

them. His rejection was made town gossip by some of the brethren, who went so far as to mention the names of those who cast the black balls. Of course the candidate has friends in both lodges, and the result is a deal of bad blood.

The brother who writes us asks what we can suggest to restore harmony, and also our opinion of the brethren who indulged in the black-ball gossip.

The easiest way to bring about a better condition of affairs is to stop gossiping. The candidate was largely to blame, but his name should not be handed about by thoughtless and silly people, even if they claim to be Masons. It is to be regretted that such a condition of affairs should exist, especially after the course of lectures that has been delivered with such unction throughout that section of our jurisdiction. As the purity of water is controlled by its source, so is the purity of Masonry maintained. It is absurd to expect a thorough exemplification of Masonry by scandal-mongers and gossipers, and it is equally absurd for a brother's tongue to hiss Masonic sentiments that are foreign to his heart. Masonry is one of the most abused institutions that ever existed and strange to say its abusers are those who have taken solemn obligations to maintain its purity.

PROFUSELY HONORED.

Supreme Grand Master Col. Macleod Moore has issued a circular to Presiding Preceptors, etc., which is to be read at three consecutive meetings of preceptories, and preserved. From a manuscript note on the margin of the circular we concluded that there was some little friction between the Grand Master and the Grand Chancellor, Frater Daniel Spry. The note read as follows:—"The Grand Chancellor having neglected to comply with the mandates of the Grand Master this circular was issued by the Grand Master this

27th day of February, 1890, and to be read as official." From an intimate knowledge of Frater Spry, and knowing that he is a firm believer in a loyal observance of those in authority, we concluded that his "neglect" was an oversight. After perusing the circular, however, we believe that the neglect was the result of deliberation, and Frater Spry's refusal to obey the mandates of the Grand Master a well-considered action. We arrived at this conclusion after reading the last paragraph in the circular, which is as follows:—

"The Grand Master being desirous of recording his unqualified approval of the consistent and invariably correct manner the statutes have been observed and the authorized ceremonial of Great Priory practised in the 'Cyrene Preceptory and Priory,' since its formation and establishment at Parkdale (now at Masonic Hall, No. 1,299 Queen Street West, Toronto), and to mark his high appreciation of its members so steadily adhering to the principles and precepts of the Templar Order, as also in carrying out his views on the meaning and object of the Reformed Templar Masonic system of Great Britain and Ireland in the Dominion, nominates the Preceptory and Priory as the 'CYRENE OF GRAND MASTER'S OWN PRECEPTORY AND PRIORY' of the Dominion of Canada, by which name it is to be designated in future, with the privilege of wearing on the ribbon, sash, or baldric the emblem of a palm branch with the motto *Palman qui meruit ferat*—Preceptors to wear the emblem embroidered in gold, members in silver. Also that the Presiding, or other Preceptor be *ex-officio* a member of the Grand Master's Council annually. The badge may also be used as the crest or other appropriate ornament of the Preceptory."

This is a strange proceeding, and one that will cause a great deal of comment. Doubtless Frater Spry saw the utter absurdity of such unwarrantable favoritism by the Grand Master, and his judgment overruled his loyalty, hence his