

of more than one to make a compact. In this case the Grand Chapters of England, Ireland and Scotland, are interested, but so far as our knowledge goes neither of these grand bodies has acknowledged that the territory is open to Canada. Granting that Canada has such a right, we now submit the other point.

2. If Canada has concurrent jurisdiction in the colony of Victoria, was it justified in sowing seeds of discord and creating friction with England?

Our conception of Freemasonry leads us to believe that it is a vast brotherhood, not hemmed in or bounded by sectional feelings or prejudices, and that that brotherhood should display forbearance rather than intolerance. Masons, especially those occupying prominent positions, should avoid, and not court, unseemly wranglings, as those who are in the right never add to their dignity by indulging in a brawl. If the Grand Bodies of England have treated colonial brethren unfairly in the past, even to the extent of refusing them recognition on certain grounds, and if such treatment is still observed, surely the colonists have enough independence of spirit, pure manliness and genuine regard for Masonry, to calmly ignore the imperiousness of the aggressor. It is quite natural that the Parent Grand Bodies should assume superior airs, and it may be galling to have to submit to them, but it would be more creditable to treat such assumed superiority with sublime indifference than to impetuously seek a conflict. Two wrongs never yet made a right, and the eagerness of the Grand Chapter of Canada to lay the foundation for a conflict with England is as wrong as is the alleged imperiousness

of England. Looking at the matter from this standpoint, we are firmly convinced that Canada blundered when she consented to establish chapters some ten thousand miles distant, a distance that renders perfect supervision an impossibility.

Because THE CRAFTSMAN deemed it advisable to condemn Grand Chapter's action last month we have been accused of disloyalty to Canada. We submitted questions then which we now repeat, and consequently our offence will be intensified in the eyes of those who made the charge. We are prepared to defend the position we have taken, but our arguments must be met with something else than mere assertions. In Grand Chapter there are some of the brightest and ablest Masons in Canada, and surely it is not expecting too much from them to put THE CRAFTSMAN right if it is mistaken in its views. A controversy would show who was right, while simple assertions prove nothing.

If disloyalty consists in an honest endeavor to distinguish between right and wrong, then we are disloyal to Canada.

If disloyalty consists in speaking what we believe to be the unvarnished truth, then we are disloyal.

If disloyalty means pointing out the blunders of those who committed them, then we are disloyal.

If disloyalty means preventing the degradation of Freemasonry for personal ends, or to gratify the whims of those who imagine they have grievances, then we are the essence of disloyalty.

Loyalty to an institution is not to be measured by the blind support given it. Supporting or endorsing a wrong is not loyalty, but a violation of principle. THE CRAFTSMAN does not aim