

during the last century, and to preserve a marked distinction between it and Craft Masonry, it confines itself entirely to the degrees of Heredom and the Rose Cross. Its ritual breathes the purest and most catholic christianity. The Order is confined almost entirely to Scotland, (though it has Provincial Grand Lodges in other countries,) and only Royal Arch Masons are admitted who are registered in the books of the Grand Chapter. The Religious and Military Order of Knights Templar was established in the beginning of the 12th century to protect pilgrims in Palestine, and to guard the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. It still exists as a variety of High Grade Freemasonry in Great Britain and the United States.—*Freemasons' Magazine*.

THE MATTER OF APPEAL TO GRAND LODGE.

To the Editors of the CRAFTSMAN:—

BRETHREN,—The bearing of that clause in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada relating to appeals, appears to be differently interpreted and construed; for while some maintain that no appeal to Grand Lodge can be made against the decision of the Grand Master, whether such decision be a suspension or otherwise,—others hold that such an appeal can be made, and if made properly, that the Grand Lodge should entertain it and decide thereon.

And as I consider the pages of the CRAFTSMAN that ground on which we as Masons meet on the Level while discussing constitutional questions, I take the liberty of laying before your readers the arguments which I have heard advanced in reference to that important subject, with a view to elicit further light.

The clause in the Constitution reads as follows:—

“As the Grand Lodge, when congregated, is a representation of every individual member of the fraternity, it necessarily possesses a supreme superintending authority, and the power of finally deciding on every case which concerns the interests of the Craft. A Lodge or brother, therefore, who may feel aggrieved by the decision of any other masonic authority or jurisdiction, may appeal to the Grand Lodge against such decision.”

Those brethren who maintain that no appeal to Grand Lodge can be made against the decision of the Grand Master, advance the following arguments:—

1. Comparing the Grand Master and the Master of a private Lodge, they urge that because no appeal against a W. M.'s decision or ruling while in the chair can be made to his own Lodge, therefore no appeal against the M. W.'s decision can be made to Grand Lodge, both being supreme rulers in their respective Lodges.

2. That in the old English Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, it is distinctly laid down, that no appeal against the Grand Master's decision can be made.

3. That since the Grand Master, while presiding in Grand Lodge, has full power to rule, he could at any time bring down his gavel, and stop or prevent any discussion, and would probably do so were any brother