

the matter stands. I wish distinctly to be understood as expressing no opinion on the merits of the question with reference to the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as the correspondence and documents on the subject have never been read in the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, or even placed on the table where I could have access to them."

ST. JOHN'S DAY.

MASONIC LODGES in ancient times were dedicated to King Solomon. Tradition informs us that they were thus dedicated from the building of the first temple of Jerusalem to the Babylonish captivity. From that time till the coming of the Messiah, they were dedicated to Zerubbabel, the building of the second temple; and from that to the final destruction of the temple by Titus, in the reign of the Emperor Vespasian, they were dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Owing to the massacres and disorders which attended that memorable event, Freemasonry fell very much into decay. Many of the Lodges were broken up, and few could meet with sufficient members to constitute their legality. Under these circumstances, a general meeting of the Craft was held in the city of Benjamin, when it was observed that the principal decline of Masonry was the want of a Grand Master to direct its affairs. They therefore deputed seven of the most eminent of their members to wait upon St. John the Evangelist, who was at that time Bishop of Ephesus, to request him to take the office of Grand Master. He returned for answer that, though well stricken in years (being upwards of ninety), yet having been in the early part of his life, initiated into Masonry, he would take upon himself the office. He did so, and completed by his learning what St. John the Baptist had accomplished by his zeal. After his decease the Christian Lodges were dedicated to him and St. John the Baptist, both of them being regarded as eminent Christian patrons of Masonry. Since then Masons have ever celebrated the 24th of June in commemoration of St. John the Baptist, and the 27th of December in commemoration of St. John the Evangelist.—"*Masonic Trowel*."

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE.

A special assembly of the Hamilton Sovereign Chapter Rose Croix was called for the purpose of receiving Ill. Bro. T. D. Harington 33°, Representative of the Supreme Grand Council, on the 18th ult.—but owing to his sudden illness that Ill. Bro. was unable to be present. The work however set apart for the evening was proceeded with, and having had the pleasure of being present we can testify to the excellent and careful manner, in which the beautiful grade of 18°, or Sovereign Prince Rose Croix was conferred. The Chapter is fully supplied with the necessary paraphernalia and fittings, and the officers are well up in their work. The degrees from the 4th to the 18th inclusive, are conferred in a proper and impressive manner, and we are glad to learn that applications for admission to this Chapter have been, and are being, received from different parts of the Province. The greatest credit is due to Ill. Bro. J. W. Murton 33°, for his untiring efforts to promote the best interests of the chapter, and to his zeal in its behalf, its present high position is mainly attributable.