

be regarded as too great a tax on the funds of Grand Lodge, then each lodge could be furnished with a copy or two which could be read in open lodge, so that every lodge might instruct its representatives as to its views on the matter at issue. It does not appear improper that this idea should be carried out, or that any confidence would be violated, as the letters are all addressed to the Grand Master or Grand Secretary in his official capacity, and not in any sense personal or private property, nor can it be claimed that the representatives of the lodges in Grand Lodge are a set of men so devoid of intelligence as not to be able to come to correct conclusion as to the merits of the matter treated of. Under such circumstances members of Grand Lodge would be able to decide for themselves, and would not have to rely on the judgment, hopes, fears or imaginations of any one man as to the nature of the correspondence, and what might or might not be expected to occur in the near future. In any case, this information being diffused would relieve the Grand Master of a large amount of responsibility, no matter how brilliant his attainment or abilities might be, and it would help to make the Grand Lodge meeting what it should be in reality, an intelligent considering of the best means of promoting the best interests of the Craft, the foreign relations at present being a decided factor in our domestic happiness and usefulness.

It seems too bad that a want of cordiality of feeling should exist between Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, but it is plain from the complaint of the Grand Z. that the body he presided over has not been treated in such a manner that uniformity of action might be observed all "along the line" in dealing with the foreign relations of Masonry in this Province. This is the more to be regretted when the audacity and selfishness of the power we have to deal with is so prominently brought into notice, and it

certainly points to the fact of the desirability of both branches of Masonry having at their head at all times, when practicable, men of similar views, or, better still, if one brother could be got to fill the offices of Grand Master and Grand Z. This would at any rate render uniform the action of the two Grand Bodies when uniformity was essential. What is there at present to prevent a Quebec Chapter from accepting an English Mason that can not be fraternized within a Blue Lodge? This is hardly consistent, or is it to be inferred that the Royal Arch degree is not Masonry at all.

To the M. W. the G. M. of the Grand Lodge of England it might be suggested that he may one day occupy a different position in relation to the Craftsmen of Quebec, and that the course he may now pursue in his present capacity may be the means of binding him more closely and loyally to the British crown, but that so far no act of his in this connection has had this tendency.

And now to come to domestic matters. A vital change has been permitted in the Constitution, viz.: that members may be suspended for non-payment of dues, and so Grand Lodge permits a return to this *effete* relic of a barbarous age. It is a matter of congratulation that the new enactment is merely permissive, for the clause in the Constitution still remains that members in arrears for a specified time may be reported to Grand Lodge and then the lodge will be free from liability to Grand Lodge on their behalf, but that Grand Lodge could again revert to such a mode of procedure, despite all that has been heretofore written on the subject in your pages, simply proves that the savage has not been entirely eliminated from the breast of the Quebec Mason. That a brother who does not support lodge should be deprived of lodge privileges appears to be nothing but just what might be expected, but that he should be deprived of all rights and privileges, as though he were dead,