

The Canadian Craftsman.*Port Hope, October 15, 1887.***ANNUAL ELECTIONS.**

The time is at hand when many of the Lodges, Chapters, &c., will be called upon to select suitable brethren to fill the principal offices for the ensuing year.

The value and importance of the ancient and truly democratic annual election to Masonic office, cannot be overrated by the craft, and each brother is under the most solemn obligations so to cast his vote as to reward true merit, and as he conscientiously believes will be for the promotion of the best interests of the lodge, the chapter, &c., and of the Order, apart from all other considerations.

We are sufficiently old-fashioned to believe that he who knowingly does otherwise, is verily guilty of great wrong doing and merits condign punishment. He who in any degree, imports into Freemasonry, the base methods of the politician, is wholly unworthy of membership in the Order, and the sooner the place that once knew him therein, shall know him no more, the better it will be.

Those who are elected to the East, or to other important offices, should not only be brethren of unusual merit, but they should be known to be thoroughly up in their "work," or give certain promise that they will, without fail, forthwith become so. They should also be well versed in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and thoroughly acquainted with the By-laws of their own Lodge, or Chapter, &c., as the case may be.

They who affect to belittle perfectness in ritualism, know little of what they speak. All officers of Masonic Bodies, should aim at the greatest possible perfection in ritual and all ceremonial observances. Matter and manner should always, however, be happily blended and combined. *Vox et præterea nihil*, a voice and nothing more, is indeed an empty and un-availing sound, but words having body, soul and spirit, when fittingly expressed, are like apples of gold in pictures of silver;—and above all in Masonic work, let it ever be remembered that it is the spirit,—the truly fraternal spirit, which giveth life. Neither should it be forgotten, that in a large and comprehensive sense,—manner makes the man; the master. It is also largely true that as is the Master such generally will be the lodge. Let the best possible material be placed in the East, West and South,—well and truly representing the pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty! Craftsmen, faithfully do your whole duty at the forthcoming annual elections.

MASONRY IN MEXICO.—There are six distinct Grand Bodies of Masons in the Republic of Mexico. Three are working according to the Scotch Rite and their transactions are in Spanish; one in the German tongue under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg; another transacts its business, etc., in French under a warrant from the Grand Orient of France; that in English is under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, United States of America. The oldest Masonic organization is called "the Supreme Grand Orient of Mexico." This Supreme Grand Body has Lodges in every State in the Republic.—*Ex.*