

"2. Has a Master so inducted the power to confer degrees and assume the privileges of a regular Installed Master without a dispensation from Grand Lodge?"

"Can a Master who has not received the Past Master's degree fill the chair of I. P. M., and wear regalia appertaining thereto? Is he eligible for office in Grand Lodge?"

#### ANSWERS.

"1. Grand Master Clark in his address to Grand Lodge in 1889, reported among his decisions that the conferring of the Past Master's degree is not a necessary part of the ceremonies of installation in this jurisdiction. This ruling was not set aside by Grand Lodge, and as the present Grand Master's views are the same as those of Bro. Clark, I would answer *yes* to the question.

"2. Yes.

"3. Yes."

The constitution of your Grand Lodge is superior to Mackey's opinion, and must govern in all cases. As it is fair to presume that Bro. Scott is familiar with the constitution governing your jurisdiction, it is equally fair to assume that his opinions are in keeping with it. In newly-organized lodges in sparsely settled districts it is possible that apparent and even actual irregularities may occur, and we can see where something might happen, according to our interpretation of your questions, which would not be tolerated in large centres. As the brother was installed or inducted into the office by dispensation we presume such dispensation gave him other powers than merely those of the ordinary chairman, and he was, doubtless, invested with authority to discharge *pro tem.* the duties of W. M., which would include initiating and the conferring of degrees. Were he not endowed with that power or privilege, and no P. M. resided in the vicinity, it would be the height of folly to form a lodge, as no one would be able to do the work.

It is not safe at all times to be guided

by Mackey's Jurisprudence, as such a prolific writer who made Masonic books for the profits pertaining to them would be prompted to introduce something new in each succeeding book to commend it to the brethren. Granted that Mackey is right, what is to be gained by kicking against the pricks of those in authority in your jurisdiction? Your constitution must be observed. If it does not refer plainly to a disputed point, and your Grand Master rules on that point, his ruling not being set aside by Grand Lodge, nothing can be gained by questioning the right of the proceeding except it be an agitation. At times agitations are wholesome and necessary, but they should have something to commend them to general attention.

#### THE FIRST AUTHORIZED MASONIC PRAYER.

*The Editor of THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN:*

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My attention was called to your April issue pp. 318—19, to an article headed, "The First Authorized Masonic Prayer," copied from the *Tyler*. The said article originally appeared in C. W. Moore's Magazine in Boston in 1882, and it has since then been frequently reprinted. In 1873, Mackey printed in his Cyclopaedia the said prayer under the heading of "Manningham," I then said to Bro. Nickerson, who was the G. M. of Massachusetts, that it was time to explode that humbug. As I was then well acquainted with Bro. Hervey, G. Sec. of England, I wrote to him to look over carefully the records and Mss. of the period when Manningham was D.G.M., and to inform me whether he could find any evidence to support Oliver's story about that prayer. In the meantime, I went to search for all that could be learned about Anderson, But, Chambers, in his biographies of Scotchmen gave neither the date when Anderson was born, or when he died. But I happened one night to recollect