

THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA.

The Grand R. A. C. met on April 8. Comp. L. E. Pratt, Grand High Priest, condemned spurious Scottish Rite Masonry and called the Cerneau Council fellows bad names. He used such words as "glaring outrage," "shameless Masonic fraud," "peddling and hawking pretended Scottish Rite Degrees," said that young California Masons "are being cajoled and duped by the score and perhaps by the hundreds by these Masonic sharpers, quacks and charlatans, who for their own profit make merchandise of Masonry."

Well, they must be bad, why don't California try and expel them? Bad as they may be, we have not yet discovered how a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons can sit in judgment on men who are not Royal Arch Masons. It seems to us that it is not legitimately their funeral. The Grand Chapter passed resolutions denouncing the illegitimate bodies claiming to be Scottish Rite, and decided what were the genuine Templars, Councils, etc. — *Masonic Home Journal*.

We thoroughly agree with the *Masonic Home Journal* in its remarks on recent legislation for the Scottish Rite in a Royal Arch Chapter, and *vice versa*. Many of the most able Masonic writers on this continent maintain the Cerneau bodies to be the legitimate branches of this rite, whilst others advocate Bro. Pike's branch. At all events, in Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters they have sufficient to do to look after the interests of their own organizations, without interfering with other bodies and rites of Masonry. The sooner this attempt to interfere with the inherent rights of individual Masons is put a stop to the better, as we can only end in disgrace or possibly schism. Every

Mason has the unquestionable right, as a free man, to ally himself with any and every Masonic body that is based upon the principles of Ancient Craft Masonry.—The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, —Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter notwithstanding.

OUR STATISTICS BOOK.

The "Craftsman Statistics Book" contains 12 pages in which to write the "History of Formation and Progress of the Lodge;"—23 pages for "By-Laws, Rules and Regulations;"—11 pages for "Signatures to By-Laws;"—11 pages in which to write the names of "Candidates Rejected;"—14 pages, with proper headings for "Roll of Members of the Lodge, with Date for Initiation, Passing and Raising, Affiliation, &c.;"—26 pages for keeping a Record of the "Elective and Appointed Officers Annually Installed or Invested;"—16 double pages of "Abstract of Half-yearly Returns to Grand Lodge, with Cash Account, &c."

The above have printed headings, and each page is properly ruled, making the book a very easy one to keep.

Every lodge should have a copy of this Book, as, if properly kept up, it preserves in condensed form a most valuable history of the affairs of the lodge for many years. The following is an extract from an old and experienced Past Master.

"I am in receipt of 'Statistics Book,' which you kindly send me for inspection. The advantages accruing to a lodge possessing this book are manifest and manifold. It conduces to regularity; it inculcates systematic observances, and becomes a valuable souvenir of information to hand down from year to year; and must prove at all times a perfect referee in important