

The Canadian Craftsman.

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GRAND LODGE OF "CANADA."

The general custom of giving to Masonic Grand Bodies the names of the countries (or the sub-divisions of countries) over which they exercise jurisdiction, is a very happy one.

This goodly practice comports with what is right and just,—is also a great convenience,—prevents many mistakes, and avoids much confusion. The names of Grand Lodges have therefore not infrequently been changed.

The question has often been raised both at home and abroad, whether the Grand Lodge of Canada ought not to change its name, since its formerly geographically correct designation, was, by the Imperial "British North America Act, 1867," transferred to the whole Confederation.

The discussion of this question has not always been conducted in the most conciliatory manner, and hence perchance, a final decision thereon has been unduly deferred.

It appears to us that the time has now arrived when not only this question of re-christening, but all connected therewith and involved therein,—should be taken up,—judiciously considered,—and fraternally acted upon by all true Craftsmen in this goodly Province of Ontario.

In the adjustment of all such matters not affecting the "Landmarks," or involving fundamental principles, mutual concessions must frequently be made, and such are often to the general advantage of the craft. For instance, it will be readily called to mind, that we owe the happy designation, "Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons" to the wise concessions of the so-called "Ancients" and "Moderns," the union of whom auspiciously resulted in the formation

of "The United Grand Lodge of England" in 1818.

If, as we hope, it will be decided to change the name "G. L. A. F. & A. M. of Canada," to the Grand Lodge or the United Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Ontario,—there might, for a time at least, be placed, after the new name, a brief explanatory parenthetical clause. The name proposed in the new Constitution is clumsy, and does not get over the difficulty that exists in the present title.

The question of name involves that of union; and in the question of union is involved much which pertains to the future welfare of the Craft in Ontario. Let us have union.

"QUEBEC'S DIVARICATION."

In a late number of "The Voice of Masonry," M. W. Bro. Bromwell, of Colorado, many years ago G. M. of Illinois, has been telling "what he knows" about the "Quebec-England" controversy; and in "The (London) Freemason" of February 19, Bro. Woodford has been "picking out of it" some crumbs of comfort, and he has framed a few extracts therefrom, and some comments of his own, into one of his "keep on keeping on" anti-Quebec "leaderettes" under Bro. Bromwell's ponderous "double entendre" heading,—*"Quebec's Divarication."*

Bro. B. asks *inter alia*, (and Bro. W. approvingly quotes)—"What American jurisdiction, ever demanded the surrender of lodge charters older than itself, and its claim was allowed by the general voice of the Grand Lodges of the world?"

Bros. B. and W. evidently think that this is a clincher. Now, if "spike this big gun" of theirs, will they "give it up?" Let us see. *VIRGINIA.*—In 1779, the Grand Lodge of Virginia in the exercise of her constitutional prerogatives