

a Blue Lodge for nonpayment of dues shall not affect his standing as a member of a Chapter." "The suspension or expulsion of a Royal Arch Mason from a Blue Lodge for immoral or unmasonic conduct, shall not of itself affect his standing as a Royal Arch Mason." Those desirous of an entire separation from the Grand Lodge were confident of the adoption of that Constitution but the Grand Lodge authorities although silent had marked out the course to adopt. An aged companion who had no copy of the printed Constitution although a member of and P. G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter, had his attention called to the subject and was instrumental in having that Constitution tabooed. If that Constitution had been adopted the G. M. of the Grand Lodge would have closed the doors of the Grand and subordinate Chapters, and there was some quiet talk of doing away with granting dispensations to pass the chair. The above as well as all action had in regard to the formation of the Grand Chapter from 1795 to 1824 proves first, that the Grand Lodge holds jurisdiction over all legitimate Freemasonry which it decides to consist of the E. A., F. C. and M. M. including the Royal Arch, and second, that no law contravening that authority will be tolerated, in Chapter Masonry at least. The usage and authority the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, holds over the Royal Arch degree and Chapter organization, accords with that of the Grand Lodge of England, only the latter has been more consistent in not recognizing the mark and most excellent masters degrees, and to which the former has given a color of recognition by suffering the Grand Chapter to incorporate those degrees in Chapter Masonry. In quietly allowing the Grand Chapter to embrace those degrees and introduce them into Chapter Masonry the Grand Lodge has in so far committed itself in approving of T. S. Webb's innovations. A thought has this moment impressed us which we indite although it will not be well taken. No revenue could be had for conferring those degrees as they are not recognised by the Grand Lodge so no notice was taken of the Grand Chapter adding them to its Chapter Masonry, but the Past Master does yield a revenue and it is held on to.

The anomaly however exists. The Grand Chapter recognises and its subordinates confer the fourth, sixth and seventh degrees and the Grand Lodge recognises and its subordinates confer the first, second, third and fifth, the latter however only by a dispensation granted for that purpose. It is not however the P. M. degree, which is in fact only an installation ceremonial, which is embraced and subject to Grand Lodge jurisdiction, but the Royal Arch also. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania maintains the principle and rightfully too, according to the present universally recognised system, that Blue Masonry is the source and foundation of legitimate masonry, of which the Grand Lodge is the governing body. In it therefore resides properly all power and authority and as the Royal Arch, divested of all legendary myths accredited to it by successive interpolators, is the essentia and finale of the original Master Masons degree, it comes properly under the supervision and jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, where it should always have remained as the present Grand Lodge of England has it, and has always resisted every effort to recognise any other degrees. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania stultified itself, ignored its past history, its ancient and legitimate authority, incorporated in its title and assumed to this day, in allowing the Grand Chapter to work degrees of which it had no knowledge and suffering it to interpolate degrees in Chapter Masonry