

tically to the assistance of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, that an isolation, that is an isolation in reality, is a thing not to be courted. It is possible English obstinacy may succeed in producing a discord in the Masonic world that if produced by any other power they would themselves be the first to resent and might perchance be the first to attempt to again reduce to harmony. In this struggle for our inherent rights Quebec Masons must not forget that the men who only express such wavering opinions as to practically mask their real convictions, by explaining away at the end of their remarks anything they may have said previously with any pith in it, will find themselves in the rear rank of obscurity, these time servers who express their views in such a gingerly manner for fear of annoying their opponents or hurting their feelings, while at the same time they are affording them a chance for success in depriving them of their rights, that they never would have had, had the proper amount of energy and plain speaking been exercised in the contest. What we require and must have in this matter is a strict adherence to principle and no wavering in the lines we have laid down as our platform. It must be carried out strictly to the letter and in this we feel we can rely on our present Grand Master whose judgment has never been warped by the phantasmagoria of diplomacy or the never so far realized events that are just about to restore peace and harmony to this

JURISDICTION.

Montreal, Oct. 5887.

At a meeting of St. John's Chapter, R. A. M., Hamilton, recently, R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, of the Grand Chapter of Canada, was presented with a magnificent regalia and address in token of the appreciation of his services in the office which he has held for ten years.

PAST MASTER.

A useful Past Master is one who is diligent in his attendance at the Lodge, one who did not go through the chairs merely *pro forma*, but was in truth as well as in name a Master. His growth as a Mason continues until the day of his death. He is a teacher who is always a learner. His education as a Mason he feels is never completed. He watches, with the closest interest, all the proceedings of the Lodge, speaks whenever he can impart wisdom, and is silent when he has nothing to say. He aids the Master in the skillful government of the Lodge. He temporarily takes the chair for him when requested, and is always able to perform the work. Such a Past Master is both useful and ornamental.

The purely ornamental Past Master is one who loses not his interest in the Lodge sufficiently to be induced to remain absent from it—but who, when present, is satisfied to sit in the army of his confreres of like grade, be perfectly quiet when business is under discussion, and exceedingly noisy while work is in progress. Such a one may be a "good fellow," but he is only an ornamental Past Master. He occupies his place, but does not fill it. He visits his Lodge for his own amusement, not for the welfare of the Fraternity. He wears his jewel and wears his title, but he never wears himself.

The Past Master that is neither useful nor ornamental is one whose name graces the Lodge rolls as one of the Past Masters, but who is never present at a Lodge meeting. He, likely, never should have been Master, and the result is that practically he is not a Past Master—he is never seen in the "noble army" to which he belongs. The fewer the Craft has of these the better for its welfare and reputation.—*Freemasons' Chronicle*, London.