

of a Supreme Body, entered the room and organized what they term a Grand Lodge of their own, keeping the name of the old Grand Lodge, and actually claiming, in the face of this most glaring usurpation of power, that they are a continuation of the old Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland towards her sister of Quebec pales with insignificance at the dishonorable, tricky conduct of the secessionists of the Prairie Province.

Personalities, too, amongst the Masons of New South Wales, since the formation of an independent Grand Lodge there, are of so outrageous a character that a Mason actually blushes as he reads the *Australian Freemason*, whose editor, a clergyman, is so fierce in his diatribes that he apparently rejoices at the fact that brethren acknowledging the authority of different jurisdictions are *cutting each other in the streets*. Oh! Masonry, blush, and hide thy head with thy mantle of charity, when such things are done in thy hallowed name.

It is these personalities that so de-grade Masonry in the eyes of the outside world. We have seen it over and over again at the formation of new Grand Lodges, and at the institution or revival of different rites, and we warn those brethren high in office that they should curb it wherever it exists and whenever it appears. Let contending parties appeal to a tribunal composed of a commission selected from leading brethren of a neighboring Grand Jurisdiction, and leave them, after hearing both sides, to settle the case. If such a course had been agreed upon by the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Quebec, Peace now would be installed in their midst, and so it will have to be in Manitoba, or anarchy and confusion worse confounded will reign in the Craft for years to come, and so should it be between different rites, when there is any cause for just complaint between them.

The moment a man becomes a Ma-

son he should sink self and personal interest in love for the Craft universal, and then he necessarily would be above those personalities that at times lower the man and debase and de-grade the Mason.

Grand Mark Lodge of England.

BY G. F. JR.

I am just in receipt of copy of proceedings of semi-annual communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, held on December 3, 1878, in Freemason's Hall, London. In the absence of the Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick occupied the throne. A large number of distinguished brethren were present. The following is culled from the report of the General Board: The amount received for fees in six months to September 30th, £812 5s 6d, and during same period thirteen new warrants were issued, including one in North Africa, three in Bengal, one in Demerara, and one in Jamaica; at the tenth annual festival, held in July, 1875 4s 0d was raised; certain grants for assistance to needy brethren were made, and the general funds now invested stand: General Fund, £1,000, and Benevolent Fund, £1,000. The Board also recommended the Grand Master be authorized to take charge of "certain Orders,"—Ark Mariner was included, though I note several Lodges work the Ark Mariner's Degree,—the Grand Lodge laid the matter over, although the "Order of Knight of St. Lawrence" was suggested. All I can say is, I pity the Grand Officers of the Grand Mark Lodge of England when they "frizz" "on the Grid-iron of St. Lawrence," and suffer the terrible penalties attached to this most solemn degree. There are ten time-immemorial Lodges and two hundred and forty others. The membership is now about 11,000. There is an excellent educational branch in connection with the benevolent fund.