

be no reason why an appeal should not be *actually* made by a Lodge or brother to Grand Lodge, against a decision or suspension by the Grand Master.

6. That the analogy between the Grand Master and the Master of a private Lodge is quite apropos; it only needs the sequel. The brethren of the private Lodge have a right to appeal to the supreme superintending authority, against the ruling or decision of their W. M., and so has every lodge or brother a right to appeal to that authority, against the decision of the Grand Master.

7. That the absence, in the clause on appeal, of the proviso that no appeal from the decision of the Grand Master can be made, is *prima facie* evidence that such an exemption does not exist in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada. The framers thereof had that of the Grand Lodge of England before them—in fact, it formed the basis of our present Constitution. The several clauses, before they were finally adopted, were long and carefully considered, and ably argued by learned and highly educated men, and that proviso in the old English Constitution was wisely omitted; and when the whole Constitution, as it now stands, was finally adopted by Grand Lodge, an eminent and learned brother expressed his hope that it would now be left in peace, and not again be changed, so confident did he feel of its approach to perfection.

8. That to presume that the Grand Master will bring down his gavel, and stop discussion whenever an attempt is made to discuss in Grand Lodge any of his decisions, whether suspension or otherwise, made by him between the meetings of Grand Lodge, would be presuming that he will act arbitrarily; and such a presumption is best met by another equally improbable one. Supposing, then, the Grand Master commits a crime, or becomes mentally deranged, and while in that state of mind enters Grand Lodge, and suspends one half of the members,—what then? Will Grand Lodge tamely submit? Surely not. But it will devise a speedy means to remedy the evil.

Again, if, because the Grand Master is the presiding officer, and as such, has the power of the gavel, no appeal against his decision, or a suspension inflicted by him, can be brought up in Grand Lodge, it follows that, under certain circumstances, no appeal can be brought against a suspension by a District Deputy Grand Master; for it may happen that, during the absence of the G. M., the P. G. M., and P. D. G. M., the same Deputy District Grand Master, against whose suspension an appeal has been made, rules the Grand Lodge, and has then, as such *pro tempore* presiding officer, the same powers as the Grand Master, and may also rule arbitrarily.

9. To entertain the antiquated idea that the King can do no wrong, and that, in this respect, the Grand Master is like the King, is not in harmony with the spirit of the age, and the freest people under the sun have given a tangible proof that they do not uphold that doctrine. Queen Victoria was fined, like any ordinary subject, for not having given proper notice of the birth of the Prince of Wales.

Masonry is justly said to be a progressive science. When in 1721 Doctor Desaguliers and James Anderson were appointed by the Grand Lodge of England to revise, arrange and digest, the Gothic Constitution, and also the charges and regulations, they made great alterations, conformable to the spirit of the age in which they then were living;