

the only regular Supreme Councils of the 33rd of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the United States, the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33rd, for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States, of which Henry L. Palmer, of Wisconsin, is at present the M. P. Grand Commander; and the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the 33rd, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, of which Bro. Albert Pike, of Washington City, is at present the M. P. Grand Commander."

The question to be discussed, is that the Grand Commandery, as such, can know nothing of Scottish Rite Masonry, and is, therefore, not competent to pass upon rival claims of foreign bodies. The resolutions passed by Clinton Commandery, and which have been reiterated by other Commanderies, are as follows, and which seem to cover the entire ground to be debated:—

"Resolved,—That the Representatives of this Commandery at the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, be, and they are hereby instructed, to favor the repeal of the thirteenth section of Article I. of the Constitution of said Commandery, and failing to effect such appeal, then to act in conformity to the views set forth in this memorial and these resolutions.

"Resolved,—That the foregoing memorial and resolutions be printed, and copies thereof be sent under seal of this Commandery to all the Commanderies of this Grand Jurisdiction, earnestly, though kindly and courteously, requesting their co-operation at the next annual conclave, in carrying out the spirit of this memorial and these resolutions."

A circular was next issued by Hanselmann Commandery, to every member, to be present at the next stated conclave, to take action on the above; and the result, that a resolution was adopted instructing its representatives to vote for said resolutions. This has greatly enraged the Grand Commander, who, unfortunately, is under the A. & A. influence, and sinks his dignity as Grand Commander, by acting the henchman to his Scottish Rite masters.

We trust at the coming session of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, no uncertain sound will be heard, but

that a clarion blast for freedom of thought and liberty of action will go forth, which will arouse the Ohio Templars as to the danger of the trap into which they have been dragged by an unscrupulous and designing clique.

A CURIOUS DECISION.

Under the above heading the *Masonic Advocate* very properly criticises the action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in declaring a brother, who was made in a regular Lodge, "clandestine." The *Advocate* says:—

"A most remarkable decision was rendered, by declaring one a clandestine Mason who had received the three degrees in the usual manner in a regularly constituted Lodge. The only point in the case is that he had been previously rejected in another Lodge, and under the regulations of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts no other Lodge could lawfully receive his petition within six months after such rejection. Counting the time by lunar months the requisite time had elapsed, but reckoning by calendar months the necessary time before he could petition another Lodge had not quite expired. Upon this ground alone the Grand Lodge declared him to be a clandestine Mason."

Now, the point is, how could the brother, initiated, passed, and raised, be blameable? He was not supposed to administer the laws or know anything of the laws of Freemasonry. In what possible manner could he be culpable, far less "clandestine." If any party was to be reprimanded it was the Lodge, and the Master of the Lodge in particular. The action was too absurd for even the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The *Masonic Advocate* thus very ably sums up the case:—

"We take no exceptions to the decision of the Grand Lodge, that unless otherwise specified six months means six calendar months, and hence, the Lodge violated a regulation of the Grand Lodge in receiving the petition in less than that time. The Lodge was blameable for so doing, and should have received such punishment as the nature of the offence demanded. In-