

or, to find the brethren sitting round the ante-room at nine o'clock awaiting a quorum. And what must the candidate think, when he sees so little interest taken in the welfare of the lodge? First impressions often remain, and no lodge can afford to allow its neophytes to fancy that punctuality and regularity of attendance are matters of secondary importance.

We urge upon all, then, the great necessity of not only attending the lodge *punctually on time*, but with due and thorough regularity. Let the attendance at lodge be always *the first and most important engagement*.

THE Grand Chapter of Washington Territory has been recognized by the Grand Chapter of Quebec. This recognition would have been cordially extended at the recent meeting of Quebec, but for the fact that no information was before that body that the new Grand Chapter had the official recognition of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. We take pleasure in making this announcement, as we commented somewhat strongly on Quebec not extending recognition at its annual meeting, but it appears we had information of the action of the General Grand Chapter in advance of the Grand Z. of Quebec.

COMP. FRANK W. BAXTER has been made an honorary member of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. He certainly deserved some recognition of his services from that Grand Body, for which he has so long and nobly fought.

### PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS.

A great many of our confreeres still insist upon the "physical qualification" test being; a landmark of the fraternity. It is useless to point out to them that some of our brightest and ablest members are physically unqualified; it is useless to prove to them the gross injustice it does to many an honorable, upright and straightforward man; it is useless to tell them that the learned Hughan and every Masonic juris-consult in Europe says it is not a landmark, but an American innovation, and that no Grand Lodge in Europe recognizes it. Masonic writers on this continent have had it so ground into them by Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries and Foreign Correspondence Committees, that they can't divest themselves of the idea, and cling to the physical qualification test as if God Himself had announced it a landmark in the Garden of Eden.

To our mind, there is something very repulsive in this question of a short toe, a cataract in the eye, an epileptic fit, (as one Grand Master had it), a scarified hand, or a broken nose. Surely, [in Freemasonry, we need not care so much for the *physical* as the mental qualifications; yet these legislators would accept a nonentity in the form of an Apollo, and reject a Plato or a Milton or a Shakespeare, if he were minus a little toe or had a cataract in his eye. Such is the American dogma of physical qualification, and we call upon the Masonic fraternity to free themselves from such a blot upon the science of our craft.

If it were anything in former days,