

fied in refusing to permit a Brother to retire from a Lodge at a regular meeting, after the transaction of the routine business, and before commencing to confer degrees, and particularly if the hour was then ten p. m., or after? 2. Could the Brother wishing to retire persist in leaving the room, in the face of the W. M. refusing his permission? Kindly state the proper course to pursue in such a case, as I do not think the arbitrary exercise of authority by a W. M. should be permitted in this manner, as occasion might arise when a member would be put to great inconvenience by being compelled to remain during the pleasure of the W. M..

A.—The Worshipful Master is absolute when presiding in Lodge. From his decision there is no appeal in the Lodge. His orders must be obeyed. No Brother can refuse compliance with his mandates. If any Brother believes himself to be aggrieved by an order of the Master, his duty is to obey the order, and then bring the matter before a higher authority.

The Master, however, should not be arbitrary in the exercise of his functions. His power is great, and he should, on that account, be more careful to do nothing unjust or unfair to any brother. For any arbitrary or uncalled-for exercise of his powers he is amenable to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge, and is liable to punishment therefor.

We consider that the Master should allow any brother to retire who wishes to do so, unless there is some very strong reason for refusal, or unless it would leave the Lodge without a quorum. The request, of course, should be made at a convenient time, so as to cause as little interruption of

the business as possible, and not while a degree is being conferred, or while a ballot is being taken.

We do not see how a brother could "persist in leaving the room" without permission, if the I. G. does his duty.

Cryptic Masonry.

ANNUAL MEETING OF ADONIRAM COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

The Annual Assembly of Adoniram Council of Royal and Select Masters, No. 2, G. R. C., was held on Wednesday, 6th August last, in the new and elegantly furnished Convocation Hall, situate in the Victoria Hall, Victoria street, Toronto. After the transaction of general business the following officers were duly elected, and installed by R. Ill. Comp. J. G. Burns, D. G. M. of the Grand Council of Ontario, assisted by R. Ill. Comp. John Ross Robertson, Inspector-General Toronto Division:—V. Ill. Comp. George C. Patterson, Th. Ill. M.; R. Ill. Comp. John McKee, P. Th. Ill. M.; Ill. Comp. John S. Dennis, D. M.; Ill. Comp. John Patton, P. C. of W.; Ill. Comp. John K. Brydon, Secretary (re-elected); M. Ill. Comp. Daniel Spry, Treasurer; Ill. Comp. P. J. Slater, C. of G.; Comp. Wm. Mansfield, Conductor; Comp. Joseph Purves, Organist; Ill. Comp. S. R. Quigley, Steward; Comp. John Linton, Sentinel. A large number of Companions were present. After installation the Council adjourned to the festive board, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

St. John's Masonic Fair.

We have already called attention to the Masonic Fair, to be held next month, in the city of St. John, New Brunswick. As the Fair is in aid of the Building Fund of Freemason's Hall, now near its completion, to replace the building which, with all the