

ness powers and privileges with which we are not acquainted. Does Bro. Carson pretend that the Grand Commandery of Ohio can summon the Chieftain of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine before its executive and prove that one of its Past Grand Commanders has violated its regulations by allying himself with this Order, or subpoena the authorities of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine to prove that one or more Past Grand Commanders of that same body have received these degrees, thus again rendering themselves amenable to their own laws.

We admit Bro. Carson's full authority in and over the Rite that he so ably represents in Ohio, and which Rite owes him an everlasting debt of gratitude; we admire, too, in particular, his sound views on the Trinitarian Doctrine in Templary, but we protest against his base and false assertion that the CRAFTSMAN is opposed to any branch of masonry, especially the Chapter and Commandery. We have advocated Capitular, Cryptic and Templar Masonry for years back, and fought their battles against many assailants. We expect to do so again, but because we do so, we do not propose to go blindfold into the arena of sectarian masonry, as represented by our able, but bigoted and narrow-minded brother of Cincinnati—the Ill. Bro. Enoch T. Carson, 38°, Deputy for the S.G.C. 38° for Ohio. We rather congratulate the *Masonic Review* on the manly stand it has taken in the defence of the inherent and individual rights of the Craft in Ohio. Such men as Carson will soon make it, if they have their way, Craft Masonry Independence versus Scottish Rite Tyranny.

THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

As much interest is taken at the present time in regard to the invasion of the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec by the above named supreme organization, it might be as well to place before our readers the exact status of that body at home.

The degree itself is one of considerable antiquity. A committee of the G. L. of Scotland, appointed to examine into its position in 1865, reported:—"In this country from time immemorial, and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1736, what is now known as the Mark Master's degree was wrought by the Operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry."

In the seventeenth century Mother Kilwinning Lodge made members choose their marks.

On January 7, 1771, the Bauff Operative Lodge resolved, "That in time coming all members who shall hereafter raise to the degree of Mark Mason * * * must be 'passed fellow-crafts,' and none to obtain to the degree of Mark Master Mason until they are raised Master."

Previous to the union of the two Grand Lodges in England in 1813, the "Mark degree was worked in many lodges," but "at the said union, the Mark degree was excluded from the system then adopted," the declaration of union declaring "Pure and Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, including the Holy Royal Arch."

The Mark degree, however, continued to be worked, especially in the Northern and Midland Districts, "the