

ferred in their Chapters. It was by every principle of law, civil and masonic, recognized in all civilized countries, a cession—a voluntary surrender—by them to the Grand Chapter of Quebec the entire territory of that Province and of all right or pretended right of jurisdiction they then, or ever, had over the Mark degree and to create Mark Lodges therein. In other words, it was a solemn compact or treaty which neither party could abrogate or dissolve without the consent of the other.

“The conclusion, therefore, is irresistible, that the creation of Mark Lodges by the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, etc., within the Province of Quebec was an unwarrantable and unlawful invasion of the rights of the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

“I know you will excuse me for thus extending my address upon this all-important subject. The principle involved, and the extensive correspondence it has provoked, has been an interesting theme with me. Some definite action on your part is most confidently expected at this session—our own reputation and dignity as Royal Arch Masons demands that we should not be silent—and that those of you who have had no opportunity to read the correspondence to which I have referred may act intelligently and understandingly upon the matter, is the only excuse I can give for that which I have written.

“Adopting the language of the M. E. James D. Pollard, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New York, in his address to that Grand Body at its annual convocation in February last, ‘I confidently trust that you will at this time extend your sympathy and support to the Grand Chapter of Quebec; and to that end I earnestly recommend that all Masonic intercourse between this Grand Chapter and its Subordinates and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, etc., etc., and its Subordinates be declared suspend-

ed during such time as it continued its unjustifiable invasion of the rights and territory of the Grand Chapter of Quebec.’ And furthermore, that the representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, etc., and the representative of the aforesaid Grand Lodge near this Grand Chapter be directed to return the commissions held by them, respectively, to whatever the authority from whence they emanated.”

Which was unanimsously adopted.

MASONIC ITEMS.

The late Bro. N. B. Mountford not only left \$5,000 to the Hall and Asylum Fund of the Grand Lodge of New York, but also his Masonic library to the Grand Lodge Library of the same jurisdiction. Who will be the next donor?

Bro. T. B. Whytehead, of York, England, will accept our thanks for a copy of the pamphlet print of his recent able lecture on “Lodge Duties,” delivered before Denison Lodge, Scarborough, and other Masonic bodies. It was well conceived, is admirably phrased, and its instruction is both sound and timely.

At the annual conclave of Palestine Commandery, No. 18, Knights Templar, New York, Sir James A. Rich, a former Recorder, presented an elegant life-like photographic group of the Recorders of the Commandery for the past ten years to the Commandery; also one to each of the other Sir Knights delineated with himself in the photograph. These fortunate recipients were Sirs Edward A. Johnston, William Johnston, Jr., John P. Ryder and Charles S. Champlin. The photograph presented to the Commandery was in a handsome gilt frame, 30x31 inches, with a mat, and around it a border of plush.