

to be loyal to the rulers of any Masonic body ; but its loyalty to and admiration of Freemasonry, the world over, will be as positive and emphatic as our meagre abilities will admit. Where we find Masonic rulers discharging their duties faithfully we shall endorse or commend them, even if we stand alone, and when we feel that censure is needed nothing shall deter us from passing judgment. If Freemasonry has reached that ebb in Canada—and we believe it has not—when the truth is unpalatable, all we have to say is, God help Freemasonry.

### WOMEN AND FREEMASONRY.

A proposal is in the air to which we ask the attention of the Craft in Canada. We are not prepared to say off-hand whether we assent to or oppose it ; anyhow we think it worth discussion, and shall be glad to have an interchange of views on the matter. The idea is that an Order shall be established, not directly in connection with, but as an adjunct to, Freemasonry, that shall be open to the wives, sisters and daughters of members of our Order ; and that as members of such association they shall be enabled to lay claim to Masonic friendship or assistance should they so desire. A good deal is heard occasionally of the dislike of women to Masonry, as taking men away from their homes at times when the lady members of the family circle consider they have claims on our companionship. There is no very strong feeling of this kind, but there is such objection here and there ; and it is very probable that by the creation of some such Masonic sisterhood as here hinted at not only would this opposition be entirely swept away but that an added interest and influence might be created that would exert a beneficial influence for good on our Order. Those who have witnessed the wonderful aptitude

for organisation displayed in some societies of ladies in the United States and the marked success that has attended the work of the English Primrose League, cannot fail to recognize that there is much latent force in the friendly or hostile view that women may be induced to take of our brotherhood. Their present interest in it is considerable ; it is certainly worth our earnest consideration whether we cannot, for the good of Masonry, assimilate and invoke this friendly interest of the ladies both for their advantage and our own.

### CANVASSING FOR OFFICE.

The success of any institution depends upon the ability of those who administer its affairs. There is no royal road to success without ability and the power to exercise it. The world is full of laggards and men lacking determination of purpose. And there is a large number of bustling people, who measure their actions by the short space of time occupied in their performance, rather than by perfection. In ordinary every-day life these people are termed "hustlers." Another class, and it is also numerous, is that composed of persons who aim at a certain end or purpose, and in order to secure it no obstacle, not even a fellow-being's good name, is considered sacred.

The laggard may be elevated to a responsible position by the aid of friends, but his nature and disposition stamp him as a failure. The hustler may secure preferment, but his peculiarities compel even his friends to admit that he is a weak man when placed in authority.

The imperious man of haughty mien can never be a successful ruler or leader, as his resemblance to a cyclone is too marked to attract friends.

Among those who will seek advancement to preside over our lodges at the approaching elections will be found representatives of the above classes. Will Freemasonry prosper ; or its code