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Unfortunately, owing to the peculiar status in which our regulations places colored Lodges in this country, we are obliged to treat this organization as clandestine, as well as the several bodies which gave it existence. - Good Masons throughout the world are considering how this vexed question of recognition of colored Lodges is to be met. Can it be forever staved off? and if not, how is it to be disposed of? Is Masonry cosmopolitan, or is it exclusive? Is it confined to certain races and blood, or is it universal? Is it correct that "Masonry exists between the North and the South, from East to West, and from the lowest depths to the highest heavens, among all nations, tribes, kindreds and tongues," or is it a *caste* order, the doors of which are unlocked only by the key of complexion, blood and nationality? We say this question must be met and disposed of sooner or later, and the sooner it is done the better it will be for both colored and white Lodges. We cannot overlook the fact that there are a large number of colored Masons in this jurisdiction—made according to the Ancient Rites in due form—though, as we claim, clandestinely made, because their Lodges are not recognized. But suppose a colored Mason, made in a regular Lodge, seeks recognition—then what principle could be brought forward to debar him of the rights and privileges of Masonry? A Chinese Mason, not long since, visited the San Francisco Lodges, and proved himself not only bright in the ritual, but bright in the far more important moral teachings of Masonry. Now, what we think *should* be done is this: Let the Grand Lodge take these colored Lodges under the wing of its jurisdiction and supervision, that it may control their labors and direct their affairs, as it now does the white Lodges in its jurisdiction. We see no other way of disposing of a question, which, if left unsettled, may yet become vexatious."

Thus speaks the *Mirror*, and we admire the bold views therein expressed. We, in Ontario, have to deal with it too, and we see no object in "pooh-poohing" the question. These negro Lodges are the direct offspring of African Lodge, un-

der the colored Mason, Rt. Wor. Bro. Prince Hall, Provincial Grand Master according to the G. R. of England. We shall have more to say upon this subject at some future period, and would, in the meantime, invite a free discussion of the same through the columns of the GAVEL. The matter is worthy of the consideration of the members of the craft. In Nova Scotia there are colored Lodges on her Grand Register, and on her rolls are many bright honorable and intelligent colored brethren.

REVIEWS.

ENGLAND—KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.—We have received the "Calendar of the Orders of Masonic Knights Templar and Knights of Malta 1871-2" published under the authority of Sir Kt. William Stuart, M. E. and Sup. Grand Master of England. The work is neatly got up, contains about fifty pages royal oct., and is printed in a superior manner. From this interesting publication we find there are one hundred and twelve Encampments on the Roll of the Grand Conclave of England, many of which are in Canada, Africa, Australia, Gibraltar, Bermuda, &c. The balance on hand is £538-12-2, £280-8-3 of which is placed to the credit of the benevolent fund. £184-16-3 was devoted to the sick and wounded in the late Continental War. Among the list of Encampments that have failed to make their returns, we regret to say, we find the names of four Canadian Encampments. The motion, "that the Registrar of all Encampments do send a copy of the usual summons to the Provincial Grand Commander of the District or in his absence to his Deputy, at least seven days before each meeting and that no candidate be proposed for ballot, who shall have been disapproved by the Provincial Grand Commander or his Deputy," was carried. Canadian Templars should bear this in mind. For our own part we can see no particular objection to the same as these high officials are men in whom the Grand Master or Grand Prior have great confidence and would not likely object or interfere "except for strong reasons and in the interest of the Order." The Templar Order is one of great importance and is peculiarly select and exclusive, we trust, therefore, that all encampments will see the necessity of attending to this important point in the statutes.