

which show that there is no rule without an exception. The American system, being powerful and effective for America, naturally, almost affects its Canadian neighbors, and therefore, we cannot be surprised if American customs and American precedents are often quoted triumphantly, as if decisive of Canadian arrangements. But the English lodges in Montreal,—perfectly legal bodies, Masonically, and by the express Acts of the Legislature,—more legal in every sense than their assailant, the Quebec Grand Lodge—do not profess to be governed by American, but by English Masonic law. In England, the law of residence of a candidate is very wide and liberal. A Freemason living in London, but being at Keswick, say for a longer or shorter time, might be proposed and balloted for, and accepted in a Keswick lodge, perfectly naturally and properly. In all provinces there is some little objection experienced, to persons from one town being balloted for in another, and cases have occurred where a person balloted for and rejected in one town in a province, has been proposed and accepted in another. We must bear in mind that rejection on the ballot is not an absolute proof of unfitness for Freemasonry. It is so admittedly in a quasi sense “prima facie,” but is not so, we repeat, absolutely. We have to “go behind” the ballot, so to say, often, if we can, to see how or why the rejection took place; and, as it sometimes happens, that candidates are rejected for no valid reason, it is not an actual bar to a fresh ballot in another lodge, that a candidate has been black-balled in another. It is an element, if it comes before us, which has to be taken into consideration, that is all. It by no means constitutes an absolute bar or objection to admittance into a lodge. The lodge of St. George seems to have acted reasonably, legally, Masonically; and we repeat, that the English Freemasons in Montreal have done no wrong legally, Mason-

ically, civilly, or socially; they are simply persecuted for their Masonic loyalty, at a time, too, when rowdiness, boycotting, and dynamiting, seem in some quarters to be the “order of the day.”

R. & S. MASTERS.

The Grand Council of the Dominion of Canada, Royal and Select Masters, will meet in the Masonic Hall, Hamilton, on Friday, the 10th July next, at 9 a.m. The Executive Committee will meet in the Royal Hotel, Hamilton, on Thursday evening, 3th July, at 8 p. m., for the transaction of general business. As business of importance will be considered, it is earnestly hoped that every duly qualified member of Grand Council will be present. We hope to see the friends of this pretty and interesting rite present in large force, and trust that from this meeting the order may again spring into active life and prosperity.

“PUBLIC GRAND HONORS.”—Grand Master Roots of Arkansas, describes these as follows:—“The public Grand honors (not funeral honors), should be given by the raising of the hands above and a little in front of the head, and clapping them three times together, and then letting them fall to the side repeating this action twice, that is in all bringing the hands together three times three times. (!!! !!! !!!).”

Bro. Henry T. Helmbold, the famous “Buchu” man, has at last been released from the lunatic asylum, in Philadelphia, which happy result he owes to the indefatigable efforts of his devoted and faithful wife. We have never believed that Dr. Helmbold was insane, but was the victim of a conspiracy to rob him of his justly-earned money.—*Corner Stone.*