

Grand Lodge, at an early period of the session; and this would effect a great saving of time to all concerned. If these reports were forwarded as the Constitution says they should be, they could be printed in advance of the meeting, and distributed to the members at the opening of Grand Lodge. The members would then have time to consider the various suggestions which the experience of the District Deputy Grand Masters enables them to make towards the improvement of the Craft; and they could then vote more intelligently on these questions as they arise.

[CONCLUSION NEXT MONTH.]

### Personalities Amongst Masons.

BY G. F., JR.

There are many brethren who cannot, when any difference of opinion arises in the brotherhood relative to some Masonic topic, rise above the level of the ward politician. Such men carry their personalities with them everywhere. In their homes, they are pompous, domineering prigs, in the street, their very swagger betrays them,—even in the house of God, they would not thank their Maker if that man Brown was there; and in the Lodge room they would oppose every measure introduced by Brother ———.

Now, these creatures, who have stepped through our portals by an accident, may be excused for their vulgarities and personalities, because nature has never endowed them with a sufficient *modicum* of common sense to enable them to understand that in Masonry we can have no personal ill-feeling toward a brother. We may not like a brother, personally, but that can be no reason why we are to allow that feeling to sink into personal differences between that brother and ourselves. His habits, temperament, education, and tastes, entirely differ from ours, but with that we have not anything to do. What Ma-

sons should strive to do is to discover the pleasing features of a brother's disposition, and not the defects of his character, then no quarrels could arise, and personalities amongst Masons would cease.

But, unfortunately, there is another class of Masons for whom we can offer no excuse,—we allude to brethren high in the Craft, who are "Princes and Rulers in Israel," and to whom the Craft look up for advice and learning. When these men fall from their high estate, and soil their aprons, and disgrace their jewels by forgetting their honored positions, it is time that the Craft should pronounce against them. We care not how high the station or exalted the rank of a brother, who so far forgets his position as to malign a brother, or set of brothers, who for argument uses abuse, and for rational debate and liberal discussion indulges in base innuendoes and contemptible personalities.

The day for these things has passed, and Masons should learn to respect each others honest convictions. There are many questions on which the best Masonic jurisconsults honestly differ. There are many branches of Masonry towards which some brethren are strenuously opposed, whilst on the other hand others equally learned, and equally honest, strongly support. Under these circumstances, there is no reason why there should not be friendly discussion and open argument on "moot" points, without either party assuming the *locus standi* of the ward politician.

Fortunately, we say, in Ontario and Quebec (although the latter is grievously wronged,) such personalities do not exist, at least to any extent amongst the Craft, but in another Province of the Dominion the most flagrant outrages have been committed by a certain number of brethren in the name of Masonry. Men, without notice, have, during the interim between the calling off and calling on