

they are now suspended, and although they cannot attend the Lodge, or even wear their aprons at a Masonic funeral, find their dues running on and their position becoming monthly worse and worse.

We appeal to all honest brethren, we would say *honest men*, if they think such a clause as the above either just or honest, or honorable? If the suspended brother were sick, he would not be aided; if he died he would not be entitled to Masonic burial, and his widow and orphans would have no claim upon the Lodge; yet he, although deprived of all these privileges, is expected to contribute the same amount to the Lodge as a brother in good standing. We cannot conceive how this clause in the Constitution of these Grand Lodges has been allowed to remain a blot on our statute book for so long a period.

Again, the Constitution apparently is silent regarding the accumulation of annual dues against a member suspended for grossly immoral or unmasonic conduct, so we take it for granted that such a Brother has only to pay his dues up to the time of his suspension and *not during* the time of his suspension. What a still greater farce this makes it! A Brother, because he is poor, is kicked out and told politely to go to the mischief, and he can't return till not only his back dues are paid but also his annual dues are running on the same as if he had all the privileges of membership, and they must be paid, too, before he can be restored to membership, but the *black-guard*, who has *disgraced* the fraternity by his profanity, drunkenness or immoral conduct is suspended for a

year, and at the expiration of that time is restored to good standing, without this extra fine of a year's dues and St. John's fee, (as many Lodges have) which the really honest but poor brother has to pay for an offence he could not help, and an offence for which he should never have been suspended, and for which suspension the Lodge *has disgraced itself* and not the offender.

We hope at the meeting of the Grand Lodge, in September, to see this matter discussed, since, as it stands now, it is a disgrace to our statutes and a blot upon the fair escutcheon of Canadian Masonry.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

The twenty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada will be held in the City of Guelph, on Wednesday, the 13th day of August. Several notices are on the motion paper. One of these proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Grand Chapter, by striking out from Clause VI. of Subordinate Chapters, the words, "unless he be an installed Master or Past Master of a regular Lodge." The effect of this will be that the First Principal's Chair may be filled by one who has never received the Past Master's degree. We cannot see that this can be done, without making other alterations besides the mere wording of the Constitution. The matter should be well considered before this radical change is made. Another proposed amendment is the change of time for holding the annual Convocation, namely, from the fixed date to the Tuesday preceding or the Friday after