

can ever forget the fearful "sell" which they played off on the cowans and eavesdroppers that night among the shingles.

Masonic News.

NEW BRUNSWICK MASONIC HALL FAIR.—This fair will be held in the Masonic Hall, city of St. John, in September next. The officers of the General Committee are: Robert Marshall, Grand Master, Chairman; John V. Ellis, Past Grand Master, Deputy Chairman; T. Nesbit Robertson, Past Grand Director of Ceremonies, Secretary; James McNichol, Jr., Grand Treasurer, Treasurer. Contributions may be sent to either of the above. Address, St. John, N. B.

A CORRESPONDENT in the *Scottish Freemason* expresses the opinion that they, as Freemasons under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, are very much to blame for what appears to him to be the very unmasonic act which has been committed by their Grand Lodge against the Grand Lodge of Quebec, in granting charters and establishing a Provincial Grand Lodge in Montreal. He thinks that the very least the Grand Lodge of Scotland ought to do, for the honor and dignity of Masonry, is to cancel the two charters granted, and also that of the Provincial Grand Lodge, permitting Elgin Lodge to hold its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Scotland. We have thought from the beginning of this unseemly embroglio, that mutual concessions, and a display of true Masonic spirit on both sides, is all that is wanted to heal the wound that has been made in the body Masonic. Both the parties, we contend, are in the wrong. If each will recede from the false step taken, and act upon the above suggestion, peace and harmony will once more be restored.

THE YORK RITE.—This is the name given to the system of degrees prac-

ticed in English and American Lodges though it has deviated somewhat from its original purity, especially in this country, where it exists only in name; the forms, ceremonies and language differing as much from those used in England as they do from the Scottish, or any other rite. The name is derived from the city of York, where the first Grand Lodge of England was held. The ancient York Rite originally consisted of but three primitive degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, but in this country there have been added the four degrees—Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch, as conferred in Chapters, the last of which is said to be the summit and perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry; Royal and Select Masters, conferred in the Council; and the chivalric Orders of Knighthood, as conferred in Commanderies, thus making a series of eleven degrees and orders, which ought to be termed the American System or Rite. In England there are given, in addition to the three symbolic degrees, two others, the Holy Royal Arch and Knights Templar, the other degrees being considered as honorary or side degrees. Attempts have been made of late to have the Mark degree recognized as legitimate by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, but thus far, without success.—*Columbia Courant*.

Our brethren among the Kanucks seem to have a heap of trouble on hand just now, and are entitled to our sympathies. First in the Province of Ontario, justly and legally occupied by the Grand Lodge of Canada, there is a spurious organization calling itself the Grand Lodge of Ontario, with no more right to exist there than would belong to an organization of profanes calling itself Masonic. Naturally enough all is fish that comes to its net, and any one, including rejected candidates, is received with open arms. In the Province of Manitoba there is another spurious Grand Lodge, led by a