

The document before the Committee would make a respectable octavo volume, and there are involved many nice questions of fact as well as law—not only the law of the Order, but of Her Majesty's Province. With the first only are we concerned, as the Courts have been invoked to settle the latter.

After a laborious research, demanding great patience and critical examination, we find the following to be the facts material to the issue :—

First—Two members of Frontenac Division—George and Linton—who were also members of the Grand Division, were charged in their Subordinate Division with violating their obligations as Sons of Temperance, by publishing and circulating reports derogatory to the character of the Grand Division, and calculated materially to impair the usefulness of the Order.

Second—Charges were preferred against these Brothers in the Grand Division to the same effect. These Brothers, if guilty of ~~quietly~~ uttering these slanderous and scandalous reports and imputations upon the Grand Division, were certainly unworthy a place in any branch of our Order.

Third—A Committee, composed of some of the best men in the jurisdiction, were appointed to investigate the charges preferred against Brothers George and Linton before the Grand Division. After a careful and protracted investigation of the case, the Committee reported a resolution declaring them guilty, and recommending their expulsion from the Grand Division. This Report was adopted, and the recusant members expelled by a vote of about 70 to 2.

Fourth—The charge preferred in Frontenac Division was referred to a Committee, and two reports were made, one declaring them guilty, the other acquitting them. The Division refused to find them guilty. An appeal was taken to the Grand Division, and there the action of the Subordinate Division was reversed, and Frontenac Division was directed to expel them.

Fifth—Charges were preferred against Frontenac Division in the Grand Division for insubordination and rebellion, it appearing that some of its members were engaged in defaming the National and Grand Divisions, and exerting their united influence to break down the Order. The Division (George being W.P., and Linton R.S.) were maliciously co-operating in every assault made upon the integrity and reputation of the Order. These charges against the Division, after *full investigation*, were *sustained* in the Grand Division, and the following Resolution was passed :—

“Resolved—That the Grand Worthy Patriarch be delegated from this Grand Division to visit Frontenac Division, to counsel the members thereof, and *that he have power to suspend* said Division No. 2, or otherwise deal with it as he may deem expedient and necessary.”

In accordance with that Resolution, the Grand Worthy Patriarch did visit the Division, and, as appears of record, met them in the most fraternal spirit, and counselled them in love to yield to the authority of the Grand Division. After this interview and admonition, the Division, by a vote of 35 to 9, deliberately resolved to resist the authority of the Grand Division, by refusing to conform to its decisions. Thereupon the Grand Worthy Patriarch demanded the Charter, Books, Property, &c., in accordance with the By-laws of the Grand Division, and declared the Division suspended until the next meeting of the Grand Division; and in the face of these remonstrances took possession of the Charter.

The action of the Grand Worthy Patriarch was fully sustained by the Grand Division.

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