

have received a portion of the Allocation of Ill. Bro. Albert Pike, Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction, at the session of that Supreme Council in October last, and are glad to find his head level on this subject. He evidently prefers to remain in peace, rather than go to war with a boomerang. The following extract defines his position:—

"I wish to say distinctly here, as I said to you in a communication long ago, that I should think it very unwise on our part to endeavor to induce the Grand Lodges in our jurisdiction to denounce the illegal organizations in New York, claiming to be our rite. I doubted both the propriety and policy of such an attempt when it was about being made in the beginning; and I said to you soon after, that if we admitted the Grand Lodge to decide our Supreme Council legitimate, this would admit its power to decide us illegitimate, if it should arrive at that conclusion. I never could see what right the Grand Lodge of Master Masons of England had, at the Union in 1813, to recognize as legitimate Masonry 'the Supreme Order of Holy Royal Arch,' and graciously to tolerate the Masonic Orders of Knighthood. The power to recognize and tolerate, implies the power to condemn and prohibit; and so the Grand Lodges of England (whose action that of Massachusetts may quote as an authoritative precedent), undoubtedly intended its action to imply.

"The action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts does, in fact, treat as not Masonic the Royal Order of Scotland which is older than itself, and the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, which is accepted as legitimate in England, and firmly established in the United States. I pointed out this difficulty, of excepting so many Orders as it would be necessary to except from the ban, when I was consulted in regard to invoking the intervention of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and have thought much about the matter in all its aspects since; and I think it due to our own self-respect that we should advise the brethren of our obedience not to seek, anywhere in our jurisdiction, to have action taken by the Grand Lodges, in regard to spurious organizations claiming to be of our rite."—*Masonic Advocate.*

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR, of Wales, has just been elected a joining member of the Isaac Newton Lodge, No. 859, Cambridge.

NON-AFFILIATED MASONS.

Bro. E. H. Cushing, of Texas, says of non-affiliation:—"Now, regarding this, there are some things that should be considered, and among them are,—

"1. It is not an unmixed evil. Because, if Masons do not want to belong to a lodge, their compulsory attachment will make them of no value save in their dues, and this is too small a matter to make so much talk about, and, in fact, is measurably outside of the real scope of the fraternity.

"2. It is a natural right, an inalienable right of the individual, and consequently it is no evil at all. Masonic lodges have no more right to enquire into the reasons of non-affiliation, than they have into the secret ballot. It is one of the 'all rights reserved,' which the person may class as a duty to God, to country, to family, or to self; and so classing it, the lodge cannot override it.

"3. It is a positive good; because it relieves the lodge from an unwilling membership, and from the obligations to such unwilling persons which lodge membership enjoins.

"4. All persons desiring to become non-affiliants, should be encouraged to do so; since to remain in brotherhood where the heart is not, is either hypocrisy or bondage, and Masonry cannot countenance either."

The *Review* believes that Bro. Cushing is the first Masonic correspondent who has claimed that non-affiliation is not an evil, and it must admit this argument in favor of his theory is good. The *Voice* thinks, however, that Masonry ought to be so conducted that none would want to be non-affiliated; that its management ought to be so good that none would ever tire of its labors or its pleasures, nor ask for a dimit save for the purpose of joining a lodge more convenient to be attended.