

when the facts become known the sister Grand Chapters will hastily approve of our position and action.

Before leaving this subject I take the opportunity of thanking, on behalf of this Grand Chapter, several of our Grand Representatives, and other distinguished Masons in the United States, as I have already done by letter, for the zeal and interest in our behalf.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

The Appendix to the proceedings for 1888, before alluded to, discloses the situation between the two Grand Chapters. That Grand Chapter has granted a duplicate warrant to a chapter which had unanimously surrendered its warrant for transmission to the Grand Chapter of England, and had affiliated with this Grand Chapter as Mount Horeb. No further correspondence has been had on the subject. The connection between the Grand Lodge of Craft Masons and Grand Chapter of England (the latter being an adjunct of the former), renders action by this Grand Chapter alone more difficult. To produce the best results there should be joint action on the part of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of this Province. It is to be regretted that, on the formation of this Grand Chapter, the withdrawal of the English warrants, then in existence, had not been insisted on. The difficulty with the Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England would not have occurred. The pretence of a right which they rest on the claims of these blue lodges and chapters upon them, as disclosed in the correspondence, could not have existed. But we were young and reposed confidence in the good faith and fraternal spirit of a Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter from whom we had originally sprung, and which we hoped had learned by experience that the world moves on this continent, and would heartily and fraternally rejoice in the prosperity of the craft in this Province as an indication also

of a general advance in material prosperity and intelligence therein. If we desire to retain the respect of the sister Grand Bodies, and preserve our own self-respect, we must not permit any other Grand Body to occupy territory which legitimately belongs to us.

No instructions having been given me by the Grand Chapter, and no demand or request having been made to me since the last convocation, I have not felt at liberty to precipitate a conflict with that Grand Chapter; but I now submit the matter to you, with the reflection that a longer delay will be highly injurious, and with the hope that some definite action will be taken. There should be but the one contest. The sister Grand Bodies will become heartily sick of us, if we continue to spread the fight over so many years. It is tiresome fighting the adversary in detachments. Let us fling our banner to the breeze and attack by Masonic methods, and with Masonic weapons, our adversaries all along the line. If we do not do so, we do not deserve to succeed. Better far to contend and fail than by a continuance of the present system transmit to our children a heritage which we had not the manliness to defend nor the strength to support. But we shall succeed if we wisely but firmly insist upon our whole rights.

CONCLUSION,

This, my companions, is a brief sketch of my stewardship during my term of office. I leave it with confidence in your hands, trusting that the Most High will grant you all necessary wisdom in considering matters therein laid before you. And the result may be conducive to the best interests of the order. I gratefully acknowledge the valuable aid and advice of my predecessors in office as well as other officers of the Grand Chapter, which has been cheerfully given, and without which I should have been surrounded with many perplexities.