Lodges mentioned in, and which you quote from the paper of Bro. Hughan, as having been organized in Quebec and Montreal in 1762, their date of organization alone would determine them to be Military Lodges, to disappear with the troops among which they were organized. Not until 1763, and after the treaty of peace of that year between France and Great Britain, did any British civilians settle in either of those cities; while the much later dates of subsequent Lodge charters in those cities, and elsewhere in Old Canada, may be taken as the date of earliest organization respectively of civilian Masonic Lodges in the respective localities.

By reference to the *General History, &c.*, aforesaid, may be found the fact that "Provincial Grand Lodge, F. M. H." (whatever that means,) and which is doubtless a misprint for A. Y. M.—Ancient York Masons—never was organized, not to mention being "consecrated," neither in 1757, nor at any other time; and neither as No. 65 nor No. 66. In December, 1757, Lawrence Dermott, the acting Grand Master of the Ancients' Grand Lodge, organized but four or five years previously, granted a Provincial Grand Lodge warrant to certain brethren