

The all-important questions now are: Which shall prevail? Local and inter-jurisdictional peace, or turmoil? Union, or disunion and alienation? It appears to me that England must decide? With her alone rests the issue! England alone, as I think, now prevents the Craft Grand Lodge Confederation of the world!

But, says a good English brother, the United Grand Lodge of England has never acted on the principle that "foreign" lodges of her institution *must* become of obedience to a territorial Grand Lodge, or choose the alternative of dissolution, when such Grand Lodge (as Quebec) has been regularly and rightfully established; that there is no *precedent* therefor, &c.

Well, if even so, considering all the circumstances, it appears to me that it is time that England should *make a precedent in re*, as (we have shown) so many regular Grand Lodges did long before the present Grand Lodge of England was formed.

And now, in order to prevent some esteemed brethren from wronging the cause of peace which I have at heart, by misconstruing certain official and personal acts of mine *in re*, I beg to be permitted to say that in declining in behalf of Quebec, to accept the qualified and conditional "recognition" proffered by England, I was actuated by what I deemed to be for the best and highest interests of England, as well as of Quebec, and of the Craft universal; because I believed that quasi-recognition would sanction and perpetuate wrong, and be productive of renewed evils; and that permanent inter-jurisdictional peace, union and harmony must rest upon

the acknowledged rights, privileges and prerogatives of Masonic co-equals, or Peers. I desired peace with honor and right.

In the same spirit, and for the sake of those who now know, or may be informed thereof,—I also beg to say that the personal English Knightly Masonic, and other proffered "home" honors were also respectfully declined by me, with grateful thanks,—not for want of personal or other devotedness to "the powers that be," but because it did not appear that it would be consistent and honorable for me to accept such, unless the "Quebec question," which involved so much, were adjusted on principles which I firmly believed to be in accord with, and promotive not only of the local, but of the Imperial and general good and welfare.

In having thus briefly and imperfectly presented what is termed the case of "Quebec vs. England," and in making my appeal to our good English brethren to aid in securing peace and unity, I have not deemed it necessary to speak of what have been called the England-Canada-Quebec treaty matters; nor to express an opinion on the Quebec-England edict of non-intercourse, because, after all, these are, as it were, but minor issues, or incidental outcomes, and about which, contrariness of opinion unavoidably exists even amongst those who are in accord as to what is more fundamentally important; and because personally I desire to avoid mere discussion, and wish rather to give, if possible, more emphatic re-expression to my earnest, heart-felt desire that the difficult Masonic inter-