

Grand Lodge in 1870. Something like a year later, he other took similar action, and at its quarterly meeting, held May 6th, 1872, the Grand Lodge of Scotland accorded 'fraternal and cordial recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick,' thus ending all doubt or hesitation by the Scotch lodges, and uniting the twenty-six lodges, formerly under three different constitutions, in complete harmony under that of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

"It is observable that this happy state of affairs was brought about by friendly and patient treatment of the Scotch lodges, who held to their mother Grand Lodge. To transfer their allegiance was not an easy matter; their Masonic vows included the Grand Lodge of Scotland, whose right to do Masonic work in the Province was equal and concurrent with that of any other, and, under that recognized right, had been done wherever the flag of England floated, limited only by the will of Grand Lodge.

"Other Grand Lodges have been established before and since in British territories, but recognition by the mother Grand Lodges has not always been in swift attendance.

"A pointed illustration of this exists in the Australian lodges, Grand and Subordinate. The Grand Lodge of England does not recognize the Grand Lodges of New South Wales and Victoria, for the dominant reason that the lodges of English, Irish and Scotch registry in those two Colonies or Provinces are not agreed, and because many of them have utterly refused to withdraw their allegiance from the mother Grand Lodge, and this latter body as utterly refuses to compel them to it.

"In the case of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, the lodges of the different constitutions having equal rights as tenants in common, did agree, and the voice they sent out was not that either might be dispossessed, but for recognition and approval of their joint action.

"The Province of Nova Scotia presents another example of English, Irish, and Scotch lodges existing within certain metes and bounds, with concurrent powers. When the convention of delegates to form a Grand Lodge for Nova Scotia was held on January 16th, 1866, in the city of Halifax, there were in the Province thirty-five lodges, viz.: English twenty-two, Scotch twelve, Irish one, other Irish lodges in the Province having ceased to work. Of these lodges, eleven of Scotch registry assembled in convention, as called, decided to form a Grand Lodge, and this was consummated on March 16th, 1866, when the Grand Officers were installed.

"There is in this jurisdiction a notable instance of Masonic comity. The Royal Standard Lodge, No. 398, English registry, continues to work under that authority, without hindrance by the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. It will be seen that this is an old lodge, with its rights preserved under its early warrant, and these are so well respected by the other lodges in Halifax, that entire harmony of intercourse prevails among them.

"Quite as significant as either of these examples is that of Canada, as shown in the printed proceedings of that Grand Lodge. A meeting of Masons was held on the 19th day of July, 1855, at the Clifton House, Niagara Falls, when resolutions were adopted, calling a convention of delegates from the lodges in Canada (not the present Dominion of), to be held in Hamilton, on Wednesday, the 10th day of October, 1855; and it was further resolved to invite and to urge 'every lodge in the Province to be properly represented at that convention.'

"Forty-one lodges were represented, but it does not appear in the proceedings how many held under either of the three Grand Constitutions, but it is declared in the third clause of the Preamble, that 'the distance between Canada and the Grand Lodges