

ed Masons of Illinois, although 'supreme and independent,' should surrender the degrees to the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, to be conferred in a Lodge appurtenant to a Lodge of Odd Fellows but having only Masons present, with the officers of the Odd Fellow's Lodge as officers, would the parties claiming to be made Masons in such a Lodge be, anywhere out of Illinois, recognized as Masons?"

For many years after the establishment of the Mother Grand Lodge in 1717, no other degrees or orders were known to Masonry, and it remained for a schismatic congregation of Masons to make the first departure, in the middle of the eighteenth century, resulting in organizations that now *claim* control of the degrees of the Lodge, and that practice the rites thereunto appertaining. We do not object to degrees and orders beyond the Lodge. We are in pleasant communion with many; but we do insist that they shall not assume an exclusive inheritance of the Lodge, and that Grand Lodge deny assumptions that are not only without validity, but suggestive of positive degeneration from the "original plan." We are furthermore of the opinion that Grand Lodges should inhabit their constituency, members of Lodges, from associations with any congregation of Masons that recognize, in others, the authority that Masonic right and reason condemns. It is lamentably true that the claims of the numerous families of Masonic associations now thrust upon the attention of the Craft, have attained prominence through the unthinking leniency of the Lodge. The growth of the Institution has been so enormous, and the literature of the Craft so meager relating to the inauguration of associations of Masons that feign the prerogatives of the Lodge, that it has taken it for granted that their claims to relations therewith are to be respected. We have but one purpose in this discussion. We emphatically protest against the assumption that their is a lawful

Grand Lodge upon earth that did not have its foundation laid by the original Craft and their constitutional successors. We therefore contend that the recognition of "Grand Lodges" that exist by virtue of associations that are without this inherent right or authority to establish Lodges, is not only an error in judgment, but an equivocal desecration of the fundamental law of Masonry. By this we mean that "Grand Lodges," recognized as Masonic by a large number of legitimate Grand Bodies, are without claims to this distinction and should not be tolerated, for the reason, that by accepting them into the fraternal family *carries an acknowledgment that lodges instituted by Supreme Councils (Grand Orients, or other governing associations), have a like legitimate parentage with every constitutional Lodge in existence.* A NOTE OF WARNING is sounded, brethren. Beware, and be in haste to withdraw recognitions that peril the exclusive jurisdiction of the Lodge over the symbolic degrees.

We, with Brother Vaux, will "stand still upon the eternal foundations of Masonry" in this regard, and will never concede a point that strikes a blow at every feature of our original institution.

THE Quatuor Coronati Lodge "Correspondence Circle" already numbers eighty-eight members, many of them American Freemasons, including Bros. Patton, Meyer, McNair, Knight, MacCalla, Brice, Dickey, Sartain, Robins, and others of Pennsylvania; Saunders, of Michigan; Riddiford, of Kansas; Grand Master Smyth, of South Carolina; Grand Master Roome, of New York, and other brethren equally distinguished. The annual dues of members is 10s, 6d., and this entitles them to printed copies of all the publications of the "Circle." Address applications for membership to Bro. J. W. Speth, Margate, England, Secretary of the Lodge.