

is that our English brethren should be the last to raise an objection to the regularity of the formation of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales on that account, since the Grand Lodge of England itself, at its formation in 1717, was in an insignificant minority in that particular. We have no desire to use coercion towards any lodges, but we think a free expression of opinion should be permitted among the brethren of the English and Scotch lodges of New South Wales, and that the Grand Lodges of those constitutions should, instead of lavishing praises on their colonial officers, who are stifling discussion and suppressing liberty of action by threats and edicts, reprimand them for their unwarrantable and meddling officiousness.

The "English" Lodges in Montreal.

It is very evident that the fate of the English lodges in Montreal will soon be sealed, unless their members take the advice of their Old Country friends and Quebec brethren. The recent utterances of Past Grand Master the Hon. Richard Vaux, as chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, clearly proved that, whilst great praise was due to Grand Master Graham and the Grand Lodge of Quebec, for their past moderation, a much longer postponement of the assertion of their Masonic rights could not be expected. In fact, many now think that the time has arrived when the Grand Master of Quebec must assert his prerogative and insist upon all lodges within the

territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec obeying the Constitution of that grand body. Every Mason belonging to those three lodges in Montreal, St. Paul, St. George, and St. Lawrence, knows full well those lodges are only existing on sufferance, and really have no legal status; and that by the scratch of his pen M. W. Bro. Graham could place every one of their members in a most unpleasant position, namely, that of suspended Masons. This, we repeat, must be the end of the matter if those who exercise authority in those lodges persist in ignoring the authority of the sovereign Masonic body in whose jurisdiction they are working. Great courtesy and clemency have been extended to them, but they cannot imagine that they will be permitted for ever to defy the oft repeated and express wishes of the Grand Lodge of Quebec,—the acknowledged sovereign Masonic authority in, for, and over the Province of Quebec.

We do not wish our Montreal English brethren to imagine that we are threatening them with coercion. We are only stating facts, which these Canadian English brethren should look fairly and squarely in the face. Every Grand Lodge on the continent acknowledges the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge Sovereignty, and we ask what other Grand Lodge would have tolerated such persistent opposition to its wishes and dictates as has the Grand Lodge of Quebec from these three lodges in the city of Montreal?

If these brethren had any grievances against the Grand Lodge of Quebec—if they had any conscientious scruples with regard to meeting their