

December.

To the Editor of THE CRAFTSMAN.

SIR,—This is the month in which the majority of our Lodges elect their officers, and is also the time in which one clause of our Constitution is openly, shamelessly and unreprievedly violated. The clause referred to is Art. 8, under the head "Of Members and their duty," and reads thus, "No Brother shall presume to print or publish, or cause to be printed or published, the proceedings of any Lodge, or any part thereof, or the names of the persons present at such Lodge, without the direction of the Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master, under pain of being expelled from the Order." The violation referred to is that the list of officers elect for the ensuing year is forthwith published within 2 or 3 days in the secular press, without the sanction of the authorities named in the Constitution. It is obvious such a course would be a violation of the Constitution, *even after installation has taken place*, unless permission was first had, but it seems doubly wrong in view of the fact that before installation can take place the brethren must express themselves *satisfied with their choice*. Consequently there is no immediate hurry for the outside world to be made acquainted with the names of our officers until the matter is settled beyond a doubt. To such an extent has this folly gone that elections of Lodge officers have been telegraphed as a news item from one Canadian city to another just as soon as they occurred. What can be the motive of publishing such information I am at a loss to imagine, unless to gratify the childish vanity of the "elect." It may be that some of these culpables will tell you that it was done in ignorance that it was a violation of any prescribed rule. If so, I ask, are men possessed of so little information about the Constitution, fit and proper persons to entrust with the ruling and destinies of a

Lodge. Is it any wonder that the Craft, under such circumstances, should present the appearance of confusion worse confounded? Some of the disgrace is no doubt attributable to the supineness of the D. D. G. M.'s, who do not seem to have been equal to the occasion, their oath of office to the contrary notwithstanding. It may be that having an axe to grind in the line of an eye to future office holding, they have been unwilling to risk their ephemeric popularity by sternly putting the law in force and punishing the offenders. It remains to be seen if the present representatives of the G. M. are any better than their predecessors, or will permit matters to roll along in their present slipshod course. I trust, however, it will only be necessary to draw attention to the subject to prevent its recurrence, or else let the other course be taken and the unpopular clause be eliminated from the Constitution, so that these ambitious brethren may enjoy without restraint their longed for glory and their one day's additional press notoriety. As many interested transgressors will regard this as a growl it may be appropriate to use as a signature the name of

CEREBUS.

#### Editorial Notes.

WE learn from the London *Freemason* that R. W. Bro. John Hervey, for many years Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, is about to retire from office, owing to failing health. Bro. Hervey has, during the term of his official career, endeared himself to every English Mason by his marked kindness and courtesy to all who have had occasion to transact any business; and it will be extremely difficult to find one to replace him, who will possess a larger or more varied experience, and a deeper knowledge of the arcana of Masonic law and custom.

THE regular Quarterly Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was