

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

ENGLISH RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

WHILST we are pleased to observe that our English brethren are not unmindful of the progress being made by Freemasonry in the United States, we are at the same time surprised that its march in Canada is wholly ignored. For instance, the London *Freemason* expresses wonder and admiration at the growth of Freemasonry in the United States, but has not a word to say about what is being done in this country, which is certainly nearer and dearer to the old land than any other on this side of the Atlantic. There can be no excuse on the score of want of information, for the leading Masons and Masonic journals of England must know as much of Masonry here as on the other side of the dividing line. The principle of universal brotherhood among Masons could not surely be affected by a simple recognition of such a place as Canada, which it was easy for the *Freemason* to have included in its expression of wonder "for the growth of Freemasonry in that far-off land." It is from the proceedings of "some American Grand Lodges" that our good brother of the *Freemason* gathers the intelligence of the progress the Craft is making in the United States; and even from those very proceedings he might have learned something too of the progress Canada is making. If that were not sufficient he had our own Annual Proceedings, and the columns of the *CRAFTSMAN* to refer to. But, unhappily, Canada is regarded in England as a sort of *terra incognita*, consequently little attention is given to what is going on in it. The "far-off land," otherwise the United States, has greater attractions for both English speakers and writers, hence Canada scarcely costs them a thought, notwithstanding it is part and parcel of the great British Empire.

This seeming neglect, we may as well tell the *Freemason*, has a discouraging effect, inasmuch as we look to the great lights of Masonry in England for that encouragement we have a right to expect. It is not that we are helpless without it, for no country has exhibited greater Masonic energy and spirit, nor has the march of progress been excelled anywhere. When we reflect that in less than twenty years Canada has become a power, so to speak, in the Masonic world, we cannot but think it is entitled to at least a bare mention when Masonry in America becomes the theme of discussion. Even California, with its 198 lodges, finds mention in preference to this Dominion, with its more than three hundred lodges. We are not disposed to find fault with the highly eulogistic tone in which our contemporary speaks of Freemasonry in the United States, for it is doubtless well deserved; we only question the propriety of omitting the important fact, in speaking of Freemasonry in "that far-off land," that there is such a place as Canada in America. Would it not be well for the *Freemason* to make a note of it for future reference?

THE NEW GRAND MASTERS.

It is a proud boast of our brethren in England and Ireland, that Masonry in both countries now rests under the near shadow of the throne, since in the former the Grand Master is the Prince of Wales, and in the other the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Lieutenant of that country. With the defection of the Marquis of Ripon, a gloom was thrown over Eng-