

the principal officers of the Order is, at this moment, the more important from the fact that the question was made to assume the shape of a party contest. It is no secret that, at the late general election, the Orange party lost the unity which it possessed on most former occasions. Both parties to the contest, in Upper Canada, played for Orange support; by both Orangeism was patronized. A new element had, of late, grown up in the Order. Persons who had no real sympathies with it had joined the Order, for political purposes. There were Canadian Orangemen, Scotch Orangemen, and English Orangemen. These were expected to give a good account of themselves at the general election. In this way, the unity of the Order was partly broken; and its strength was divided in favor of the two opposing parties, in the electoral battle. The element thus recently imported into the Order was striving for the mastery; and a scheme was set on foot for giving it a preponderance in the Grand Lodge of British America, at the annual meeting, which assembled, the other day, at London. The battle was to be fought on party grounds. The question was to be made ministerial or anti-ministerial. Who was to be the Opposition candidate for Grand Master? That was the difficulty. Hon. J. H. CAMERON was pitched upon; but it was soon discovered that he had not advanced to those degrees which constitute eligibility; and some accident intervened to prevent a special dispensation in his favor. He was, therefore, out of the pale. Other names were canvassed; but a great difficulty presented itself. No respectable man, with a chance of election, could be found.

"The list of the officers elect proves that those who sought to make the election an occasion of party victory, have sustained a party defeat. They were unable to present a single man whose election