

punished, because, it is argued, it is a Masonic offence to reveal the secrecy of the ballot. Suppose it is, is it not also the duty (and the highest duty) of every Mason to uphold the honor and dignity of the Craft, and expose on every occasion a brother who wilfully and maliciously violates his sacred obligations. The ballot is sacred simply because it is one of the safe-guards of our ancient institution, but when it is outraged for the purpose of violating the principles and landmarks of the fraternity, there should be no hesitation in at once revealing its nature.

Of course, we do not pretend to say that any Master and Wardens have been guilty of this offence. But it is the chit-chat of the clubs, and the town talk of Toronto, and the case should be at once investigated. The District Deputy of the Toronto District should not allow a day or an hour to pass by without ordering a strict and searching investigation. If these men prove they cast black-balls, and the officers announced a contrary decision, there will be only one course to pursue, and in the meantime the warrant of such a Lodge should be suspended, as it is evident from this and other acts that the harmony of the Lodge has long been destroyed and the conflicting elements have rendered it a disgrace to the Fraternity. If, on the other hand, it is proven these men who say they cast their black-balls, did not do so, but only talked for the purpose of maligning the officers, they are liable to punishment. The case, however, is of too flagrant a character to pass by unnoticed, and if the D. D. G. M. does not, at once, take proceedings, the Grand Master should not delay an instant in enforcing the strictest and most thorough investigation of the case.

Secretaries of lodges and other Masonic bodies, are requested to forward items of Masonic interest.

THE AGNOSTIC CASE.

Our American Masonic contemporaries are continuing to harp upon the so-called "Agnostic case" of the Grand Lodge of Canada. As a matter of fact, the brother so wrongfully treated, according to the report of the Board of General Purposes (Vid. Proceedings of G. L. of Canada, 1885, page 158, reported): "Bro. Harrison also stated his belief in God, the Great Architect of the Universe; that God had revealed His will to man in the Volume of the Sacred Law, and that He would punish vice and reward virtue. He further stated, he had not the slightest contempt for God and Religion."

R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, D.G. M. moved, seconded by R. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem,—“That the Report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals, be received and adopted.” These able advocates of the laws upon which the universality of Freemasonry rests, at once grasped the vast import of the question, and would not permit themselves to be made the representatives of a creed or church. It was then that M. W. Bro. Kerr, and the Grand Secretary spoke with such vehemence and ardor from a sectarian standpoint, and by quoting from the Constitution of the Secular Society, which Bro. Harrison distinctly stated he did not approve of, succeeded in carrying the following amendment:—

Moved by M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, seconded by R. W. Bro. Allen McLean, and resolved,—“That the report be referred back to the Board with instructions to report, recommending that the charges against Bro. Harrison be referred to the M. W. the Grand