

The Canadian Craftsman.*Port Hope, March 15, 1883.***THE QUESTION OF THE HOUR.**

For over quarter of a century the Grand Lodge of Canada has suffered its merited punishment in having accepted *conditional* recognition from the mother Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland. She has patiently borne with the unconstitutional treaty, by which she sold her birthright of exclusive sovereignty for "a mess of pottage," thrown to her from the banquet halls of the mother-country. For years, she has permitted, without a protest, lodges to exist within her jurisdiction, defying her authority and sneering at her laws—*lodges claiming to be her peers*, and giving degrees whenever and wherever they liked, accepting rejected material and wilfully violating every constitutional right acknowledged by Grand Lodges on this continent. She even followed in the footsteps of her mother, the Grand Lodge of England, when her daughter—the Grand Lodge of Quebec—was organized, and *to this day* has never supported that Grand Lodge in her noble efforts to uphold her dignity and maintain her sovereignty. No; with folded hands she sat silent and calm, when she saw the authority of the Grand Lodge of Quebec trampled upon and insulted by three unimportant bodies in Montreal, working under warrants of the Grand Lodge of England. She never backed her earnest protests, or aided M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham in his manly efforts to free Quebec from a thralldom that Canada had borne with impunity for

years. No, she has allowed her daughter to fight the battle alone, and now she receives her own reward.

These English Lodges, finding material scarce, (although they cheerfully accept "the rejected" by the legitimate lodges in Quebec), we repeat, these English lodges, finding material scarce in the Lower Province, have opened their maw for the black-balled candidates of Ontario. They have virtually announced to the Masonic world that their doors will fly open, *upon payment of a fee*, to those who cannot obtain admission elsewhere. These lodges have the power to pour forth upon our land a class of men that could never receive Masonic recognition at home. The Grand Secretary of England, so we understand, says "it is all right," and expects us to abjectly submit to it. Surely that official does not suppose that we are tamely to kiss his hand and bow the knee in a case like this. What object is there in the ballot and black-ball, if sneaky Jack and bilious Tom, rejected in Apex Lodge, No. 1, G. R. Canada, can go to Montreal, and after a short sojourn come back full-fledged Hiramites? Yet it can be done, and it has been done. St. George Lodge, Montreal, E. R., has accepted, initiated, passed and raised a gentleman whom Doric Lodge, Toronto, declined to receive. We say not a word about the party, and deeply regret the unpleasant position in which he is placed, but we protest in the name of Masonry against the OUTRAGE.

M. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada, has, we are glad to say, *spoken*, but he has not gone far enough. At a recep-