

"therefore, are independent of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. These English Lodges accept the rejected material from the Quebec Lodges, and are a very great annoyance and anxiety to the lawfully constituted Grand Lodge of the Province. Ever since 1872 the strongest efforts to induce these Lodges to surrender their English warrants have been unsuccessfully made, and in spite of every argument and entreaty that could be addressed to it, the Grand Lodge of England has refused to recall the charters or force the three Lodges to yield their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec. In conclusion of his address, the Grand Master says the time for action has now arrived, and he refers the matter to the Grand Lodge."

J. Adger Smyth, Charleston, Grand Master.

Charles Inglesby, Charleston, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS, 1883.

The special communication of this Grand Lodge took place during the year in the city of Houston, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the new Court House there.

The forty-eighth annual communication was held also at Houston on 11th December, 1883, Deputy Grand Master, Wm. H. Nicholls, presiding, in the absence of M. W. Bro. Charles Stewart, Grand Master, who was prevented by an imperative duty elsewhere from being present.

The address of the Grand Master was presented; it is an able one, covering many questions of local interest.

The Deputy Grand Master also delivered an address enumerating his official acts, which he fitly concluded, giving the Golden Rule, beautifully amplified in an old Indian manuscript, as follows:—

"Happy is the man who hath sown in his breast the seed of benevolence; the produce thereof shall be charity and love.

"From the fountain of his heart shall rise rivers of goodness, and the streams shall overflow for the benefit of mankind.

"He assisteth the poor in their troubles; he rejoiceth in furthering the prosperity of all men.

"He censureth not his neighbor; he believeth not their tales of envy and malevolence, neither repeateth their slanders.

"He forgiveth the injuries of men, he wipeth them from his remembrance; revenge and malice have no place in his heart.

"For evil, he returneth not evil; he hateth not even his enemies, but requiteth their injustice with friendly admonition.

"The griefs and anxieties of men excite his compassion; he endeavoreth to alleviate the weight of their misfortunes, and the pleasure of success rewardeth his labor.