

"We are not absolutely the Grand Lodge of Canada, though declared and acknowledged so to be, while these few cometary fragments revolve in our system. They are theoretically under our control, but practically they are not. While misunderstandings and such like, can be, and are remedied on our part by a present supreme power, redress from these foreign lodges (foreign I mean as to jurisdiction) is a tedious, complicated process, if successful at last, and irregularities are not to be controlled at all. Each of these Lodges acts as if its own judge and jury."

"About three of them, we have already been in difficulty, and are never out of danger of trouble with each and all. I believe no dishonor could attach to the Grand Lodge of Canada, if considering the practicable trouble we have to encounter, were we even now to issue a notification with respect to these lodges, such as we should have done when we took our place amongst other Grand Lodges of Freemasonry. It is a delicate subject, but a matter of real grievance, and certainly opposed to Masonic jurisprudence and causes an important defect in our otherwise perfect structure."

Of the multiplied evils necessarily resulting from such divided Grand Lodge jurisdiction, our M. W. Brother might have mentioned that of applicants for Initiation, rejected by a lodge holding a Warrant from one Grand Lodge making application to and being received by another lodge in the same or in some other locality holding a Warrant from another Grand Body,—and hence many persons being made Freemasons who for sufficient reasons could never otherwise have been received into the fraternity,—all of which has been and continues to be fraught with grave evils to the craft in this jurisdiction, and is especially destructive to that unity and harmony which should ever be among the chief characteristics of our order;—and notwithstanding this Grand Lodge has repeatedly protested against all these and other such like wrongs,—and has reiterated its anxious desire for a constitutional adjustment of all differences existing between it and the Grand Lodge of Canada whose sovereign territory is now necessarily the large and goodly Province of Ontario,—still the Grand Lodge of Canada has continued to persist in her refusal to deal justly by this Grand Lodge;—and as if pursuing a course of judicial and Masonic madness, has appointed Montreal, the chief city in the Province of Quebec, as the place of holding its next annual Communication; and