

stitutions.' And the same paragraph further alleges that 'the head of the Order has larger *inherent* and prescriptive power than ordinarily belong to the executive of a pure Democracy.' And then, *mirabile dictu*, the declaration is made, as a reasonable deduction, that the 'presiding officer has much unquestioned and absolute authority.'

"That the Master of a Lodge has inherent authority, based on ancient usages, all may understand, but it is not so easy to comprehend just where the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment searches for the source of his inherent authority. He is the head of the Order, made so by the Grand Encampment, an organization irregularly, if not unlawfully, begotten and made regular and lawful by its own enactments only. Even if the Grand Master might exercise the authority of De Molai, his descent from that distinguished Grand Master is not through a direct or legitimate channel. Hence, we argue, THE GRAND MASTER HAS NO INHERENT AUTHORITY, and can exercise such power only as he is invested with by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

" 'WORK' NOT THE 'RITUALS.'

"We most respectfully dissent from the position taken in paragraph 4, where, by parenthesis, the 'Work' is affirmed to mean the 'Rituals.' If the claim of the committee is admitted, then the constitutional requirement that the Grand Master shall see that the 'Work, etc., is everywhere uniform,' is a farce; such seeing is absolutely impossible.

"The 'Work' of the Order is the aggregation of those secret things necessary to its existence. These secret things are the O. Bs., Libs., and Means of Recognition. These should be absolutely uniform, and this uniformity the Grand Master can compel. But the ceremonials preparatory to the O. Bs., or to the Libs., or the addresses by which the Means of Recognition and other secrets are imparted, or illustrated, are not the 'Work,' and need not be, and could not be made uniform, unless the brains of all our Commanders were recast in a Grand Encampment mould of steel. If this distinction could be observed, much confusion would be avoided.

"THE CHARTER OF A GRAND COMMANDERY.

"Past Grand Master Hopkins admits that the Grand Master's