

members of the Craft in that colony can very properly proceed to form a Grand Lodge without being accused of ingratitude or hostility to the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland or Scotland. A union of the lodges in that colony, that now owes allegiance to British constitutions, into one grand body, would certainly be in the interests of the Craft, and Bro. Gordon, the correspondent alluded to, should not allow the agitation which he has started to cease until it bears fruit. From the advertising pages of the *Journal*, we find that there are fourteen English lodges, one Irish, and sixteen Scotch. If these thirty-one lodges were incorporated into one Grand Lodge, the little jealousies and bickerings that so frequently exist where rival bodies seek or claim supremacy, would be entirely wiped out, and the onward march of Freemasonry greatly accelerated.

A communication has been received from a brother who says Grand Master Walkem was guilty of favoritism in distributing Grand Lodge honors, because a lodge in the west end that had an elected office last year, now enjoys an appointed office. Our brother is slightly astray regarding favoritism. In making appointments the Grand Master is invariably guided by some brethren, generally the D.D.G.M's., who claim what the politicians call their right to patronage. It is absurd to expect that the Grand Master could distribute honors all over the province from his personal knowledge of the brethren, and consequently it is unfair to accuse him of favoritism because he accepts suggestions from those who should be best able to advise him. Even

if the Grand Master were to step out of his way to give a worthy brother, who was a personal friend of his, an office, would he not be justified in doing so? Most emphatically he would.

The Grand Master has decided upon 21a as the number of St. John's lodge, at Vankleekhill. This lodge it will be remembered, has been working for a number of years under an Irish warrant at L'Original, and is the last foreign lodge in Ontario to be registered on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Canada. The brethren of St. John's were anxious for No. 8 on the Grand Registry of Canada, that number being vacant, but as 21a gives them their rank on the register according to the lodge, they should be satisfied. In the event of a re-numbering of the lodges in this jurisdiction in the future, St. John's would then take its proper position.

"FEES SENT HOME."

The outcry that has been raised in some quarters—not at all influential quarters we are happy to say—about the onerous nature of the "tax" for fees sent to the Grand Lodge of England, has caused us in the interests of truth to look the matter up. And we give the result of our investigation. This "tax" resolves itself into a remittance of 7s. 6d (say two dollars) for the registration of initiation, and 2s. 6d. (say fifty cents) for joining members; the charge including in the former case the cost of the Grand Lodge certificate. There is nothing in the shape of "annual fees," as we have seen stated, sent to England. For this payment members of colonial