

praying to be permitted to organize a Grand Lodge. They met at the Apple Tree Tavern, in Charles Street, Covent Garden, and organized, by putting the oldest Master Mason, who was master of a lodge, in the chair, and constituted themselves into what Anderson calls, a "Grand Lodge *pro tempore*." This took place in the month of February. And, on the 24th day of June, in the same year, the "assembly and feast were held, when the oldest master of a lodge being again in the chair, Mr. Anthony Sayer, was elected Grand Master, and J. Elliot and J. Lambell, Grand Wardens." It was never pretended, by even the Grand Lodge of York, that the Grand Lodge of England thus formed, was an illegal or unconstitutional body of masons.

But in 1739, another Grand Lodge was established in London, by brethren who had seceded from the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, on the ground that they had adopted new plans, sanctioned innovations, and abandoned the ancient landmarks of the order. This body was called the "Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons." And, although denounced by the Grand Lodge of England, it was very early recognized by the masons of Ireland and Scotland, was fostered by many of the nobility, planted Lodges in different countries, and was finally regarded as legal and regular, by the Grand Lodge of England itself, for in 1813, the two bodies united on terms of perfect equality.

From this, it will be seen, that there were at one and the same time, three Grand Lodges in England, each of which had been formed independently of the authority, permission, or action of the other.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland was established in 1729, not by permission of either of the Grand Lodges of England. The Freemasons of Dublin held an assembly, or convention and organized the Grand Lodge of Ireland, electing the Earl of Kingston the First Grand Master. No one ever called in question the legality of their proceeding.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland was organized in 1736. The Grand Mastership had, previously, by Royal Charter, been hereditary in the family of St. Clair. When it was resigned, and the interests of the craft required the organization of a governing body, the brethren did not apply to either of the Grand Lodges of England for permission to form a Grand Lodge. Although it had been resolved, in 1717, "that hereafter no lodge or body of masons should be deemed regular or constitutional without a warrant from the Grand Master, with the approbation of the Grand Lodge of England." Yet no one ever questioned the legality of the mode in which the Grand Lodge of Scotland was formed.

In France, the Grand Lodge of England established a Provincial Grand Lodge, in 1743, under the name of the "Grande Loge Anglaise de France." In 1756 this Grand Lodge

declared itself independent of England, and assumed the title of the "Grand Lodge of France." It was never, on this account, considered rebellious or clandestine.

In Germany, there are two Grand Lodges. The first was established in 1741 by three Lodges called "The Three Gloves," "The Three White Eagles," and "The Three Swans." The first named was established at Brunswick, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The others, respectively, at Cologne and Hamburg, by the Grand Lodge of England. The Grand Lodge, organized by the independent action of these three private lodges, chartered by different Grand Lodges, still exists, having under its jurisdiction about ninety lodges. The other Grand Lodge in Germany was established in 1768 as a Provincial Grand Lodge, by the Grand Lodge of England. But it, long ago, assumed an independent position, and is now considered the metropolitan Grand Lodge of Germany—having under its jurisdiction about fifty lodges—and working in perfect harmony with its sister Grand Lodge.

In Prussia there are three Grand Lodges. The "Three Globes," the "Royal York," and the "National." The "Three Globes" was founded in 1740 by a convention of masons, and has under its jurisdiction about two hundred lodges. The other two were Provincial organizations, but have now assumed the position of independent Grand Lodges.

In Holland, the National Grand Lodge was established by the independent action of the several private lodges in 1757. It has now under its jurisdiction about seventy lodges.

In Poland masonry was suppressed in 1739. It was revived by the Grand Lodge of France in 1781. Lodges were established at Warsaw, Wilna, Posen, Dubno, and Grodno. These united in 1784 and formed the Grand Lodge which is now in a flourishing condition.

These facts, and they might be greatly multiplied, in regard to the organization of Grand Lodges in different European countries, seem to show conclusively, that it has never been considered rebellious, or unmasonic, for regular private lodges to unite in the organization of a supreme governing body, or Grand Lodge, whenever and wherever, in their opinion, the welfare of masonry required it. And this has frequently been done even in countries where a Grand Lodge already existed. The usages and general consent of the craft, however, in the present century, have established the principle, that two or more Grand Lodges cannot co-exist in the same state or territory, (still they do co-exist in several states,) and, that, therefore, no Grand Lodge can be legally organized in any country, state, or territory, where such a body already has an existence. This principle has been recognized as sound, and has prevailed in the formation of a large number of the American Grand Lodges, the particulars of which shall appear in our next issue.

### Grand Master's Visit Postponed.

We regret to learn that unavoidable circumstances have intervened to deprive the lodges in this section of the Province, of the pleasure they had anticipated, from an early visit of the M W Grand Master. Bro. Wilson had made arrangements to visit the several lodges under his jurisdiction in Eastern Canada, during the month of August, but has been compelled to postpone it, for an indefinite period. When he shall come, he will receive a hearty welcome.

We availed ourselves of the kind and polite invitation of Bro. James Smith, Senior Warden of the Elgin Lodge of this city, to visit the new room recently fitted up by that Lodge. The size is fifty by twenty-four feet, exclusive of the recess in which the S. W. is seated. It is furnished throughout with the greatest taste, at an expense, we are told, of a sum exceeding by a few shillings, three hundred and thirty pounds.

The Worshipful Master's chair in the east, is placed on a platform approached by three steps, it is supported on the right and left, on the level of the second step, by chairs for the use of the Deputy Master and Past Master. The Master's canopy, overhanging his chair, is supported by beautiful marble pillars, and covered and adorned with a rich drapery of blue and crimson damask—the cost of the chair alone being fifty pounds, it, together with the chairs of the S. W. and J. W., is of the Elizabethan style, and made to correspond with the other furniture of the room. Its covering is of rich crimson damask. To the right and left of the W. M., and for his use, are marble pedestals.

The Senior Warden's seat in the west, is in a very convenient recess, on a platform of two steps. He, too, has pedestals of marble on his right and left. Two beautiful chairs, somewhat similar to those of the W. M. and Wardens, are placed near him for the accommodation of the Deacons. To the right of the Senior Warden's chair is a small anteroom, intended for an orchestra. The Junior Warden is provided, in the south, with a chair similar to those of his superior officers; but it is approached by one step only.

Directly above the seat of the J. W. is a beautiful and expensive painting by Mr. McNider of this city. It represents the British coat of arms, and is supported on the left by a painting representing the E. A. degree, and on the right by one exemplifying that of the F. C.

The room is supplied with settees, the seats of which are stuffed with hair, and covered with crimson damask on the one side and blue on the other. This is done so that a blue lodge may be appropriately worked. There are