

were found to exist, and to the acquiring of the true work generally. I can truly say that the work and lectures are not only creditably but well rendered in all the Chapters visited. There is one practice, however—which is frowned upon by intelligent Masons everywhere—that is too often indulged in: a disposition to convert the ceremonies of reception in the R. A., and the symbolic journey from Babylon—so interesting and instructive when properly understood—into occasions for fun or the playing of jokes. It is not that the Companions of California are lacking in their appreciation of the lessons taught, or that they do not fully comprehend the sacredness of the truths revealed that causes this indulgence, but it is the result of a most pernicious custom and a desire to "get even" that is so natural in all men. The consequence is that many are sickened and repelled, instead of being interested and instructed, and to-day are Royal Arch Masons only in name, without appreciation, without love for a degree so capable of inspiring both. I have in every instance endeavored to correct this evil, but am sorry to say that my efforts have not been attended with the success they merited. Some definite action therefore, by this Grand Chapter I can but think would result in lasting good to the Royal Craft.

On the subject of the transfer of the Council degrees to the Chapter, the Grand Chapter approved of the action of Mississippi, and passed the following resolutions:—

"Resolved, That this Grand Chapter approves the general plan adopted by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Mississippi, having for its object the transfer of the degrees of Royal and Select Master to the Royal Arch Chapter.

"Resolved, That a special committee be appointed by the Grand High Priest, whose duty it shall be (acting conjointly with a committee to be appointed by the Most Puissant Grand Council) to petition the General Grand Chapter, for the necessary permission to accomplish the desired transfer.

"Resolved, That said committee be required (if the General Grand Chapter comply with the prayer of the petitioners), to present to this Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation, a detailed plan for the carrying into effect of the proposed transfer."

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized.

Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin reports on correspondence, and notices Canada for 1876. We make two extracts, shewing their practice in these matters to be different from ours, and from most of the other jurisdictions:—

"We are well aware that it was an 'ancient regulation,' and embodied in the 'Ancient Charges' that no brother could be a Master until he had served as a Warden, but it was not considered one of the 'Ancient Landmarks' which was to be preserved inviolate. Many of the 'Ancient Regulations' are not now in force, and we believe we are correct in saying that in many jurisdictions in this country this particular 'Ancient' is ignored. We will name, positively, but one,