

that I notice the drifting into that channel of our elections, and I fear we are being so betrayed that we will have ample opportunities of regretting the occurrences. In no jurisdiction under God's sun is such bare-faced nominating, canvassing and dragooning for office carried on as is now being adopted in this province, and unfortunately with the approval, if not the connivance, of some who aspire to the Grand East. I sound a note of warning, and leave it with my readers to ponder over.

THE PESSIMISTIC MASON.

The pessimistic Mason is abroad and we have all met him. He is generally a non-affiliate, and his particular prey is the younger members of the Craft. He generally wears the symbols of the Order he has forsaken because there is some money in advertising in those degenerate days. Yes, he is a Mason, so he says; but his brotherly love has turned to mockery and his charity to selfishness. He always has his sign out and wants to make himself known as a craftsman. If asked by a young mason what lodge he belongs to, this is his formula: "Oh I have given up such foolishness, long ago, I have seen what I want of Freemasonry. You are young and enthusiastic, now tickled with a straw, but you will get over that. I have not been inside a lodge room for years," this with an air of superiority.

Webster or some other wise man said that when you hear an immigrant speaking ill of his native land make up your mind that he left his country for his country's good. It is the same with Masonry. When you hear a man say that he has left the Craft and that it is vanity and vexation of spirit, make up your mind that it was a sorry day for Masonry when he was first admitted. Rare old Ben Jonson says that "true happiness consists not in the multitude of friends, but in the worth and choice."

Everything depends upon this choice and the pessimistic or the selfish man should never pass the ballot. They are both dangerous. When you see a man using the Craft as a ladder to public favour be assured that sooner or later he will kick the ladder down and heap curses and reproaches upon it because it did not carry him higher. Such men join the Craft for selfish purposes and for the very same reason they will leave it and even trample upon the most sacred rights to brotherhood.

RIGHTS OR PRIVILEGES OF AN INDUCTED W. M.

R. W. Bro. Henry Sikes, P. D. D. G. M., of Battleford, Saskatchewan, under date of April 8th, wrote us the following letter:—

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—

I enclose these questions submitted to me by some of the members of Battle Lodge, No. 38, G. R. M., which I submitted to our Grand Secretary for his opinion. I find his decision is against mine, owing to a decision given by M. W. Bro. Clark, Grand Master for Manitoba, in his address to Grand Lodge, 1889. Mine were based on law laid down in Mackey's Masonic Jurisprudence, 'Installation' page 296; 'W. Master,' 354 to 357; 'Warden,' 373. Would you kindly give your opinion of the same in your next issue of THE CRAFTSMAN, as I think the matter requires to be ventilated."

The questions submitted to R. W. Bro. Wm. G. Scott, Grand Secretary of Manitoba, together with his replies, were as follows:

"DEAR SIR AND R. W. BROTHER,— I am in receipt of your favor of the 17th March, submitting the following questions:—

"1. Has a Past Master of a lodge who was only inducted into the Master's chair by dispensation, and has not received the Past Master's degree, the power to induct his successor into or without a dispensation from Grand Lodge?