

No less than twenty-nine decisions are reported by the Grand Master, most of them sound interpretations of Masonic law.

The prerogative and duty of a Master to refuse to entertain an unmasonic motion, and to prevent the adoption of a measure prejudicial to the interests of his Lodge, is very properly insisted upon. The W. M. is something more than a mere Chairman of a meeting, he is the *Master*, and not the slave of the Brethren, and is necessarily armed with extraordinary and arbitrary powers, since he alone is responsible to the Grand Lodge for any violation of its Constitution, or of the principles of Masonic law, by the Lodge over which he presides. Brother Elliott's decision is as follows :

"While the majority of a Lodge have the unquestioned right to manage the affairs of the Lodge, within Masonic restrictions, the Worshipful Master has an unquestionable right to prevent the adoption of any unmasonic measure or any measure whereby the funds or property of the Lodge will be wasted. He may refuse to entertain a motion, and it is his duty to do so, if in his opinion such motion be unmasonic or greatly prejudicial to the interests of the Lodge ; but he should use this power with discretion, and be well satisfied that the occasion is such as will justify such arbitrary action."

The above is unassailable. Not so the following, however, which was reversed by Grand Lodge, on recommendation of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence :

"An unworthy candidate having been initiated and passed, through the negligence of the investigating committee, an objection was rightly interposed by the Master when made aware of the candidate's unworthiness. I am of the opinion that when objection is made to advancement, the candidate is entitled to the benefit of a trial upon charge and specifications, and if acquitted should be allowed to advance."

The report of the Committee says : "When objections to advancement are made, the candidate is not entitled to trial upon charge and specifications." This is good law. No trial is permitted the profane to whom the Investigating Committee object ; and if by reason of that Committee's negligence, the properly interposed objection is made only after the initiation and passing, the Masonic error by which the unworthy candidate has obtained privileges which should never have been conferred upon him, cannot entitle him, either in law or equity, to the additional privilege of a trial upon that objection, which should have prevented his admission into the Order.

On the social aspect of Masonry, the Grand Master says :

"There is every reason why social intercourse should be encouraged in our Order. To know each other better so that we may do each other more good should be our aim, and that knowledge should not be confined to the masculine branch of our society. It is to be regretted that so many of the wives and daughters of