

ginia to the United States, Grand Lodges were formed in them as soon as they were in proper condition. When the Grand Lodge of Illinois formed in 1820, was destroyed, Kentucky, Missouri and Indiana stepped in; when the present Grand Lodge was formed in 1840, their jurisdiction ceased. The Louisiana Grand Lodge once had exclusive jurisdiction over the entire Louisiana purchase; the erection of a State government cut off the exclusive jurisdiction beyond her State line. The Missouri Grand Lodge under the old territorial government once held exclusive jurisdiction over what is now Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Dacotah, Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. Her erection into a State, left her only concurrent jurisdiction.

The territory of Kansas included Colorado, and her Grand Lodge held exclusive jurisdiction; when her State lines were defined, the Lodges in Colorado organized their own Grand Lodge. California held jurisdiction over Nevada, or a portion of it; the organization of the Grand Lodge of Nevada is almost coeval with its existence as a territory. Oregon and Washington were once one territory. When the former was organized as a State, the latter formed its own Grand Lodge. All the Grand Lodges of the United States hold concurrent jurisdiction over Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Dacotah, and the Indian Territory; the moment a Grand Lodge is formed in any one of them, there it ceases. All the Grand Lodges in the United States hold the same concurrent jurisdiction over all unoccupied countries everywhere. The only case in the United States which might seem at all analogous to that of Canada, is that of Virginia and West Virginia. By her act of secession, Virginia refused to be recognized as a part of the United States, and gave adhesion to the Government of the Confederate States. West Virginia refused to do so, organized a separate government, and was admitted as a separate State. Here were two distinct governments, acknowledging different sovereignties for the time being.

West Virginia followed the usual course, organized a Grand Lodge, and was recognized by some, while she was refused recognition by other Grand Lodges; and she never did get complete recognition until she compromised and parted amicably from the old Grand Lodge. This is the only instance in the United States where a Grand Lodge in an old settled country has been divided, and that division grew out of change in political government. Canada can make no such plea. The Grand Lodge of Canada held jurisdiction over the old settled country long known as Upper and Lower Canada—then as Canada East and West, and now as Ontario and Quebec. It is precisely the same country over which the former Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada West, Montreal and William Henry, and of Quebec and Three Rivers, held jurisdiction. The ground taken by the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and the correct ground, too, is that each Province should have an independent Grand Lodge. But here comes a position of things unknown in American history. The Grand Lodge of Canada held, virtually, exclusive jurisdiction over what is Ontario and Quebec. A Parliament for the whole Dominion of Canada exercises general control over all the territory occupied by the Grand Lodge of Canada. The existence of such a Grand Lodge is a long accomplished fact. The position assumed by the Quebec party is simply destructive and revolutionary; instead of seeking for the formation of two Grand Lodges from the one, or a peaceful and amicable separation, they in effect declare that the creation