

of the Rite existed in New York and Boston, viz.:—The "Hays'-Cerneau" and the "Raymond," a consolidation took place between them, (but no treaty of Union entered into), by which the "Hays'-Cerneau," or Supreme Council for the U. S. of America, did not lose its identity, but the "Raymond" unquestionably did, that body having applied for admission to the Hays' Supreme Council, and was received, signing the oath of fealty, and surrendering all their property to it. Bro. Edmond Hays was then Sovereign Grand Commander, and the name, "Supreme Council," U. S. of America, continued until 1865. It never was called, "of the Northern Jurisdiction," but the "Raymond" body had been. Ill. Bro. Hays resigned this year, and was succeeded by Ill. Bro. Simon B. Robinson, who was one of the former Raymond body.

It plainly appears in the reply, that in December, 1866, he (Robinson) by his own arbitrary act, dissolved the consolidated "Hays'-Raymond" Supreme Council, and absolved all the members from their oath of fealty, turning his back upon the "Cerneau" members, and taking upon himself to form an entirely new Supreme Council, by reviving the old "Raymond" body, declaring himself the successor of the late Ed. H. Raymond, Grand Commander before the connection with the "Hays'-Cerneau." In this move, the old Cerneau members as a body were not consulted, and took no part.

This new "Raymond" body, in 1867, entered into a treaty with the "Gourgas'-Van Ranselar" Council, then in existence, and these two alone formed the "Union," calling itself the "Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.," which they assert was a Union of all, embracing the members of the Cerneau Council. The old members deny this in the most unqualified manner, declaring that a "fraud" and deep-laid scheme of deception had been prac-

tised to blot them out of existence and establishe the present Supreme Council Northern Jurisdiction, therefore they felt justified in regularly resuscitating, in September, 1881, the old Cerneau Supreme Council, as in operation before the consolidation of 1863, and this was carried into effect by thirteen (13) S. G. Inspectors-General 33°, all of them members of the original Supreme Council, in good standing up to and at that time.

The expulsion lately by the Northern Jurisdiction of some of the promoters of this movement (of which Dr. Folger was one), who had taken the oath of fealty under a mistaken impression that the newly-formed body of the Northern Jurisdiction was a "Union of all" the Supreme Councils, cannot be, or is it legal or justifiable. No Supreme body has jurisdiction in cases where members personally withdraw from the body for sufficient reasons. In this case, on discovering that they had been induced to join it under fraudulent misrepresentations, and one year had elapsed prior to their expulsion, viz.: 21st September, 1882.

These seem to be the facts why the "Cerneau" Body was revived, and does not appear to have been disputed, although the advisability and usefulness of the movement is questionable. "Cui bono," does Masonry prosper, or is it enhanced in the eyes of the outside world, by the recriminations and quarrelling of interested parties for fees and supremacy? I remain, Dear Sir and Bro., Fraternally yours,

A LOOKER-ON,
A. & A. S. R., 33°.

GRAND CHAPTER OF QUEBEC, AND GRAND MARK LODGE OF ENGLAND.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—The Grand Chapters of Arkansas, Canada, Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, Nova Scotia, New York,